

MINUTES FROM THE
REGULAR ANTWERP TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 2018

Supervisor Ruzick called the board meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Bonnie Osborne-Treasurer, Chantel Reyna-Clerk, Bruce Cutting- Trustee, Gary Stock-Trustee

Board Members Absent: none

Also Present: Fourteen guests

Motion by Osborne, second by Cutting to approve agenda with removal of item D. until further notice. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment:

- Kris Adams- *Resident*
 1. Kris would like a follow up from Trustee Stock on his conversation with the attorney regarding the easement that AEP has. Trustee Stock has not gotten any additional information at this time.
- Deputy Skinner- *VBC Sheriff*
 1. Deputy Skinner briefly went over his report for the month of November.
 2. There are a few blight issues that he is still dealing with throughout the Township.

Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to approve the November 13th, 2018 Township Board Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Action on Planning Commission Recommendations:

A. Rezoning request by Vince and Janet Rogers for parcel numbers 80-02-009-005-80 and 80-02-009-005-24. Planning Commission and Van Buren County Planning Commission recommend approving the rezoning of parcel number 80-02-009-005-24 and denying parcel number 80-02-009-005-80 from R-1 to general commercial. Residents in the area attended the meeting to express concern about a residential area becoming general commercial. Jeff Paulson from Hurley & Stewart, LLC asked the board to approve the recommendations from the Planning Commission's, so they can then move on the request a variance with parcel number 80-02-009-005-24. After hearing concerns from the neighbors, The Rogers have decided to change their plan on how they want to use the property. Motion by Stock, second by Reyna to approve the rezoning of parcel 80-02-009-005-24 from R-1 to general commercial. All voted in favor. Motion carries. Motion by Stock, second by Osborne, to deny the rezoning of parcel number 80-02-009-005-80. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Pending Business:

None

New Business:

A. Set 2019 Township Board meeting schedule

Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to approve the 2019 schedule as submitted. Meetings will continue to be the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

B. Review Van Buren County 2018 road project estimates

VBCRC submitted projects throughout the Township that will be placed out for bid. There were a few projects that had tree removal on them. Supervisor Ruzick will get clarification on what trees will be removed before the project is approved. There is also a culvert that the board would like some clarification on along 63rd Ave. The estimated costs that were presented are not the actual cost to complete the project. Motion by Cutting, second by Osborne to authorize Supervisor Ruzick to sign the project proposal with option to choose which projects we do after the final bids are in. Roll call vote. Ruzick-yes; Reyna-yes; Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Stock-yes. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

C. Wage & Benefit Committee: Personnel Policy Health/Medical determination

The current policy says that a percentage of the employees' health insurance will be paid by the Township. We needed clarification as to whether the term health insurance included dental and vision insurance as well. Motion by Cutting, second by Stock to add dental and vision to page 32 of the employee handbook to be consistent with the percentage paid for health insurance by the committee. Roll call vote. Reyna-yes; Osborne-no; Stock-yes; Cutting-yes; Ruzick-no. Motion carries.

Correspondence:

- VBCRC Board of Commissioners update

It was voted on at the Board of Commissioners meeting that Jeff Moffitt will become our new representative for Antwerp Township.

Announcements:

- None

Reports:

Attorney

We have used Roxanne Seeber from Bauckham Sparks for a few ordinance enforcement issues.

Treasurer Bonnie Osborne

\$218,600.07 in the general fund

Building Activity Chantel Reyna

Antwerp: 20 permits for November including Building, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing with fees of \$4,918.00

Almena: 16 permits for November including Building, Electrical and Mechanical with fees of \$3,162.40.

Sunshine Branch Library Bonnie Osborne

The library hosted 21 programs in November with over 500 attendees. 140 kids visited Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Lawton Fire Department Bruce Cutting

Short meeting, paid bills. The fire board has decided to purchase air packs which will be put into next year's budget.

Paw Paw Fire Department Dan Ruzick

A consultant has come in to get the contract prepared for Almena and Waverly.

Mattawan Fire Department Bonnie Osborne

Fire board wants to purchase air packs but would like to bundle the purchase with other municipalities to get a better price.

Mattawan Quick Response Bonnie Osborne

Talks of merging with fire department

Cemeteries Chantel Reyna
One burial in November.

Planning Commission Gary Stock
Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Zoning Board of Appeals Gary Stock
Meeting minutes are available online at www.antwerptownship.com.

Public Comment:

- Resident talked about the legalization of marijuana and is hoping that once the Township acts, we will only permit the growing of it in agricultural zoning. At this point, the Township is fact finding and has not decided on which way we will go.

Recommendation from the committee on Antwerp Township, Mattawan Quick Response, Mattawan Fire Department, and Senior Services bills in the amount of \$47,091.93.

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

Roll Call Vote: Osborne-yes; Cutting-yes; Reyna-yes; Stock-yes. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Motion by Osborne, second by Reyna to adjourn.

All voted in favor. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chantel Reyna