

**MINUTES
ALPINE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2006**

06-129 REGULAR MEETING

The Alpine Township Board met on Monday, July 17, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at the Alpine Township Hall, 5255 Alpine Avenue, Comstock Park, Michigan. Board Members present: Supervisor Marta Brechting, Clerk Jean Wahlfield, Treasurer Jan Brechting, Trustees Ron Cordes, Jim May, Sharon Steffens, and Ted Wallace.

Supervisor Brechting called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m with the Pledge of Allegiance.

J. Brechting offered a motion, supported by May, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

06-130 CONSENT AGENDA

May offered a motion, supported by Wallace, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Approval of the June 19, 2006 Minutes, Consideration of Voucher/Bills, Confirmation of Temporary Liquor License - Holy Trinity Church Festival on September 9 and 10, 2006, and Receipt of Correspondence. Motion carried 7-0.

06-131 PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard VanderKlok, candidate for the 74th District State Representative introduced himself to the Board and provided comments.

06-132 COMMISSION REPORTS

Planning Commission - May: Stefan Bush, the property owner at 1250 7-Mile, received a Special Land Use permit to operate a repair shop in the Agricultural zone. Wal-Mart presented the Commission with optional lay-outs of the building and parking issues were discussed. A brief training session was held for Planning Commissioners.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Wallace: No meeting was held in June.

Historical - Cordes: The Historical Committee is on summer break for July and August.

Sewer/Water - M. Brechting: The water looping project in the area of Vinton/Hayes Avenues is scheduled to begin on July 19th. Excavation work for the new NKSA wastewater treatment plant continues and Consumers Energy is in the process of bringing electric to the site. The NKSA board approved a change order to the reduce membrane size which will result in a \$180,000 savings. Two contracts were received from engineers which will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

06-133 KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT - Martha Smart & Marcia DeMeester

KDL Director Martha Smart reviewed and provided to Board members the 2005 KDL Annual Report. Smart reported on circulation increases within the district and explained the various services the Library has to offer. She reported that the Summer Reading Club offered by the Kent District Library is the largest in the State. The Kent District Library consists of 18 branches and a service center located on West River Drive Court. At this time, the Alpine Branch is the only branch to share a branch manager with Kent City. Alpine Branch Manager Marcia DeMeester introduced Sandy Wisniewski as Alpine Township's KDL Representative. DeMeester commented that 53% of Alpine residents are library cardholders. In response to a Board inquiry, Smart explained that currently there are no other branches which share a branch manager. She stated that as managers move, job-sharing between branch managers will continue and become more common.

**06-134 FINAL READING - AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE
Section 21.07(c) Antenna and Towers - Ordinance #06-05**

The current ordinance prohibits any antenna or tower to be closer to a property line than its height. The proposed change allows the applicant to provide a building or use restriction. Wahlfield questioned how this ordinance change would be implemented and would the restriction be recorded at the Register of Deeds in order for it to be tied to the properties involved.

Steffens offered a motion, supported by May, to table the Final Reading of the Amendment to Section 21.07(c) until the Special Board meeting scheduled for August 14, 2006 in order to further investigate how any restriction would be documented.

**06-135 FINAL READING - AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE - Chapter V
"A" Agricultural Zone Addition of Farm Market Regulations - Ordinance #06-06**

Steffens offered a motion, supported by May, to approve Ordinance 06-06: Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance - Chapter V "A" Agricultural Zone Addition of Farm Market Regulations and the review fee shall be set at \$50. Motion carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.

06-136 CONSIDERATION OF STORMWATER ORDINANCE APPEALS

1. Southland Auto Wash - 3755 Alpine Avenue

Mark Ellis, owner of the Southland Auto Wash, explained that he has obtained approval from the Site Plan Review committee for his improvement project but is requesting relief from the Township's Stormwater Ordinance requirements. Ellis stated that he plans to restructure the site which includes improved traffic flow on-site, the installation of a retaining wall, and to rearrange as well as add vacuum islands. Ellis stated that "anything proportional, Southland agrees to do" regarding Southland's participation in a special assessment district or any other means which the Township would use to address stormwater in the region. Steffens noted that Southland may find it difficult to meet the requirements of the stormwater ordinance on

their site alone and it would appear that participation in a regional solution is the best option for the Southland parcel.

Cordes offered a motion, supported by Wallace, to approve the appeal from the Alpine Township Stormwater Ordinance for Southland Auto Wash (41-09-35-490-022) located at 3755 Alpine Avenue with the condition that Southland will participate in a SAD or similar conveyance to be determined by the Township and that Southland agrees to pay any proportional amount to manage their on-site stormwater. Motion carried 7-0.

2. AutoZone- 3655 Alpine Avenue

AutoZone had no representation at this meeting for request of relief from the Stormwater Ordinance. The property is currently owned by Trinity Properties and has been approved by Site Plan Review Committee for redevelopment.

Cordes offered a motion, supported by May, to postpone the AutoZone appeal for property located at 3655 Alpine Avenue until the Special Township Board meeting to be held on August 14, 2006. Motion carried.

06-137 DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT PAYROLL FROM QUARTERLY TO MONTHLY

A request was submitted from Chief Christians to pay the firefighters on a monthly basis for fire runs and Sunday sits. Steffens questioned the reason for the request and felt that by going monthly it would create additional work and costs.

Supervisor Brechting questioned how it seems appropriate for the Tuesday night practices to cover two budget years when it is paid in December of each year. J. Brechting stated that in the past firemen plan on this as Christmas money. In addition, the Township auditors have not indicated this to be a problem. For budgeting, a set number of meetings take place each year. Several other concerns were raised and discussed. Supervisor Brechting will meet with the Fire Chief and this issue will be tabled for discussion at the regular August meeting. Supervisor Brechting noted that Attorney Sluggett stated a resolution is not necessary for this change.

06-138 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION #06-20: PRE-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Supervisor Brechting requested that this issue be tabled until she can obtain more information for review at a future meeting.

06-139 REVIEW FISHBECK, THOMPSON, CARR & HUBER PROPOSAL

The Township Board has received a letter and contract proposal from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber verifying that two outfalls have been identified located in Alpine Township. A private outfall is behind

Sam's Club (\$900) and the public outfall is located in Section 36, York Creek Drain behind Lamoreaux and Bekinshire Streets (\$3,500). The cost includes determining the source and identifying potential solutions.

Trustees were hesitant to approve the contract. The Board requested that the Supervisor obtain more information on the exact procedure used, the extent of FTCH involvement in correcting the outfalls, and the amount of follow up which will be need to be done by Township Staff. Steffens suggested that Board members may wish to consider a contribution to the group of municipalities who have filed a lawsuit opposing Federal NDPEs requirements forced on local authorities.

06-140 SUPERVISOR'S REPORT & BOARD COMMENTS

A letter has been received from former firefighter Joshua Afton requesting that he be allowed to return as an active member of the Fire Department. Afton supplied information from his doctor. Supervisor Brechting stated that Township Attorney Sluggett advises that the Township may request a medical opinion from another doctor. Board members requested that additional information be obtained from the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief and that a medical examination from an industrial doctor be may be required.

A final summary and comparison for the FY 2006 Budget were distributed to Board members.

Supervisor Brechting reported that the Sports Complex gas tank is being moved. The Hispanic Soccer league does not feel that they need security and may have outgrown our facility. Supervisor Brechting proposes a new set-up for next year if this soccer league continues to use the facility.

Wallace wanted to know if the Township could recoup the costs involved in pursuing the property owners responsible for the illicit discharge problems in Alpine Township. It was noted that under the current Illicit Discharge Ordinance offenders get a warning for the first offense. Wallace would like to see Township find a way to recoup our expenses. Steffens suggested that the Supervisor contact other Supervisors or the DEQ on this subject to see how other municipalities may be recovering some of the costs involving with implementing the program.

Wahlfield noted the last installment payment has been made and Fire Station 3 is completely paid for. The AutoMark voter assist terminal will be in the precincts and ready for use during the August 8 Primary Election. The ADA (American with Disabilities) equipment was purchased by the Federal government and designed for individuals with all types of disabilities.

May stated that farm machinery is needed for the Farm Safety Seminar. He also reported that Farm Bureau will feature a meeting on Immigration on July 31.

No public comment offered.

Wallace offered a motion, supported by May, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Wahlfield
Clerk

Marta Brechting
Supervisor

Beth Alt
Recording Secretary