

MINUTES FROM THE  
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY June 14, 2016 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: Five guests

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

Public Comment:

- Dan Abbott: Running for Van Buren County Sheriff – Background & Information
- Paul Schincariol: Running for County Commissioner 7<sup>th</sup> District – Background & Information

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve May 10, 2016 minutes and June 7, 2016 minutes as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

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

**New Business:**

**A. Insurance Bids**

Township received a sole bid for liability insurance. Looking at a 3% reduction for a three (3) year commitment. The cost would be \$6800 for the township and \$14,000 for the fire department.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to accept proposal from BHS for liability insurance for next three (3) years.

Roll Call Vote: Derhammer-yes; Mitchell-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-no; Ruzick-yes. Motion carries.

**B. Resolution for New Allocation with VBCRC**

Several emails have been exchanged between the VBCRC and the Township on the subject of road millage allocation. Township feels the current allocation method is unfavorable as we see well over \$300,000 collected and less than \$80,000 returned. Director Hummel was present to answer questions about allocation method and stated that the method was set into place years ago and could certainly be reviewed. A resolution has been prepared that states the Township is in favor the renewal of the current road millage, but would ask that the VBCRC review current allocation procedures.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to adopt resolution 2016-0614 supporting the current renewal of the VBCRC road millage and that the VBCRC be entrusted to review current allocation procedures in order to provide a more equitable disbursement across townships.

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

**C. Antwerp Township Budget including Road Projects 2016-2017**

Public hearing for the budget was held on June 7. Addition of one road project to include repaving of San Pines Circle. A 2.5% increase in wages was proposed and passed. Supervisor Ruzick highlighting on changes between the two fiscal years.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to adopt the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget.

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

**D. Fee Schedule 2016-2017**

Received small increases for the electrical and plumbing permits, requested by individual inspectors. All other fees will remain the same.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Cutting to increase rates for electrical and plumbing permits, while maintaining all other fees for 2016-2017 fiscal year.

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

**E. Board Appointments**

Several appointments to boards are needing to be reappointed and all parties have agreed to continue to serve in their current roles.

Motion by Osborne, second by Derhammer to appoint Anna Daly to Planning Commission through 2019.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to appoint Phil Tarchala to Planning Commission through 2019.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to appoint Kayla Ranger-Dean to Mattawan Fire Board through 2019.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to appoint Bonnie Osborne as Mattawan Fire Board liaison.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Mitchell to appoint Bruce Cutting to Van Buren District Library Board.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Mitchell, second by Osborne to appoint Joe Stimac to the Zoning Board of Appeals through 2018.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Derhammer, second by Osborne to appoint Phil Tarchala to the Zoning Board of Appeals through 2018.

All voted in favor. Motion carries.

**F. Resolution to impose Property Tax Administrative Fee**

Property tax law allows jurisdictions to levy up to a 1% administration fee in order to help offset costs of preparing, maintaining, and mailing tax statements and assessment notices.

Antwerp Township continues to review this administration fee and is one of the only jurisdictions that collects less than 1% in order to offer our taxpayers a savings.

Motion by Cutting, second by Derhammer to set administration fee at .75% for the 2016 tax year.

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

**G. Antwerp Township Activity Center painting bid**

Bid was accepted last year is no longer valid as the contractor cannot complete the work. Robertson Painting has offered to complete the job at similar cost, with the addition of the shed and an upgrade to some paint.

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to accept new bid from Robertson Painting for \$8188.

Roll call Vote: Ruzick0yes; Mitchell0yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes. Derhammer-yes. Motion carries.

**Correspondence:** VBCRC June 1 2016 letter; MDOT May 23 2016 letter; Senior Expo Committee thank you letter; VBBDL 2015 annual report.

**Announcements:** July 20<sup>th</sup> is the annual Senior Appreciation Picnic

**Reports:**

*Ordinance Officer* Mark Hamre

Reviewed current blight issues in Township and call log for previous month.

*VBCRC* Al Svilpe

Report covered through Item B with Larry Hummel.

*Treasurer* Bonnie Osborne

\$259,813.64 in general fund checking.

*Building Activity* Heather Mitchell

14 permits for May including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$11,970.

*Sunshine Branch Library* Bonnie Osborne

Summer Reading program kicks off June 1. Continuing computer classes and Tai-Chi has started on Thursdays at 4:00 pm.

*Lawton Fire Department* Bruce Cutting

No report.

*Mattawan Fire Department* Bonnie Osborne

Received two membership applications. 12calls for last month.

*Cemeteries* Heather Mitchell

One (1) burial in May.

*Mattawan Quick Response* Bonnie Osborne

54 calls in May; looking at new chassis.

*Planning Commission* Ron Derhammer

Longjohn properties rezoning. Meeting minutes are available online at [www.antwerptownship.com](http://www.antwerptownship.com).

*Zoning Board of Appeals* Heather Mitchell

No meeting in May. Meeting minutes are available online at [www.antwerptownship.com](http://www.antwerptownship.com).

**Public Comment:** None

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$344,072.97.

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

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