

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

2019-118 CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Alpine Township Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Monday, September 16, 2019 at the Alpine Township Hall, 5255 Alpine Avenue, Comstock Park, Michigan, 49321 with due notice. Supervisor Greg 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 Jim Townsend and Trustees Ron Cordes, Rob Scheidel, Bill Schweitzer, and Mike Wahlfield.

Townsend offered a motion, with support from Schweitzer, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Cordes, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

2019-119 CONSIDERATION OF VOUCHERS/BILLS

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from M. Wahlfield, to approve the payment of the vouchers and bills as presented for the period 08/21/19 through 09//17/19. The motion carried 7-0.

2019-120 PUBLIC HEARING – 425 CONDITIONAL LAND TRANSFER AGREEMENT

The Supervisor stated that Alpine Township and Plainfield Charter Township have been working on the proposed agreement. Four parcels bisected by municipal boundaries will be adjusted so that the entire parcel will lie in one Township or the other. This topic has also been discussed at previous Board meetings. The property owners have been informed of the potential changes and no objections were received. The proposed agreement has been reviewed by the Township Attorney. Planning Director Becker's memo dated September 6, 2019 provides maps, locations, and other details regarding the proposed agreement.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Schweitzer, to open the public hearing on the 425 Conditional Land Transfer Agreement with Plainfield Charter Township. The motion carried 7-0.

Noting the no public comments were offered, Schweitzer made a motion supported by Townsend to close the public hearing for the 425 Conditional Land Transfer Agreement with Plainfield Charter Township and the motion carried 7-0.

The Board discussed the information and maps received from the Planning Director and the final steps that will need to occur in order to finalize the municipal boundary adjustments.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Cordes, to approve the 425 Conditional Land Transfer Agreement between Alpine Township and Plainfield Charter Township as

proposed and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the document. There was no further discussion and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

2019-121 PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered at this time from the public.

2019-122 COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission: Cordes – The Commission held an Open House meeting for residents along the Four Mile Road corridor to discuss potential future land uses as well as the current Master Plan Map for the area.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Schweitzer – No meeting was held.

Historical Commission: Schweitzer – The Committee held an Open House on September 15, 2019 and the presenter was Sarah Rasch on the topic of her African Trip and experiences.

Sewer & Water: Madura – No report on the public water system. The Gracewil sewer lift station continues to experience troubles. The agreement for the NKSA to accept partially treated water from the old Wolverine World Wide tannery site has been finalized and signed by both parties.

Parks & Recreation: Madura – The Supervisor reported that the activities at the Sports Complex are winding down for the season. Sparta Little League will be using the Sports Complex fields in 2020.

2019-123 MARANATHA BIBLE CHURCH – REQUEST FOR NOISE ORDINANCE EXCEPTION JUNE 15 THRU 25, 2020

The Supervisor stated that a request has been received for an exception to the noise ordinance from Maranatha Bible Church located at 4426 Stony Creek Avenue NW. They plan to hold their annual Maranatha Day Camp on June 15, 2020 thru June 25, 2020. Laura Smith was present on behalf of the request noting that the Camp is licensed by the State of Michigan. Approximately 350 campers and 160 staff participate in the event. Due to the PA system which is in place to safety as well as part of the license requirements from the State, the Camp is requesting an exception to the Township's noise ordinance. Board members reviewed and discussed the request.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Scheidel, to grant and approve an exception to the noise ordinance for the Maranatha Bible Church located at 5526 Stony Creek Avenue NW for the annual Day Camp to be held on June 15 through June 25, 2020. There was no discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

2019-124 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF INTERURBAN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The annual Interurban Transit Partnership agreement to provide bus line service in Alpine Township was reviewed. The cost to Alpine Township includes an 11% contract rate increase in the amount of \$7,442 for the year. The Supervisor noted that the bus route is an important and utilized service in the Township.

Townsend offered a motion, with support from Cordes, to approve the Agreement between the Interurban Transit Partnership and Alpine Township of Line Haul and Paratransit Services effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Agreement. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

2019-125 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #19-14 – MASTER PLAN AMENDMENTS

The proposed resolution reserves the right of the Township Board to approve or reject any proposed Master Plan amendment for the 4 Mile Road Corridor subplan. The Planning Commission will be holding an Open House on September 19th with the property owners and residents to solicit thoughts about future development along the corridor.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Schweitzer, to approve Resolution #19-14, a Resolution of Intent to Assert the Right of the Township Board to Approve or Reject a Master Plan Amendment. The motion carried 7-0.

2019-126 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #19-15 – SUPPORT RECREATION GRANT APPLICATION

The Planner provided updated information about the two recreation grant applications which she submitted on behalf of the Township and previously approved by the Board. The grant administrator has indicated that additional monies would have to be added to the project for paved ADA pathways. The DNR requires a new resolution from the Board spelling out this change.

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from Scheidel, to approve Resolution #19-15 Supporting the Township’s Submission of a Recreation Grant Application and a Commitment of Funding for the Same. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

2019-127 REVIEW TOWNSHIP TREASURER JOB DESCRIPTION

The Treasurer noted that the Township Attorney has reviewed the job description for the Township Treasurer. The Attorney changes are indicated in blue ink and were discussed by the Board.

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from Scheidel, to approve the changes to the Treasurer’s job description as provided by the Township Attorney and the motion carried 7-0.

2019-128 REVIEW QUOTE FOR HENZE BUILDING SIGN MODIFICATION

The Board has previously discussed the electronic sign located at the Henze property and reviewed bids to change to the sign to indicate the property is now owned by the Township. Recently the Supervisor requested additional information from Valley City Sign about their quote. The Board reviewed and discussed the updated Valley City Sign concept drawing and the information to refurbish the sign for an quoted amount of \$4,630.00. It was noted that the permit fee listed needs to be deducted from the quote.

Cordes offered a motion, with support from M. Wahlfield, to approve the amount of \$4,480.00 to refurbish the existing sign per drawing #171,412 on the Township property located at 1100 Henze Street NW. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

2019-129 REVIEW SNOW PLOWING BIDS FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

The Supervisor explained that he sent out 5 RFP's and received 3 bids for the snowplowing of all Township properties for the 2019-2020 season. The three bidders were Natural Landscapes, LLC, Parker's Snowplowing, and Seasons Change Services, LLC. Board members received copies of the bids and discussed the options especially the salting of the sidewalks and parking lots.

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from Scheidel, to approve Seasons Change Services, LLC to provide snowplowing and salting services of all the Township properties listed in the RFP for the 2019-2020 seasons due to the quality of service as outlined in Proposal #1002 in the amount of \$18,965.00 and that the contract is for two years. The motion carried 7-0.

2019-130 REVIEW INFORMATION – SECURITY UPDATE PROJECT AT TOWNSHIP OFFICES

The Supervisor stated that the grant application for the security upgrade project was not approved and has previously indicated that the project needs to be completed. The Board received copies of the drawing for the upgrade. It was noted that the estimate for the work was received over a year ago and the cost for the project have increased. The Treasurer stated that a cap needs to be placed on the project cost and comply with the Township bid policy.

Cordes offered a motion, with support from Schweitzer, to approve and move forward to construct the security upgrade project at the Township offices as outlined in the drawing reviewed and that the cost of the project not exceed \$9,999.95. The motion carried 7-0.

The cement at the entrances to the Township Offices and Library heave during the winter months. The Supervisor will look in to getting bids for the repair work for review at the next meeting.

2019-131 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Board members received copies of the August call volume report.

The Chief provided apparatus updates and noted that the new brush truck is in production.

Trevor Driesenga is the recommended candidate for the full time firefighter position. The Chief explained the process noting that the interview team consisted of three area Fire Chiefs from Grandville, Plainfield, and the City of Walker along with the Supervisor and Clerk. A written test was administered to each of the candidates as well as the interview. Chief Klomparens noted that the new firefighter position will consist of 80 hours over two weeks and explained the alternating working hours each week. The need for Sunday site duty will be eliminated and the recommended salary is \$41,000. Driesenga is ready to accept the job pending Township Board approval.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from M. Wahlfield, to approve Trevor Driesenga as the new full time firefighter for Alpine Township with an annual salary of \$41,000. There was no discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

The Chief provide information about Drew DeMeester who lives just inside Plainfield Township. DeMeester is a trained firefighter and needs the EMT basic class. The EMT class cost is \$1,575 and the Township may receive some reimbursement for the class costs. A background check has been completed and the Chief is recommending DeMeester as a paid on call firefighter.

A motion was offered by Cordes, with support from Townsend, to hire Drew DeMeester as a paid on call firefighter and that the Township will paid for the necessary EMT basic training class in an amount of \$1, 575.00. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

Fire Chief Klomparens offered information about creating an additional new job position. The job would be a combination position of Fire Safety Specialist for the Fire Department and Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Township. The proposed full time position would be 16 hours as the ZEO and 24 hours for the Fire Department. The Chief reviewed his budget report and budget numbers.

The Board discussed the information received and requested that Chief provide additional information in writing about the proposed position, salary, job description, and budget impacts for the next meeting.

2019-132 PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Stachowiak, 6830 Vinton Avenue NW, had questions regarding the process and potential millage needed to convert the existing Henze building into a new fire station. The Supervisor addressed this topic.

2019-133 SUPERVISOR’S REPORT, BOARD COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The Supervisor discussed the Township property located at 7609 Alpine Avenue. The old fire station building on the property has been demolished and the property is vacant. The property is a small parcel with a limited building area due to being a corner lot. The Supervisor requested direction from the Board on the future of the property. Board members discussed the property noting that of the potential options, the property should be sold and offered to the adjacent neighbors first. Realtor Chuck Jakems was recommended to handle the process of offering the parcel for sale to the adjacent neighbors.

It was the consensus of the Board that if the neighbors are not interest the property at 7609 Alpine Avenue, that it needs to be advertised for sale.

A motion to adjourn this meeting was offered by Townsend, with support from Schweitzer. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Wahlfield, Clerk

Greg Madura, Supervisor