

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 15, 2017**

2017-50 CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Alpine Township Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Monday, May 15, 2017 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, Jim May, William Schweitzer, and Mike Wahlfield

A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend, to approve the Consent Agenda and the Regular Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0.

The Supervisor informed the Board of the Kent County Road Commission meeting and lunch on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 from 12-2:00 pm at the Douglas Walker Park.

Madura requested assistance from the Trustees with the annual Memorial Day Service to be held at the Pine Grove Cemetery on Monday, May 29, 2017 at 11:00 am.

2017-51 CONSIDERATION OF VOUCHERS/BILLS

The Clerk stated that an error has been fixed on invoice #17041800509 for the Kent County Treasurer changing the description from April to March for Sheriff patrol.

A motion was offered by Schweitzer, with support from May, to approve the payment of checks and vouchers as corrected for the period of April 18, 2017 through May 15, 2017. Motion carried 7-0.

2017-52 PUBLIC HEARING – FISCAL YEAR 2017 – 2018 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend to open the public hearing for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

No comments from the public were offered.

A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend to close the public hearing for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget. Motion carried 7-0.

The Supervisor reported that adjustments have been made to the 2017-2018 projected budget as discussed with Trustees during the budget workshop held on April 20, 2017. The adjustments include the addition of \$65,000 to the \$380,000 for contracted police services for a total of \$445,000 which is approximately the same as the current budget year amount once the May and June invoices are paid. Monies in the Contingency line item increased from \$67,270 to the projected \$124,390. The Clerk expressed her concern regarding a high surplus in contingency despite additional expenses in the

upcoming budget year. She requested increasing increase employee wage by 2% instead of the proposed 1% especially if the projected budget contingency amount is accurate.

The Board discussed Fire Department wages for hourly runs, EMS runs, Sunday Sits as well as education pay rates. The Board discussed increasing the hourly run wage by \$1 per hour to \$17.00 per hour and making no other increases in the per diems rates for EMS run, Sunday site and education. Maintenance is needed at the Township Offices/properties and the Board debated contracting maintenance jobs as needed versus hiring personnel. Since funds are available in the maintenance budget to pay for personnel to do maintenance work, the Chief suggested hiring already trained Fire Fighters from other municipalities to fill part time shifts for maintenance purposes. It was noted that Alpine Township would need to supply additional turn out gear for the new hires. The Board requested that Klomparens present a proposal next month. Madura added that SCBA & turnout gear are now new and separate line items in the budget each year and that the dollars will be transferred to CIP.

It was the consensus of the Board to Table approval of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Fund Budget until next month.

2017-53 PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were received at this time.

2017-54 COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission: Cordes – Approved a special land use and the site plan for Tractor Supply.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Schweitzer – Did not meet.

Historical Committee: Schweitzer – The Cordes family won the syrup contest and the Antique Tractor Show will be held on Sunday at 2:00 pm.

Sewer & Water: Madura – A bioxide system was installed at the Fruit Ridge Lift Station and gas levels have dropped significantly. A similar system may not need to be installed at the Gracewil location. Administrative surcharges to QLF are being discussed.

Parks & Recreation: Jim May – The committee walked the Sports Complex grounds and observed many issues. Madura noted that there are several projects he would like to complete.

Public Services Committee: Madura – No meeting was held.

2017-55 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #17-10 – NEW VOTING SYSTEM AND EQUIPMENT

The Clerk stated that although the Resolution states that the first use of new voting equipment may occur for the November 2017 Election Cycle, at this time an election is not anticipated. A sample agreement for HAVA Grant monies was provided to the Board. Although HAVA monies will fund the new voting equipment there will be expenses for items such as modems and Absentee Counting Board equipment.

A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend, to approve Resolution #17-10 for a new voting system and equipment as well as authorize the Clerk to sign the necessary agreement with the State of Michigan. Motion carried 7-0.

2017-56 APPROVED AGREEMENT WITH CONSUMERS ENERGY FOR CHANGE IN STANDARD LIGHTING CONTRACT CONVERSION TO HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM STREETLIGHTS

An agreement was received from Consumers Energy requesting authorization for the conversion of streetlights at 64 locations in the Township from mercury vapor to high pressure sodium bulbs. The Board inquired why the lights would not be converted to LED bulbs.

A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend to Table the agreement with Consumers Energy for change in standard lighting contract conversion to high pressure sodium streetlights until the June meeting to allow the Supervisor to collect more information. Motion carried 6-1 with Jean Wahlfield dissenting.

2017-56 RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL – 406 DANA STREET NW FORECLOSURE

A letter was received from the Kent County Treasurer's office dated April 26, 2017 regarding a property foreclosure due to non-payment of 2014 taxes. Under the first right of refusal, the Township has the opportunity to purchase the parcel. The Board briefly discussed the property and Treasurer will inform the County of the Township's decision to not pursue the purchase of the parcel.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from May to decline the purchase of 406 Dana Street NW. Motion carried 7-0.

2017-57 RECEIPT OF DRAFT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR 2018-2023

A memo was received from Planning Director Sue Becker "Capital Improvement Plan" dated May 12, 2017 along with an executive summary. The Board reviewed the packet and acknowledged an error of approximately \$30,000 to be subtracted from the funds proposed to be committed to the CIP. The Planning Commission will hold the public hearing at their June meeting with the Township Board to review and adopt the CIP on June 19, 2017.

2017-58 FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #17-08 AND AGREEMENT #17-08 – DNR COOPERATIVE MUTUAL AID FIRE CONTROL

Chief Klomparens requested approval to join the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Mutual Aid Fire Control Agreement. If approved, access to programs such as the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) and the Department of Defense-Firefighter Property (DOD-FFP) would be granted including the ability to purchase surplus DNR equipment. The agreement allows for the DNR to call upon the Alpine Township Fire Department for Mutual Aid assistance.

A motion was offered by Townsend, with support from May to approve Resolution #17-08 and Agreement #17-08 for the DNR Cooperative Mutual Aid Fire Control. Motion carried 7-0.

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #17-09 – PARTICIPATION IN CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

A proposal was received from the Fire Department dated May 15, 2017 requesting Board approval for a Continuing Medical Education CE Sponsorship Program. The Chief explained that the change will improve required continued education for Alpine Township Firefighters as well as create a possibility for new revenue with an added benefit of cost savings. Kelly and Stalsonburg are qualified instructor/coordinators. Following Board approval, the Chief will submit an application and lesson plans to the State for a CE Sponsorship program that is renewed every 3 years.

A motion was offered by May, with support from Schweitzer to approve Resolution #17-09 for Alpine Township's participation in continuing medical education sponsorship program with the State of Michigan for firefighter education. Motion carried 7-0.

The Truck Committee has drawn up a bid spec and anticipates presenting it to the Board next month.

A possible new firefighter hire will be brought in for an interview soon. The Chief thanked Trustee Cordes for allowing the Fire Department to perform hazardous materials training at his facility.

2017-59 PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

2017-60 SUPERVISORS REPORT AND BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee May explained that many volunteers are needed for the Farm Bureau Breakfast on Farm on July 29th from 9:00 am-1:00 pm.


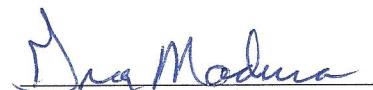
A motion was made by May, with support from Townsend, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Samantha Hanna,
Recording Secretary


Jean Wahlfield, Clerk
Greg Madura, Supervisor