

MINUTES FROM THE  
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY August 11, 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: Ten guests.

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

Public Comment: None

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve July 14, 2015 minutes with one correction under MFD Budget Amendment. Four voted in favor, one abstention. Motion carries.

**Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:** None.

**New Business:**

**A. Engineering Proposal: Men's Bathroom Library & Exterior Painting Activity Center**

In 2014 the women's restroom in the library vestibule was remodeled and township board budgeted money to remodel the men's restroom in 2015. Bids were accepted for engineering proposals for specifications on contractor bids for the bathroom and exterior painting of the activity center. Vanderweele bid came in at \$2500 for bathroom specifications only. Barnitz bid came in at \$2200 for bathroom specifications and \$600 for specifications on painting the activity center.

Trustee Derhammer spoke to credentials of both engineers and how wise of an investment it is to have contractor specifications correct so the actual work completed is done correctly.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to accept engineering bid by Nick Barnitz for the men's restroom and painting of the activity center in the amount of \$2800.

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

**B. Antwerp Township Senior Care Pilot Program**

Dennis Reynolds recently received approval from State of Michigan on a pilot community paramedicine program for Antwerp Township. Primary goal is to recognize health care needs of clients and work with physicians prior to sending them to the ER. It benefits health care costs to the patient, insurance companies, and government. Services being offered in the pilot program include health screening assessments, medication organization, home safety evaluations, and patient education. The program does not take the place of home health care agencies, the design is to work and coincide with them. Primary patients are those who do not qualify for home health care, however, need assistance in stabilizing new onset of medical conditions. Initial screening cost will be \$45 and follow up visits will be \$25; objective would be to visit twice a month. Paramedics will receive additional training for home health care through Bronson and all information is still bound by HIPPA, Antwerp Township will not receive any personal information. Senior Advisory Board recommends approval to Township Board and discussed ways of letting residents know about the availability of this program and how to encourage participation.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to enter into contract with VBEMS to initiate the community paramedicine PILOT program.

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

**Correspondence:** KCHWC 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Report

**Announcements:** September meeting will begin at 6:30pm for special assessment hearings.

**Reports:**

*Prosecuting Attorney Mike Bedford*

Reviewed cases in recent months; newest addition to the prosecuting attorney's team is a 13 month old lab to help victims, specifically children, when needing to be in court; remote control stop sticks purchased for law enforcement; press releases for felony sentences in Judge Brickley's court.

*County Commissioner Beth Griffin*

Received excellent reviews and suggestions from SCAA on how to streamline our courts and all judges are supportive. Aleksich excavating is paving more parking spots in the lot county purchased across from courthouse. Budget is being completed and is in good shape. New Covert Generating tribunal case will be taken to Supreme Court as Court of Appeals denied motion. Original participant in Veterans Court graduated August 7, it was a moving ceremony with a lot of support from current participants, all are encouraged to attend and see the incredible difference this program makes in a veteran's life.

*Ordinance Officer Mark Hamre*

Drove 423.8 miles in July; reviewed statistics for Township; blight report. Report for July is available at the township office.

*Van Buren County Road Commission Al Svilpe*

RAH project will be formally let out for bids week of August 17. VBCRC has fronted \$1m for project, so we have staked interest in completion. Currently working on repairing potholes throughout county, Crescent Estates is scheduled to finish before school starts September 8.

*Treasurer Bonnie Osborne*

\$294,327.34 in general fund checking.

*Building Activity Heather Mitchell*

28 permits for July including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$5,036.00.

*Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne*

VBDL will be seeking a .2 millage on the Nov 3 ballot. The millage is due to funding loss, headlee rollbacks, and will have a 10 year limit.

*Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting*

It is with deepest regrets that the announcement came of Dave Cornish passing away. This is a loss for not only his family and friends, but for the community as a whole.

*Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne*

Approved policies on drug & alcohol and reporting an illness.

*Paw Paw Fire Department Dan Ruzick*

PPF Department continues to look at all available options on expansion, remodeling, and new construction including cost estimates of each. Antwerp Township will have to look at best option for coverage as to remain

with PPFD or seek feasibility study in building a satellite office for MFD for coverage on the northwestern end of Township.

*Cemeteries* Heather Mitchell

One (1) burial in July.

*Mattawan Quick Response* Bonnie Osborne

Green address signs can now be purchased at the fire department. Department will be hosting a pop can drive and car wash for upcoming fundraisers.

*Planning Commission* Heather Mitchell

July meeting cancelled due to lack of agenda. Meeting minutes are available online at [www.antwerptownship.com](http://www.antwerptownship.com).

*Zoning Board of Appeals* Heather Mitchell

Meeting on August 27.

**Public Comment:** Phil Tarchala gave an update on trail way project from meetings with MDOT & Wightman and Associates. Bob Lambert thanked the Township Board for an excellent "Picnic in the Park" on July 22. We had 87 participants.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$237,836.19.

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

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

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk