

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2009
7:30 A.M.**

09-45 SPECIAL MEETING

The Alpine Township Board held a special meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. at the Alpine Township Hall, 5255 Alpine Avenue, Comstock Park, Michigan. Board members present were Supervisor Alex Arends, Clerk Jean Wahlfield, Treasurer Jim Townsend, Trustees Bill Schweitzer, and Ted Wallace.

Supervisor Arends called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. He explained that the request from Friends of the Michigan Veterans Homes, Inc. would be the first item of business.

Schweitzer offered a motion, supported by Wallace, to approve the Agenda with the change noted. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustees Ron Cordes and Jim May arrive at 7:40 a.m..

**09-46 DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #09-05
FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN VETERANS HOMES, INC.
REQUEST FOR CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSE**

Supervisor Arends introduced Robert Bianchi who is the representative from the Friends of Michigan Veterans, Homes, Inc. Mr. Bianchi stated that his organization provides services for veterans as well as the veterans facility over and above what can usually be done with existing funds. He explained that the Friends organization will be holding a 50/50 raffle at a Whitecaps baseball game in June. In order to obtain the proper gaming license, the Township needs to adopt a resolution recognizing the Friends as a non-profit. Treasurer Townsend noted that the resolution needs to be approved by the Alpine Township Board due to the fact that the Friends and Mr. Bianchi are located within Alpine Township.

Schweitzer offered a motion, supported by Townsend, to approve Resolution #09-05, for the Friends of Michigan Veterans Homes, Inc. of Comstock Park recognizing the non-profit organization which is located in Alpine Township. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

**09-47 UPDATE AND DISCUSSION – FUNDING OPTIONS
WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEMS**

At the regular March Board meeting, the Board approved a scaled back study to identify I & I in the Alpine system at a cost of \$28,511. The Supervisor explained that with the availability of economic stimulus money the Township has an opportunity to apply for low interest, principal forgiveness or a combination of the two funding types for sewer system improvements. Improvements for

consideration include the replacement of old clay sewer pipes or storm water I & I (in-flow and infiltration) improvements as identified in the 2001 study. The December thaw and rain event further demonstrated the existing I & I problems.

Arends discussed a recent memo addressed to Plainfield Township from Prein & Newhof regarding the potential location of I & I in the Plainfield system and noted that the intent was not to withhold the information from Alpine Township.

Also discussed was Plainfield Charter Township's plan to apply for a 2009-2010 Sewer Revolving Fund loan through the MDEQ in order to address I & I. Plainfield is requesting that Alpine consider participating in the application cost. The proposal is to split the \$30,000 project application costs in half and the funding grant request would be for approximately \$3 million in low interest low interest or principal forgiveness loan. Cannon and Courtland Townships do not intend to apply for funding through the State at this time.

The Supervisor stated that there is one stipulation that the Board will need to consider regarding the application to the State of Michigan. The DEQ could require Alpine to do further testing which could result in additional costs of approximately \$34,000.

Board members discussed the cost share of \$15,000. It was noted that Alpine Township would not be obligated to accept any loan from the State and the potential for receiving funding. The difference between economic stimulus funds and State Revolving Funding was reviewed. Board members expressed concerns about the proposed 50/50 split of application costs, if spending money on I & I and sewer systems repairs are necessary at this time, the economy, and the fees changed by the NKSA engineers.

In response to Board questions, the Supervisor explained that he had contacted Township Engineer Scales and obtained advice on the I & I study and project application process. Following the comments received from Trustees he will continue to keep Scales informed on the progress of the I & I study as well as all phases of the project application planning and funding.

A motion was offered by Townsend and supported by Schweitzer to participate in cost share of \$15,000 or less with Plainfield Charter Township in order to prepare a project plan to apply to the State for a Sewer Revolving Fund loan through the MDEQ to remove infiltration and inflow in the Alpine sewer system. There was no further discussion and the motion carried 7-0.

The Supervisor noted that he would inform Plainfield about the approval of the cost share by Alpine and negotiate a lower cost share.

09-48 SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS AND BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Arends reported that Planner Sue Thomas is working on updating the Parks and Recreation plan for the Township. She has provided a timeline for the work to be accomplished and anticipates a completion date for the plan of April 2010.

The Supervisor provided comments on the recent Multi Family Crime Prevention training program and the Metzgar property adjacent to the Township Center.

Treasurer Townsend and Trustees provided several comments regarding the Metzgar properties.

The Personnel Committee will be hold a meeting on Monday, March 30, 2009 beginning at 7:30 a.m. to discuss several items

09-49 PUBLIC COMMENT AND ADJOURNMENT

No public comments were offered

A motion was offered by May with support from Schweitzer at 8:50 a.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Wahlfield, Clerk

Alex Arends, Supervisor