

**MINUTES  
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2014**

**2014-05            CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Alpine Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday, January 20, 2014 at the Alpine Township Hall, 5255 Alpine Avenue, Comstock Park, Michigan, 49321 with due notice. Supervisor Arends called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Supervisor Alex Arends, 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 to approve the Regular Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7-0.**

Supervisor Arends recognized the receipt of Year 2013 annual reports that have been submitted by the various departments and thanked Staff.

**2014-06            CONSIDERATION OF VOUCHERS/BILLS**

**A motion was offered by May, with support from Schweitzer, to approve the payment of invoices for the period ending 01/21/2014 and checks issued through the date of 01/20/14 as well as two additional invoices which are the Assessor's health insurance premium and MSPO training for ZBA member Spangenberg. The motion carried 7-0.**

**2014-07            PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments from the public were offered at this time.

**2014-08            COMMISSION REPORT**

**Planning Commission: Cordes** – The Planning Commission and Township Board held a joint meeting last Wednesday. The Commission cancelled their regular meeting on Thursday.

**Zoning Board of Appeals: Schweitzer** – The ZBA did not meet in December.

**Historical Committee: Schweitzer** – The Historical Committee meeting scheduled in January was cancelled.

**Sewer & Water: Arends** – The NKSA did not hold a meeting in January.

**Parks & Recreation: May** – The last meeting was held on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 and discussion centered on Westgate Park and other projects. The next meeting is scheduled for February.

**Public Services Committee: Alex Arends** – No report.

**Economic Development Committee: M. Wahlfield** – The next meeting will be held the second week of February with representatives from The Right Place offering a presentation and discussion. Township Staff will also be invited to attend and the meeting will start at 8:00 am.

**2014-09 KENT COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDBG) TABLED  
CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #14-01 FOR YEAR 2014-2015**

**CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #14-02 - REALLOCATION AND TRANSFER OF CDBG MONIES FOR THE PROGRAM YEAR OF 2010-2011, 2011-2013 AND 2012-2013**

Planner Becker prepared a memo dated January 17, 2014 regarding CDBG funds. The first resolution is for the annual allocation for the year 2014-2015. Alpine Township will request to utilize the funds for paratransit bus service and Hope Network provides the service. The Supervisor noted that the monthly Hope invoices have been approximately \$1,200 and he anticipates leftover funds for year 2013-2014. The Board has consistently uses CDBG funds for paratransit bus service, allocates \$1,000 to the Arbor Circle and allocates any leftover funds to sidewalks and/or non-motorized trail projects.

**A motion was offered by Cordes, with support from May, to approve Resolution #14-01 – A Resolution Approving the Allocation and Transfer of Community Development Grant (CDBG) Monies for the Year 2014-2015 for Alpine Township designating \$1,000 to the Arbor Circle Corporation North County Teen Parenting Service, designate \$17,500 for Hope Network Paratransit Bus Service, and designate any remainder of the 2014-2015 funding for the construction of sidewalks and/or non-motorized trails project in the Township. The motion carried 7-0 with no discussion.**

Supervisor Arends noted that the CDBG funds leftover from the 2010-2011 year in the amount of \$4,199.05 must be used by June of 2014 or they will be lost. The Planner is looking for areas to fill in missing sections of sidewalks that are within the CDBG target areas.

**Cordes offered a motion, with support from May, to approve Resolution #14-02 – A Resolution approving the Reallocation and Transfer of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Monies for the Program Years of 2010-2011, 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 to be allocated for the construction of sidewalks and/or non-motorized trails. There was no discussion and the motion carried 7-0.**

**2014-10 DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 14-01  
PREVENT DISTURBING BY SOLICITING**

Board members received a memo from Planner Becker regarding a Disturbing by Soliciting Ordinance to address panhandling in the Township. Older panhandling ordinances have recently been struck down by the District Court. The ordinance presented is modeled after the City of

Kentwood ordinance that restricts where panhandling may occur. It has been suggested that municipalities adopt a standardized ordinance so that enforcement by police agencies can be uniform in the metropolitan areas of Grand Rapids. Ordinance #14-01 is from Township Attorney Jeff Sluggett.

Board members discussed the proposed ordinance. Treasurer Townsend proposed two changes - on page one in the section “*Accosting*” he noted the word “*his*” in line two be replaced with “**that**” and the word “*his*” in line three be replaced by “**that person’s**”. The Board agreed that these two changes should be made in the proposed ordinance language.

**A motion to adopt and approve with the two changes noted general Ordinance No. 14-01 – An Ordinance to Prevent Disturbing by Soliciting and to order publication. The motion carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.**

**2014-11        CONSIDERTION OF RESOLUTION #14-03 – GVMC ADDITION OF LOWELL TOWNSHIP**

**A motion was offered by May, with support from Townsend, to approve Resolution #14-03 –A Resolution to Approve Amendment No. 38 in the Articles of Incorporation of the Grand Valley Metropolitan Council for the Addition of Lowell Township. The motion carried 7-0.**

**2014-12        RECONSIDERATION OF UPDATED AGREEMENT 13-38 – KENOWA HILLS SEWER EASEMENTS (SOMERSET)**

As a follow up to last month, the Township attorney was again asked to review the agreement which was recently updated once again and presented by Kenowa Hills. Board members had approved the agreement last month and reviewed the most recent red-line agreement. The Supervisor stated that the Kenowa Hills Board of Education has approved the most recent agreement.

**A motion was offered by Cordes, with support from Townsend, to approve the updated Agreement #13-38 for the Kenowa Hills Sewer easement and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement on behalf of the Township. The motion carried 7-0.**

The Supervisor explained that the next step is to meet with the Somerset Meadows representatives to work on a time table for the installation of the public sewer system.

**2014-13        DISCUSSION - COMSTOCK PARK/RUSCHE DRIVE SAD**

Treasurer Townsend provided information about the SAD shortfall which has previously been brought to the attention of the Board. He explained that the Comstock Park/Rusche Drive SAD bond will end in the year 2018. He anticipates a financial shortfall in paying off the bond as two big property owners within the SAD paid off their SAD amounts early. Townsend stated that he

has been talking to a bond attorney. Two options offered to address the shortfall are to institute another SAD to cover the shortfall or to pay for the shortfall out of general funds. The shortfall is approximately \$160,000 and the bond cannot be paid off early. It was noted that the matter is complicated as a major property owner in the SAD is also a Township Board member.

Board members discussed the information presented. The Treasurer noting that at this time he wanted to make the Board aware of the issue and he will continue to research and gather information about potential options. The Board does not need to make a decision on this topic at this time as a shortfall is not predicted until payments need to be made in 2017.

#### **2014-14 REVIEW OF TOWNSHIP FY 2014 BUDGET AT SIX MONTHS**

Board members received copies of the FY 2014 Budget Report through 12/31/13. Supervisor Arends briefly reviewed the incomes and expenditures for the last 6 months.

#### **2014-15 FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Klomparens stated that two firefighter have submitted letters stating that they will be leaving the department. Firefighter Jack Kline states that he will retire as of January 13, 2014 after 40 years of service to Alpine Township. He will be honored at the upcoming banquet.

Firefighter David Heinbeck letter states that he is resigning as he has moved out of the Township and his last day was December 16, 2013.

**A motion was offered by May, with support from Schweitzer to accept with great appreciation the retirement of firefighter Jack Kline after 40 years of service as of January 13, 2014 and to accept the resignation of David Heinbeck as of December 16, 2013 with appreciation as he has moved out of the Township. The motion carried 7-0.**

The Chief stated that the Alpine Fire Department ran 107 calls during the month of December. He reviewed two separate year end reports which are the 2013 Annual Report and the Fire Inspection Summary for 2013. The average response time in 2013 was 5.90 minutes. He provided recent examples of mutual aid between the local fire departments and the benefits of having the agreement in place explaining that the current system works well.

Chief Klomparens provided an update on Fire Station #2 noting that the bathroom remodel is nearly completed. He stated that approximately 77 hours of building maintenance have been completed by firefighters at a considerable savings over hiring outside contractors. Similar savings have been experienced as firefighter staff members have completed approximately 23 hours of IT computer work.

Work to outfit the new Medic 1 truck continues with work taking place on the roll out equipment tray and wiring for various equipment.

The SCBA air bottles have been tested and will need to be replaced in the near future. Alpine is coordinating with other area fire departments to apply for a grant to replace the air bottles or at the very least participate in a bulk purchase to reduce costs. Additionally fire turnout gear is approximately 5-6 years old and replacement will need to be planned for in future budgets.

Deputy Chief Kelly reviewed the vendor bids received for replacement lighting inside and outside Fire Station #1 and discussed anticipated energy savings. The Treasurer noted that any outside lighting will need to meet the requirements of the Township zoning ordinance

**A motion was offered by May, with support from Cordes, to accept and approve the bid from Bazen Electric Company in the amount of \$3,431.30 which includes an outside LED light, provided that the wattage is sufficient and that the cost of the improvement will come out of the Building Addition and Improvement budget line item. The motion carried 7-0.**

Chief Klomparens reviewed the three bids received to replace the phone system at Fire Station #1. The warranty was discussed by the Board.

**A motion to approve and accept the bid from Central Interconnect, Inc. in the amount of \$3,360.62 was offered by May, with support from Townsend, provided that a 5 year warranty is offered. The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **2014-16 PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

#### **2014-17 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT, BOARD COMMENTS, AND ADJOURNMENT**

The Supervisor stated that the MTA Educational Conference will be held in Traverse City from January 28-31.

The Treasurer stated that he has received a request to pre-pay the quarterly sewer rate for several years in advance. Board members briefly discussed the request and the consensus was to not allow pre-payment of sewer bills that far in advance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jean Wahlfield, Clerk

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Alex Arends, Supervisor