

Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2017

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Saad led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Hallman, Saad, Graves and Conner, Absent: Schmidt.

Motion, Hallman, second, Conner to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of October 30, 2017, and the minutes of the Special Board Meeting on November 2, 2017. Motion passed.

Correspondence is available to view.

Budget Amendments:

Motion, Saad, second, Hallman to approve the budget amendments as recommended by the Clerk. Motion passed.

Motion, Conner, second, Graves to approve payment of expenditures with correction of additional \$5,000.00 to Emterra from what was presented in the board package due to the amount being incorrect. Motion passed.

Public comment:

Terry Groves-16207 Knobhill Dr. - Mr. Groves thinks the ZBA made a grave mistake by not visiting his property before their decision. He said the condition imposed on his building would pose great harm to his neighbor and himself. Mr. Groves asked how many feet are required for emergency personnel to access the property. He would like the ZBA decision to be reconsidered. (Trustee Hallman, a ZBA member, said he did walk the property before the decision).

Attorney Lattie said Mr. Groves should go back to the ZBA and contact his attorney to work this issue out. The condition was put on to remove the stairway.

Ryan Bothell-15464 River Circle Dr. - I own property at 9301 Tuttle Dr. I have brought a petition to the Board signed by 25 residents that were falsely accused by Ms. Deborah Ortwine.

Carrie Sharp- 15649 Pine Ridge Dr. - Spoke about Ms. Ortwine harassing neighbors.

Reports: Police Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Allen gave an oral report. Chief Allen said Officer Ryan Wilborn has tendered his resignation and is accepting employment with the Dryden Township Police Department.

Moved by Graves, to accept the resignation of Officer Ryan Wilborn, with regret, as of December 4, 2017, seconded by Saad, also with regret. Motion passed.

The Full-Time position has been posted. Letters of interest are due by December 1st. I have been interviewing for part-time officers. We need at least 2 part-time and a full-time officer.

In conjunction with Rite-Aid Pharmacies and the DEA, the Police Department will be receiving a "Drug Drop Box" so the department can accept prescription meds to be disposed of properly.

The DEA will pick up every 2-3 months drugs that have been logged in and filed with a report number for each drop.

Supervisor Saad noted in Officer Wilborn's resignation letter that he said Chief Allen and Sgt. Fulton were wonderful to work with. Saad said this was a loss to our community. Graves said Officer Wilborn served Argentine for 14 years and knows our community well. He knows the problems and the reason behind the problems. We will miss him.

Fire Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Lafferty reviewed his report. Chief Lafferty said they are at 437 calls this year, and increase of 30 calls over last year. Chief Lafferty thanked everyone who came out for the annual open house on October 1st, our local businesses for allowing us to post fliers, other participating agencies, MMR, Argentine PD, Move Over Michigan and Gray's Towing, Byron Masonic Lodge, Consumers Energy a, North Oakland Fire Authority for the use of their Smoke trailer, and Mark Ruhlig from the Villagers Restaurant for the food donation.

Additionally, Firefighters MacDonell, Sturgis, McCormick and Whalen for their work on the Open House Committee.

There was an issue of smoke coming from the engine compartment of Rescue 18. It has been repaired at a cost of \$1,247.68.

Engine 11 is still being repaired.

All Board Members and their spouses are invited to our annual Christmas Party on December 9th @6 p.m.

Firefighters Carl and Dawn Litten take their own time to teach school students fire safety. They received a thank you picture drawn by the students.

Chief Lafferty thanked everyone for the support and words of encouragement while his step-daughter Christy was in the hospital just 2 days shy of a month. Christy is doing well.

Hallman asked about the issue with the rescue unit wheels. The Board was in agreement to give this no more than 90 days to be resolved before we take further legal action.

Building Department- no report.

The Planning Commission –Trustee Conner said the Planning Commission met on November 14th. Teresa Ciesielski updated the PC on the pathway. She suggested they incorporate sidewalks for future subdivisions and spoke of different methods of financing the pathway. The next meeting is December 14th.

Assessor Report- Assessor Lori Cash submitted a written report. Saad reviewed the report.

Attorney Report: David Lattie the ZBA met in November for a second time to consider Mr. Groves' request for a variance at his Knobhill Dr. property. The Board granted his request, but as a condition, required him to remove a cement entranceway on the west side of the property to allow for room for emergency personnel to access the backyard and lakefront. Mr. Groves was present at tonight's meeting, and wants the ZBA to reconsider its decision. Attorney Lattie was not sure a ZBA decision can be reconsidered, or if an appeal to circuit court is required.

The Seymour Rd. suit has been filed. We will try to work it out.

The trial for the Williston case on Haviland Beach Dr. will be in February or March. The property was reappraised and came in at \$15,000. again. Their appraiser came in at \$55,000.

Old Business: Resolution 2017-25 Fee Schedule

Saad said we made changes and reduced fees for roofs, windows and siding and eliminated the review fee. We need to adopt a new fee schedule.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Graves to adopt Resolution 2017-25 Fee Schedule.

Saad, yes, Graves, yes, Hallman, yes, and Conner, yes. Motion passed.

Open Bids for Property Clean up: No bids were received.

New Business: Appointment to the Board of Review:

Saad has recommended Gwynne James for the position to replace Steve Sturgis, who is our new Building Inspector.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Conner to appoint Gwynne James to the Board of Review for a term ending 01/01/2019. Motion passed.

Public comment: Jim Wells- 16224 Bird Rd. – Spoke about the lack of maintenance on Bird Rd. by the Road Commission. The road is terrible. The first ¼ mile off Silver Lake Rd. is the worst. Perhaps the supervisor can speak to the GCRC about this.

I am looking at the fee schedule. I think some of this is not needed.

Business from Board Members:

Conner-The code enforcement department decals are on the vehicle. The cemetery information was added and indexed to Find-a-Grave. 97% of graves have been photographed.

Hallman – When will the streetlights be replaced?

Graves- Dagmar Miller has been working on the census. We need to appoint her as a LUCA Representative.

Moved by Saad, seconded by Graves to appoint Dagmar Miller as Argentine Township LUCA Representative for our 2020 Census. Motion passed.

Saad- I am thankful for this community, for Trustee Conner and the work he has done on the decals and website and cemetery information. I am thankful for Trustee Hallman getting the resolution in support of the pathways from the other community. I am thankful to Mr. Lattie and his great work all year, to Treasurer Schmidt and his work with the budget, and to Clerk Graves and State Representative Graves for their passion in service to our community.

Adjournment at 8:10 p.m.

Denise Graves, Clerk

Brian J. Saad, Supervisor