

Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2017

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Saad led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Graves, present, Saad, present, Schmidt, present, Conner, present, and Hallman, present.

A moment of silence was observed for the family of our State Senator Ken Horn's family in memory of his 2 –year old granddaughter who passed away from a tragic accident.

Motion, Schmidt, second, Hallman to approve the minutes of Regular Board Meeting August 28 2017 and the Minutes of the September 11, 2017 Special Assessment Hearing. Motion passed.

Correspondence is available to view.

Consumers Energy Lights- Consumers Energy has sent us a Conceptual Costs for replacing Cobra Head light fixtures with LED.

Schmidt said he recommends that we upgrade to High Pressure Sodium Cobrahead Lights. The monthly savings is estimated at \$206.71. The pay back is 5.4 years. The cost of converting to High Pressure Sodium Cobrahead (HPS) lights is \$13,294.00.

Moved by Hallman, seconded by Graves to approve the Supervisor to allow Consumers to change out the lights with LED. Discussion: Hallman asked what is the time frame to get the lights installed. Motion passed.

Budget Amendments:

Schmidt said Ferrelgas has accepted our offer to purchase the Police Department building for \$125,000. We need \$35,000. To \$50,000. To make improvements to meet the standards we want. We will need to increase our expense lines to cover the cost of purchasing the Police building, the new lights, and Police Department building improvements. The money will be transferred from our fund balance. We also need to pay for the lights from Consumers Energy.. I propose that we authorize a transfer to cover these costs.

Moved by Schmidt , seconded by Graves to authorize an increase in the General Fund Budget in the amount of \$25,000. and in the Police Budget in the amount of \$175,000 and transfer the money from our fund balance. Motion passed.

Motion, Graves, second, Saad to approve payment of bills as printed in the Board Member package. Motion passed.

Public comment: Mike Gentry- How long will these lights last?

James Wells- Would the lights be automatically be changed out? Are we billed per light, per month? Do we have a total amount each month pf the cost? Bird Rd. has a dark hole, it would be nice to have a streetlight there.

Mike Gentry- I asked last month about a speed reduction on Silver lake Rd. Any news?

Marie Robinson- Asked about a light at Glen Hatt and Lobdell Rd.

Steve Miller- asked about the lights .

Deborah Ortwine- I was told that videos will not be accepted for crimes because a police Officer has to witness the crime. How will this help the Township?

Jim Wells- Is this a new law that a Police Officer must witness a (misdemeanor) crime?

Mr. Aaron Bobo- I think there is a good reason for this so people can't submit a video on everyone else and harass their neighbors. I am getting harassed by a neighbor who calls the Police every 5 minutes.

Reports: Police Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Allen reviewed the report. Officer Wilburn has completed First Aid/AED Instructor training. This training certifies Officer Wilburn through the American Heart Association as an instructor for First Aid and AED, and provides our Police department with our own in house instructor for the blocks of instruction. We need to get pricing on a CPR mannequin.

Chief Allen said Detective Fulton passed the test for Sergeant and has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. The Board congratulated Sergeant Fulton.

Fire Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Lafferty reported Fire Prevention Week the department will be hosting our annual open house on Sunday, October 1st from 12 to 4 p.m.. We will have a smokehouse, an extraction demonstration and food. Everyone is invited to attend. Chief Lafferty is recommending an increase in pay for the Firefighters effective on September 16th. A pay scale chart is in each board Member packet. This is a 4 tier pay scale beginning at \$10.00 per hour and topping at \$16.00 per hour. Only change is to tiers 2, 3 and 4 which will increase by \$1.00 per hour. The average over the last several weeks is \$14.41 per hour. Conner asked how long it takes for a firefighter get to the top tier. Conner asked what the minimum time is per call.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Saad to allow Chief Lafferty to adopt the new proposed pay scale and increase the pay for firefighters. Motion passed.

Building Department- A written report was submitted. Supervisor Saad reported 9 building permits were issued in the amount of \$10,287.40 and also there were 6- zoning permits that amount to \$1,570.00 for a total of \$11,857.40.

The Planning Commission – Trustee Conner said The Planning Commission met on September 14th. There was no business so the new members were acquainted with the policies of the Planning Commission.

Assessor Report- Saad read the written report. Our Assessor Lori Cash will be retiring from Washtenaw County effective October 13th. She has accepted a position with Marion Township in Livingston County starting October 16th. She will change her available hours in our township.

Attorney Report: David Lattie- Mr. Lattie will be attending the next ZBA meeting. Mr. Terry Groves is the purchaser of the Legan property. He has a request to construct a new house on the footprint of his old house/ He intends to square off the house.

Last week I met with Mr. & Mrs. Williston and took a deposition. The case will go through Circuit Court. Tom Brooks has submitted his first successful case in District Court. The Judge has stipulated an order. It took 60 days and only cost us \$250.00 instead of thousands.

Old Business: Building Inspector Position

Mike Reilly has been covering for our Building Inspector in his absence.

Motion by Saad, seconded by Hallman to end our relationship with Stuart Worthing on October 6, 2017. Discussion: Attorney Lattie asked if Mr. Worthing has had an opportunity to address the board. Saad answered yes. Saad said this is not personal. Motion passed.

Schmidt moved that we continue our arrangement with Mike Reilly as Argentine Township Building Inspector on an interim basis. Saad seconded the motion.

Discussion: Schmidt said Mr. Reilly has been doing the work for many months. It has been a good fit. Our Supervisor has tried to make an arrangement with other communities but this has not come to fruition yet. Motion passed.

We accepted a bid for a sewer lead and that work can no longer be performed. We must now advertise again for this work.

Hallman moved to re-bid the Bauchem sewer line and Conner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New Business: Postage Meter-

Graves said that our lease has ended on our postage machine. The current model is no longer available. We must upgrade to a new model. We have a proposal for a Pitney Bowes SendPro C200. This machine has many nice features. The cost is \$66.85 per month paid quarterly for a 60-month lease.

Motion Schmidt, seconded, Saad to allow the Clerk to proceed and sign the lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for the Sendpro C200 model shipping & mailing machine. Motion passed.

Chamber of Commerce Membership-

Schmidt said we have been asked by our bank and former school superintendent to join the chamber of Commerce. We are a growing community and I recommend that we try this.

Schmidt said the membership cost to join is \$90.00.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Saad to approve membership the Chamber of Commerce. Motion passed.

Public comment:

Business from Board Members:

Hallman- Fenton Township is updating their Master Plan. Supervisor Saad and I attended a Genesee County Metro Planning Authority meeting about the bike path. The Safe Routes to Schools will pick up the cost of \$1,100,000. I had hoped to pass a resolution but will wait for more details to be available. We may be able to pass a resolution at a special meeting.

Lobdell Lake Labor Day Fireworks went well. I want to thank everyone for their cooperation.

Conner- None.

Graves- Absentee ballots are now available. I have asked Linden Schools about holding all elections in their facility. The school has already negotiated a 2-year contract with the staff for days off so this will not be possible. I will look for an alternative solution.

We have the new voting equipment and will begin training election workers on the machines. I did get copies of our Cemetery map from our Sexton. These maps are hand drawn and not to scale. I checked with BS&A about a software program but don't think this is what we need at this time.

We have many old documents to shred. I would like to hire Shred Experts to come and shred our records that are past the time to be kept according to the retention schedule. The cost has been between \$200 and \$900. In the past, This is according to the weight amount to be shredded. Moved by Graves, seconded by Schmidt to hire Shred Experts and authorize the cost to be paid up to \$1,000.00 . Motion passed.

Schmidt- We omitted approval of the increase in pay for our Sergeant position. I propose that we approve an increase in pay for the Sergeant position retroactive from the date Detective Fulton was promoted.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Graves to approve a 10% increase in pay for Doug Fulton. Motion passed.

We have a few quotes for replacing the carpet in the office. Lil' House of Carpet has quoted the lowest bid in the amount of \$4,890.00. This includes carpet, labor and moving of furniture. It does not include the cost of disconnecting any electronic equipment.

Moved by Schmidt, seconded by Saad to accept the quote from Lil' House of Carpet for replacing the carpet in the office.

Motion passed 4-1 with Hallman voting no.

Saad- We have not signed the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This will not obligate us to anything financially.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Hallman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition. Motion passed.

The LAFF Pathway has 2 segments. The LAFF portion is \$375,000.00 to \$380,000.00. MDOT/SRTS wants to pick up the entire pathway from downtown Linden through the school and terminating at Haviland Beach Dr. . The cost is \$1,100,000.00 This means that we can probably get this done. !0% of the cost is for engineering and design work. To date we have not raised any assessment for this. I appreciate the work that our Trustees have done on this.

Public comment: Angela Bothell- Where will the pathway end?

Mike Gentry- Asked attorney what he learned about the bridge repair issue. We should have a say in the fence the GCRC uses. We can start a lawsuit.

Angela Bothell – asked why was tier 1 pay not increased for fire-fighters.

Gary Tino- Have you heard of the Skinner Drain being plugged that may be the cause of flooding?

Jim Wells- I have a copy of the original drain maps.

Angela Bothell- asked about a sidewalk on Silver Lake Rd. (This is in the jurisdiction of Fenton Township).

Adjournment at 8:09 p..m.

Denise Graves, Clerk

Brian Saad, Supervisor