

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY March 10, 2015 7:00 PM
approved

Supervisor Ruzick called the Township Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel J. Ruzick-Supervisor, Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer, Heather Mitchell-Clerk,
Bruce Cutting - Trustee, Ron Derhammer-Trustee.

Also Present: Seven guests.

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to approve agenda as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: None.

Motion by Osborne, second by Derhammer to approve February 10, 2015 minutes with corrections as noted. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment: Environmental Buffer Overlay District Revisions

Planning Commission recommends approval of text amendment revisions for the Environment Buffer Overlay District as presented by LSL Planning on December 5, 2014.

Revisions address residential and agricultural zoning specifically. Van Buren County Planning Commission recommendation was also included in revisions. The purpose of the changes is to affect properties along the east branch of the Paw Paw River and to give longevity of life and health of east branch. Considered a high priority in master plan.

Comment from Gary Stock that the overlay district has always existed, however details were never included in the environmental overlay section in zoning ordinance.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to accept text amendment revisions for Environmental Buffer overlay District.

Roll Call Vote: Ruzick-yes, Mitchell-yes, Osborne-yes, Cutting-yes, Derhammer-yes. Motion carries.

B. Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment: Keeping of Animals & Bees

Planning Commission recommends approval of Farming, Keeping of Animals and Bees Zoning Text Amendment as presented by LSL Planning December 5, 2014.

Revisions and regulations are consistent with GAAMPS. Revisions are user friendly, defines additional animals and regulations that were missing from zoning ordinance; set standard safety and sanitation acknowledgement of plat restrictions; animal counts amended; manure management and bee keeping regulations were added. Ordinances are a moving target, updating to make them less/more inclusive and these types of amendments are corrected in order to enhance our ordinances. Revisions are more accommodating to serve the public and constituents of Antwerp Township. Comment from Kelly Hunter that is has been a long process, but she is thankful for the hours that the Planning Commission spent on this ordinance.

Question on bee keeping within village limits. Planning Commission has a lot of community input which helped craft an ordinance that will enhance our community. The Township Board is very grateful to the Planning commission and to Dave Jirousek for all their time and efforts into this ordinance.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to approve Zoning Text Amendments Revision for Keeping of Animals and Bees.

Roll Call Vote: Mitchell-yes, Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes, Derhammer-yes, Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

C. Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment: Exclusion of I-94 Front Yard Setbacks

Planning Commission recommends approval of the front yard setbacks and I-94 as presented by LSL Planning December 5, 2014. Revisions became apparent after a ZBA meeting regarding placing a large propane tank which borders I-94. ZBA made an interpretation that I-94 should not be considered as a front yard setback in that case since there is no access.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to approve the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments eliminating identifying I-94 as a front yard.

Roll Call Vote: Osborne-yes, Cutting, yes; Derhammer, yes; Ruzick-yes, Mitchell-yes. Motion carries.

D. Zoning Map Amendment: Rezoning Parcel #80-02-007-035-20 located at 32673 Red Arrow Hwy., Paw Paw, from R-2, Single Family Residential to GC, General Commercial.

Planning Commission recommends approval to rezone parcel #80-02-007-035-20 from R-2, Single Family Residential to GC, General Commercial.

Lounsbury Excavating currently owns three parcels, two of which are already zoned GC, General Commercial and are contiguous to parcel 80-02-007-035-20. County planning commission recommended approval as well.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve rezoning of parcel #80-02-007-035-20 from R-2, Single Family Residential to GC, General Commercial.

Roll Call Vote: Cutting-yes; Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

E. Special Land Use Permit & Site Plan. Contractors Facilities and Outdoor Storage. Requested by Lounsbury Excavating located in Section 7 at 32673 Red Arrow Hwy, Paw Paw. Parcels #80-02-007-035-00, #80-02-007-035-20, #80-02-007-033-20.

Planning commission recommends approval with conditions as outlined in meeting minutes from 3-4-15. Outdoor business is expanding, with economy improving, more work is coming in. Current facilities haven't changed for 70 years since the business began in 1945. Expansion is needed along with additional storage for equipment. The actual work business is operation isn't changing, site simply houses equipment and materials and work is done on project sites. Business has expanded over the last 10 years, significantly over the last two (2) years.

Planning Commission went over fuel storage and salt storage.

There are no neighboring properties to the east that would be affected, berm goes beyond ordinance requirements. Lounsbury Excavating has been in communications with neighbors.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to approve Special Land Use and Site Plan for Lounsbury Excavating.

Roll Call Vote: Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

F. Special Use & Site Plan. Requested by Russell Sullins Jr located in Section 3 at 26333 Red Arrow Hwy, Mattawan. Parcel #80-02-003-023-20 and #80-02-003-023-30 combined for 2015 tax year as Parcel #80-02-003-023-21 in General Commercial Zoning District.

Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions to be reviewed administratively.

Conditions must be met prior to a building permit being approved.

Combination of parcels and rezoning has already been approved for 2015. S

Applicants were present and gave a brief description of landscape supply business.

Trustee Derhammer commented that in both cases of special land uses tonight, applications have been more than willing to work with neighbors.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to approve Special Land Use and Site Plan for Russell Sullins Jr.

Roll Call Vote: Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Derhammer-yes. Motion carries.

New Business:

A. Request by Antwerp Sunshine Library for computers

Antwerp Township Sunshine Library has made a request for up to five (5) computers to be used for classes held at the Library. Current library fund has \$4,726.46. Fund has been established with monies paid in lieu of rent. CTS provided a quote for \$1039.10 for each computer including installation.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to approve the purchase of four (4) computers from CTS for the library.

Roll Call Vote: Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

B. Proposal for Antwerp Township Activity Center for audio system

Township asked for bids for a new audio system for the Activity Center. Quotes came from Powell Custom Homes and Kerwin Electric.

PCH bid at \$1650 to furnish and install four (4) 8" ceiling speakers, furnish and install Pyle PT530A 350 watt amplifier/receiver, furnish and install Pyle PDWM3000 dual VHF rechargeable wireless microphones. Option to add two (2) additional speakers at \$770 for a total option price of \$2350. Kerwin bid at \$3032 to furnish and install a microphone system including amplifier, wireless microphones and six (6) speakers.

Audio system is definitely a need for the activity center for senior luncheons and can be used with rentals and events that are scheduled in the activity center, such as Senior Expo, Boy Scouts, etc.

Trustee Derhammer expressed concerns over quality of systems as only one (1) bid specifies the type of speaker, other does not. Discussion ensued. Township general fund will pay for this improvement as a capital outlay for the activity center

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to accept the bid from Powell Custom Homes for \$1650 to furnish and install speaker system.

Roll Call Vote: Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes. Motion carries.

Correspondence: Van Buren County Commissioners Report

Announcements:

Reports:

Ordinance Officer Mark Hamre

Deputy Mark Hamre was present to review the February 2015 report for Antwerp Township. Total of 330.7 miles were driven in Township; nine (9) blight ordinance enforcements; stats for month.

Reviewed current blight issues. Total of 105 calls for February, majority of them were accidents. Full report is available at township hall.

Van Buren County Commissioner Beth Griffin

Presented Prop 1 for May 5 elections along with renewal for Van Buren Public Transit and VBDL. VBCRC, ACRC, and KCRC are in support of Prop 1. Reviewed BS&A purchase at county for \$436,575 with grant approved.

Van Buren County Road Commission Al Svilpe

In July road work will begin on Red Arrow Highway with KATS funding. Pothole filling will commence as weather improves. Frost laws came into effect March 10, 2015.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne

\$160,052.60 in general fund checking. Taxes have been turned over to county treasurer; Antwerp Township took in \$21,000 using credit cards online. With the passing of Judy Price, Treasurer Osborne will be collecting taxes for Village of Lawton, so the summer bill will include Antwerp and Village of Lawton starting in summer 2015.

Antwerp Township Senior Services Dan Ruzick

Served 165 meals to date, still taking applications in order to determine memberships with VBCSS; advertisement out for advisory board vacancies.

Building Activity Heather Mitchell

Eleven permits for February including Building, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing in the amount of \$2,588.00.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne

VBDL will be holding a Comic Con on May 2 and they are in need of two (2) judges; launched new website including calendar with all events; link for information on new millage for May 5 Election.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting

Short meeting, adopted budget upcoming year

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne

Working on burn at House of Tan.

Cemeteries Heather Mitchell

No burials in February.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne

Paid bills.

Planning Commission Ron Derhammer

Zoning Text Amendments, Site Plan Use and Special land Use. No meeting in April. Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals Heather Mitchell

No meeting in February.

Public Comment: None.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response and Mattawan Fire Department bills in the amount of \$31,002.27.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to accept bills for payment.

Roll Call Vote: Cutting-yes; Derhammer-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk