

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY January 12 7:00 PM
draft

Clerk Mitchell called the Township Board meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Daniel J. Ruzick-Supervisor (7:10 pm), Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer, Heather Mitchell-Clerk, Bruce Cutting - Trustee

Board Members Absent: Ron Derhammer-Trustee

Also Present: Six guests.

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

Public Comment: None.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve December 8, 2015 minutes as mailed. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Site Plan AR Engineering: Dollar General

Site plan proposed for 51079 CR 652, Mattawan for 9100 square foot Dollar General retail store. Parcel ID#80-02-001-041-00 with current zoning as Commercial. Planning Commission recommends approval with condition as listed in minutes dated January 6, 2016.

All conditions will be approved administratively - outstanding submittal requirements; outstanding site plan review comments; maintain site fencing during construction per Section 11.6 D.1; approvals from VBC Drain Commission, VBCRC, VBCHD, and MFD.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Cutting to approve site plan with conditions set forth by Planning Commission. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

A. Midwest Energy Metro-Act Application

Issue at hand is a Metro-Act application from Midwest Energy. Township Board approved the application last month with the caveat of wanting lines buried whenever possible in order to preserve rural character of township. Midwest has concerns that the Township is asking for something that would cost them a lot of money and is not feasible in some instances. Representative from Midwest was present to answer questions, along with concerned citizens of Antwerp Township. .

Clerk Mitchell read letter from Attorney Jim Straub. Counsel pointed out Section 4.13 within the Metro Act which details a futuristic option for underground relocation. In contrast with franchise agreements, the Township has very little ability to alter a Metro Act application. However, within this section, the Township can and will ask Midwest to reconsider language that instead of a futuristic option, the option be exercised at the present time and as a condition of approval require that Midwest install its new equipment underground where other utilities as described in Section 4.13 have already installed their equipment underground.

The intent of the Metro Act is to level the playing field between companies which begs the question if Comcast buries, then why wouldn't Midwest bury lines as well? Desire of the Township Board in order to maintain the natural beauty of the area and to preserve rural character is to have Midwest bury all lines

where telecommunications lines are already buried. Midwest stands that if they own the poles or already have aerial lines, new lines will continue to be aerial. Some lines will be aerial in order to keep the cost of business down and to make service available in areas where it currently is not.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Cutting to approve the Metro Act Application with the condition that Section 4.13 be enacted in the present tense whereas Midwest will install its new equipment underground where other utilities as described in Section 4.13 have already installed their equipment underground. All voted in favor.

Motion carried.

B. Bid Proposal: Men's Library bathroom; Tile/Carpet Hall Entrance & Meeting Room

Specifications for bids were created in order for a remodel/ADA compliance for the men's library restroom and installing new tile in hall entry and carpet in the meeting room. Two bids were received.

Powell Custom Homes for \$47,327. Hall Builders for \$34,800.

Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell to approve bid from Hall Builders contingent on price including all bid specifications.

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

C. Bid Proposal: Activity Center Wall Mount Light

Specifications on a wall mount security light over the back entry door to the Activity Center.

Two bids were received. Kerwin Electric for \$530. Wilcox for \$315.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to accept bid from Wilcox for \$315.

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

Correspondence: Liquor Control Commission Letter; Valdez Request

Announcements: None

Reports:

Ordinance Officer Mark Hamre

Reviewed current blight issues in Township.

Van Buren County Road Commission Al Svilpe

Addressed letter sent by Antwerp Township Board to VBCRC on loss of primary millage monies and ability to spend money within Antwerp Township. Township Board will turn around project sheets in May versus June, providing RC makes them available early enough for review. Supervisor Ruzick will be attending next RC meeting with Smith's in order to address culvert issue.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne

\$271,416.72 in general fund checking.

Building Activity Heather Mitchell

10 permits for December including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$2,120.00.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne

No report.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting

Short meeting. Workman's comp issue being reviewed by attorneys.

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne

Working on cleaning a virus off main computer.

Cemeteries Heather Mitchell
Three (3) burials in December.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne
No report.

Planning Commission
Dollar General site plan. Extension for temporary fire housing for Jesse & Becky Valdez. Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals Heather Mitchell
No report.

Public Comment: None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$74,214.49.
Motion by Cutting, second by Mitchell to accept bills for payment.
Roll Call Vote: Osborne-yes; Ruzick-yes; Mitchell-yes; Cutting-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Mitchell to adjourn.
All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Mitchell/Clerk