

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2022**

2022-14 CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Alpine Township Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Monday, February 21, 2022 at the Alpine Township Meeting Room, 5255 Alpine Avenue, Comstock Park, Michigan, 49321 with due notice. Supervisor Madura called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present were Supervisor Greg Madura, Clerk Jean Wahlfield, Treasurer Beth Alt and Trustees Rob Scheidel, William Schweitzer and Mike Wahlfield. Trustee Cordes was absent.

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from Scheidel, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

Schweitzer offered a motion, with support from M. Wahlfield, to approve the Consent Agenda including one change to the Minutes of January 17, 2022 on page three which was to add the word “not” to the Treasurer’s comment. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

2022-15 CONSIDERATION OF VOUCHERS/BILLS

A motion was offered by Schweitzer with support from Alt, to approve the payment of vouchers for the period 01/19/22 through 02/22/2022 as presented. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

Supervisor Madura pointed out the December 2021 Fund Balance report shows a negative balance in the water fund which will become positive following the collection of the winter taxes.

2022-16 PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered at this time.

2022-17 COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission: Cordes – No report due to the absence of Cordes at the meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Schweitzer – Two cases were decided by the ZBA in January. Both requests were approved and involved setback issues.

Historical Commission: M. Wahlfield - The Commission did not meet due to bad weather on the night of the scheduled meeting.

Sewer & Water: Madura – Plainfield Charter Townships will be installing 11 miles of new water line due to PFAS. Plainfield received an award for best public water in Michigan and continues to look for a new water replacement well. The NKSA is seeking a low interest SFR loan to address anticipated increased regulations to test PFAS at the plant.

Parks & Recreation: Scheidel – Members did not meet.

Alpine KDL Branch Library: Branch Manager Knapp reported that February was a busy month at the Alpine library. She reported on a the new streaming service, the Let It Snow program and that full programming will begin again.

**2022-18 CONSIDERATON OF ORDINANCE NO. 21-01 – AMEND ZONING
ORDINANCE - FARM DWELLINGS VS NON-FARM DWELLINGS**

The Planning Commission has been working on proposed changes for dwelling units in the agricultural zoning district and farm versus non-farm dwellings. The Planning Commission has recommended Zoning Ordinance text amendments in Chapters 1 and 5 regarding language pertaining to farm dwellings and non-farm dwellings.

A motion was offered from Scheidel, with support from Schweitzer, to approve and order publication of Ordinance No. 21-01 which is an Ordinance to Amend the Alpine Township Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 89-9, as Amended, Chapter 1, Definitions and Chapter V, Agricultural Zone. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 6-0, in a roll call vote with Cordes absent.

2022-19 PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION – K.C. SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Kent County Lt. Ben Cammenga was present and explained that has been newly appointed to oversee the northern tier municipalities.

**2022-20 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #22-02 – CDBG TO AUTHORIZE
ACCEPTANCE OF MONIES FOR FY 2022-2023**

Planner Becker submitted a memo dated February 7, 2022 outlining that the Township will be applying for CDBG funding for a picnic shelter with picnic tables, grills, trash cans, electric services and accessible walkway at the Alpine Township Sports Complex Park. The requested funds are in the amount of \$70,600 with the Township providing an additional \$25,000.

Schweitzer offered a motion with support from Scheidel, to approve Resolution #22-02 Authorizing the Acceptance of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) monies for the Program Year 2022-2023. The motion carried 6-0 with Cordes absent.

**2022-21 PETITION TO STRIKE DELINQUENT 2016 PERSONAL PROPERTY
TAXES**

The Treasurer submitted a list of 2016 personal property taxes that are delinquent and have not paid in an amount of \$2,444.94.

A motion was offered by Alt, with support from Schweitzer, to strike the delinquent 2016 personal property taxes in the amount of \$2,444.94 and to order the Supervisor to sign the necessary Waiver and Consent form. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

**2022-22 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #22-03 – OPPOSING
INCORPORATION AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

The Supervisor stated that Board Members received information regarding the potential to incorporate as a charter township following the results of the 2020 Census and discussed this topic at the last meeting. It was noted that the required public noticing has taken place.

Schweitzer offered a motion, with support from Scheidel, to approve Resolution #22-03 OPPOSING Incorporation as a Charter Township. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

**2022-23 CONSIDERATION OF KENT COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
PLAN AND ACTION GUIDELINES**

The Supervisor explained that Kent County Emergency Management has updated their operation plan. A portion of the plan pertains to information related to Alpine Township and our chain of command. Additional responsibilities are listed for Fire Department and Township personnel in the event of any type of emergency situation.

A motion was offered by Scheidel, with support from M. Wahlfield, to approve and support the update Kent County Emergency Action Guidelines. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

**2022-24 CONSIDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
LAND MATTERS, INC.**

The Supervisor noted that an agreement has been received from Land Matters, LLC to obtain the necessary right of way easements from property owners along Four Mile Road for future sanitary sewer installation. Some corrections were pointed out and will need to be corrected in the final agreement.

A motion was offered by M. Wahlfield, with support from Schweitzer, to approve the professional services agreement with Land Matters, LLC with the change of removing the word “charter”, that the duration portion of the agreement will need to be completed, that Land Matters, LLC submits a certification of insurance and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

**2022-25 REQUEST FOR FUNDS 175TH TOWNSHIP ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION & NEW FIRE STATION DEDICATION**

The Supervisor noted that a date of Friday, July 22 has been selected for the dedication and grand opening of new Fire Station #1 at 1100 Henze Street. The date of Saturday, July 23 has been selected for Alpine’s the 175th anniversary celebration to be held at the Alpine Sports Complex Park.

Scheidel offered a motion, with support from M. Wahlfield to allot an amount of \$10,000 from the general fund for a community dedication of new Fire Station #1 and a community 175th celebration of Alpine Township to take place on July 22 and 23, 2022. The motion carried 6-0, with Cordes absent.

2022-26 UPATE – NEW FIRE STATION #1 AT 1100 HENZE STREET NW

Work continues at the new fire station with the bays receiving an epoxy floor coating and the finishing of the ventilation system. Much of the drywall in the building has been completed and some finish painting is taking place.

2022-27 FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Chief reported that 91 fire runs took place in January. He provided updates on the Med #1 truck and Engine #1 compressor issues as well as the SCBA fill station. New nozzles have been ordered for fire apparatus. Firefighter Nawara has resigned from the Department.

Information was provided about the hiring process for new firefighters. The new positions have not been posted as the Township is waiting for insurance information and related benefits.

2022-28 PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Klomparens, 3540 7 Mile Road NW, offered several comments regarding needed upgrades and concerns at the Sports Complex Park on Alpine Church Road NW.

2022-29 SUPERVISOR’S REPORT AND BOARD COMMENTS

The Supervisor reported that the Zoning Enforcement officer resigned in March.

Board members discussed the recent “dark” store approach that big box store are using as they appeal their tax values and recent legal outcomes in their big box stores favor.

2022-30 ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Schweitzer, with support from M. Wahlfield, the motion carried 6-0 with Cordes absent and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Wahlfield, Clerk

Greg Madura, Supervisor