

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

2020-110 CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Alpine Township Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020 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, William Schweitzer and Mike Wahlfield.

The Supervisor added one item to the agenda as “Item H” under pending and new business which is Consideration of Resolution No. 20-12, a Resolution Authorizing the Township Supervisor and Clerk to Execute an Agreement for Design Building Services with Pinnacle Construction Group, Inc.

Schweitzer offered a motion with support from Scheidel, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item H – Consideration of Resolution No 20-12. The motion carried 7-0.

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

2020-111 CONSIDERATION OF VOUCHERS/BILLS

A motion as offered by Schweitzer, with support from Cordes, to approve the list of vouchers to be paid for the period of 08/19/20 through 09/22/20 as presented. There was no discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

2020-112 PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments offered from the public at this time.

2020-113 COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission: Cordes – During their August 2020 meeting the Commission approved a contractor yard for the property and building located at 6661 Alpine NW. The Commission discussed, approved and recommended the Capital Improvement Plan and projects for FY 2020-2021 at the September meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Schweitzer – As no requests for variances were received the Board did not meet.

Historical Commission: Schweitzer – The Historical Committee did not meet but plans to hold their Book Sale on September 25 and 26 at the Henze Center building. Items for sale will also include some of the contents from the church that came with the property.

Sewer & Water: Madura – Madura reported that significant I&I continues to be observed at the Alpine Meadows mobile home park following any rain event. This stormwater problem needs to be solved by Alpine Meadows as it overwhelms the NKSA lift station and additional smoke testing is anticipated. The Westgate water improvement project is nearing completion and the next step is to adjust the pressure from the main line into individual residences. Only one bid was received for the sewer easement brush and tree clearing project from 6 Mile to 7 Mile Road that runs along the creek.

Parks & Recreation: Scheidel – The Committee did not meet. Alpine Elementary school continues to use the Sports Complex for student social distancing. The banks along the creek at Westgate Park have been stabilized.

**2020-114 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-11**

Board members received information from Planner Becker dated September 17, 2020 regarding the Township’s Capital Improvement Plan which is done annually. A capital improvement is defined as an improvement that costs more than \$10,000, has a useful life span of at least 5 years and results in the revitalization of a fixed asset. The Planning Commission reviewed the updated CIP document and held the public hearing on September 17, 2020. The Planning Commission prioritized and ranked CIP projects, recommended the commitment of \$492,000 for future projects, and recommended projects to be implemented in FY 2020-2021. The CIP also ranks the future projects and funding for a period of year 2020-2026. The Board reviewed and discussed the documents.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from Wahlfield, to approve Resolution No 20-11 and adopt the Alpine Township Capital Improvement Program, 2020-2026. The motion carried 7-0.

**2020-115 DISCUSSION – DRAFT ORDINANCE REGULATIONS FOR
ANIMAL CONTROL**

Board members received a memo dated September 17, 2020 from Planner Becker regarding draft ordinance changes about animals. The goals of the proposed changes are to prohibit the keeping of exotic or wild animals, prohibit the hoarding of domestic cats in residential settings, and to generally update the ordinances.

Treasurer Townsend stated that he discussed the changes with the Planner noting that some of the items in the Township ordinance are covered in the Kent County Animal Control Regulations and handed out a copy to the Board at this meeting. The Board discussed the draft noting that the 3 ft. regulation for snakes and to keep the wording regarding venomous snakes is acceptable.

2020-116 DISCUSSION – 4 MILE CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN (SUB PLAN A)

The Planning Commission has been working on amending the Master Plan along the 4 Mile corridor between Fruit Ridge and Cordes Avenue. The Township is looking ahead to provide opportunities for small scale less intense uses that support neighborhood-scale needs and provide support services to the industrial uses on the south side of 4 Mile in the City of Walker. Board members received a draft copy of the sub-area plan and the accompanying maps. Townsend noted the draft is a forward looking plan as development is occurring and will continue to occur along 4 Mile road. Board members discussed potential properties that are likely to re-development along the Alpine side of 4 Mile Road.

Townsend offered a motion with support from Cordes to approve the distribution of the 4 Mile Corridor Master Plan (Subplan A) to the required recipients as outlined in the Michigan Planning Enabling Act and the motion carried 7-0.

2020-117 CONSIDERATION OF KDL REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT – SARAH (PENNY) WELLER

The Supervisor noted that Alpine and Plainfield Township as well as the City of Walker are responsible for appointing an individual to the Kent District Library Board to represent the three jurisdictions. Currently Sarah Weller is the representative and she wishes to continue in that capacity. She has attended several Township Board meetings in the past and provides updates and information from the KDL.

A motion was offered the Cordes and supported by Scheidel to select and approve Sarah Weller as the representative from Alpine Township on the Kent District Library Board and to forward a letter to the KDL confirming the appointment. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**2020-118 ITP – BUS LINEHAUL & PARATRANSIT SERVICES
3 MONTH AGREEMENT**

The Interurban Transit Partnership (ITP) is requesting a 3 month extension of the current agreement with the Township. The Supervisor explained that due to COVID, ITP management needs time to figure out the amount of funding that they can anticipate from Federal and other funding sources for the coming year. The extension will be for October 1 through December 31, 2020 and the total cost to be paid by the Township is approximately \$20,749 for the three month period. The ITP actively monitors ridership numbers in determining their line haul routes.

Townsend offered a motion with support from Scheidel to approve the extension of the existing line haul and paratransit services agreement with ITP for the period of October 1 through December 31, 2020 for an approximate amount of \$20,749 and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement on behalf of Alpine Township. The motion carried 7-0.

2020-119 DISCUSSION OF CARES ACT FUNDS

The Supervisor explained that Alpine Township is eligible for approximately \$296,000 in CARES act funds which will be distributed by Kent County for COVID related expenses, upgrades and new equipment. He explained that the funds could be used for such items as upgrades to the meeting room for ZOOM and televised meetings, computers so that staff to work from home, phone systems upgrades and other COVID related expenses incurred by the Township. The Supervisor will work on getting vendor information and bids for projects that will qualify for CARES funding.

A motion was offered by Cordes, with support from Townsend, to accept and use the Kent County CARES act funds assigned to the Township and that the Supervisor to coordinate efforts with vendors and recommend to the Board projects that can be implemented to expend funds assigned to the Township for COVID expenses, upgrades, and projects. The motion carried 7-0.

2020-120 REQUEST FOR PAY INCREASE – FIREFIGHTER DRIESENGA

Fire Chief Klomparens submitted information regarding full time firefighter Driesenga recommending a salary increase of \$1,500. The Chief noted that Driesenga has diligently performed his duties during his first year with the Township and that an annual review will take place.

A motion was offered by Townsend and supported by M. Wahlfield to increase the annual salary for full time firefighter Driesenga to \$42,500 a year. The motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**2020-121 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-12
DESIGN BUILD SERVICES WITH PINNACLE CONSTRUCTION**

Board member received copies of the proposed resolution for the proposed new Fire Station #1 project. The Supervisor explained that the Township Attorney has reviewed the document and recommends approval.

Townsend offered a motion with support from Scheidel to Approve Resolution No. 20-12 – A Resolution Authorizing the Township Supervisor and Clerk to Execute an Agreement for Design Build Services with Pinnacle Construction Group, Inc. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

2020-122 FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Chief noted that the department ran 95 assignments in August 2020.

The required annual pump testing of apparatus is underway. New tires are needed on Rescue 5 and Engine #10 for an approximate amount of \$8,032. The Township will obtain government pricing through Wingfoot/Goodyear. The new Kent County dispatch radio system is conducting testing and training will be done for each area fire department.

The Alpine Fire Department was approved for and will receive CARES act funds for distribution to members of the department. The Chief explained the method used to determine how the funds will be dispersed to firefighters in a fair and equitable manner.

2020-123 PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered from the members of the public that were present at this meeting.

2020-124 SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS, BOARD COMMENS, AND ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Townsend, with support from Cordes. The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Wahlfield, Clerk

Greg Madura, Supervisor