

**SAUBLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 12, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 pm

ROLL CALL: Mary Ann Nugent-present, Gail Raad – present, Beth Acker-present, Tracy Baker-present, Linda Snow-present.

Agenda Revisions: Nugent motion to approve agenda as presented with no revisions with a second from Baker. All in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Acker motion to approve the May 8, 2023, meeting minutes with a second from Snow. All in favor. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

- **Supervisor:**
- **Clerk:**
 - Baird, Cotter & Bishop audit was over our budgeted amount by \$175.
 - MMRMA – insurance was paid for the entire year, \$4087.
 - MTA – paid close to \$600 for yearly dues.
 - A-1 Services was paid – close to \$4000. Mailed Eden Township the invoice for them to pay half of large item clean-up costs.
 - AV applications will be mailed out by June 19th. August 8th Baldwin School Millage is on the ballot. Ballots should be available by June 29th.
 - Acker motion to approve bills & payroll with a second from Nugent. All in favor. Motion carried.
- **Treasurer:**
 - Raad motion to approve treasurer's report as presented with a second from Nugent. All in favor. Motion carried.
- **Trustees:** Baker would like to reserve the hall for a Loon Lake meeting, he thinks it is 7/26/23.

Public Comment: None

Dignitary Reports:

Gary Nugent, Chairman for the Fire Board:

- Sauble had 2 medical & 1 fire in May. Total runs of 23. Year to date is 102. Last year had 101.
- Fire Chief, Greg Bombich, is applying for a \$30,000 grant.
 - \$10,000 each will be for Sauble, Elk, and Eden townships.
 - Cover cost of 800 MHZ radios.

Gary Nugent, SEE Joint Building Authority: Nothing to report.

Gary Nugent, SEE Fire Support: Nugent purchased 2 cases of Gatorade Zero and was reimbursed for the cost by Sauble Township.

Don Arquette, County Commissioner: Gave his monthly commission report.

Richard Martin, Lake County Sheriff Department: Not present.

Leroy Williams, Road Commission: Not present. Township roads have been brined.

Assessor, Greg Barnette: Not present. Nugent meeting with Barnette & Township Attorney on Friday, 6/16/23 to discuss Pleasant Acres Trailer Park's objection to tax assessment. Pleasant Acres protested at the board of review and was denied. This may prove costly to the township for assessor and attorney fees.

Planning and Zoning: Jim Sharp not present.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Nothing

Board of Review: John Acker stated will meet with the assessor in July.

Bill Rodgers, Land Use Administrator's Report:

- Issued two permits and has 5 he is currently working on.
- Gave a verbal report stating all blight properties have had work done since May meeting.
- **Nugent inquiries**
 - Jim Powles – fence for garden
 - N. Red Maple – small addition on back of garage
 - Commercial signs – Rodgers needs to pick up and contact the business as signs are not allowed in township.
 - Neighbor's dog – constant barking – no separate standalone ordinance
 - Nugent will contact Sheriff Martin if Lake County has a barking dog ordinance.
- **Nugent & Raad**
 - Last 2 permits issued did not have site plan drawn to scale.
 - Going forward, the ordinance needs to be followed as the township incurred high costs and many hours by the Planning Committee on writing the new ordinance.
- Beth Acker stated she submitted Sable property to County treasurer for land bank grant.

Unfinished Business:

- **Update on Station #1 use**
 - Under Sheriff Mark Pietras is still interested; however, he will have to submit a funding request in the fall budget as current funds are not available to utilize Station #1 as a storage facility.
- **Generator**
 - Nugent has only received one quote.
 - Arquette stated that Webber Township has a generator they are not using.
 - Sauble Board will not pursue due to concerns of age, warranty, etc.

New Business:

- **Baird, Cotter & Bishop, PC audit results**
 - The audit went well and was finished in two days.
 - Major finding was Lake funds expenditures were higher than what township budgeted. SAD's were the cause of increase and township did not amend the budget in March. Report will be filed with the State of Michigan.
 - Paychecks will no longer be voided per township accountant, Ryan Howell, recommendation.
 - Affects quarterly federal reporting.

- KCI

- Increase in proposal by \$173.
- Postage check has been issued.
- Newsletter article submitted by 6/15. Will be printed on the back of the tax bill.
- **ARPA FUNDS UPDATE**
 - **Copier** – Raad motion to purchase a Kyocera copier from River City Business with an order of color and black toner at a cost not to exceed \$3,000 with a second by Acker. Roll call vote: Nugent, yes; Raad, yes; Acker, yes; Snow, yes; Baker, yes. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - **Hall Carpet/Flooring**
 - Have contacted Easy Living and Harbor Flooring – both in Ludington. Do not know when they will be available to measure.
 - Contact Gilbert’s in Big Rapids – Raad will call them.
- **Pickleball Courts Painted**
 - Paint has been purchased and Rodgers will paint 2 additional courts.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals Resignation/Vacancy**
 - James Fellingner submitted his written resignation, one ZBA member is needed to fill the vacancy.
- **Mission Statement (Vision, Goals)**
 - Raad, Acker and Snow read their Mission statements.
 - Nugent will merge the 3 statements into one and present them at the July board meeting.
- **Wolverine Power Supply Co-operative Resolution 07-2023**
 - Resolution 07-2023 adopted by the Sauble Township board to grant Wolverine Power Supply Co-operative access to the public right of way per their Oversight Act Permit.
 - Roll call vote: Nugent, yes; Raad, yes; Acker, yes; Snow, yes; Baker, yes. All in favor. Resolution carried.
- **DNR Spark Grant Resolution 08-2023**
 - **Reservations as to how to maintain the park if application is granted as lack of funds in budget.**
 - **Brief history of past projects**
 - **Community Garden** additional expense of \$1950 to install fence although it was to be a donation.
 - Purchased a rototiller for \$900.
 - Four participants using the garden; a steady decrease every year.
 - **The playground** has more weeds than mulch & needs to be replaced every 3 years.
 - Cost \$1155 in 2021 of which Faith Fellowship Church donated \$1115.
 - **Streetlights**
 - The original cost was under \$100/month; now \$500/month.
 - **The current Budget** does not allow for the hiring of a maintenance person.
 - No financial or obligation to proceed if application is granted. The grant does not provide for maintenance expenses incurred.
 - Baker volunteered to head a committee on how to maintain the park on a yearly basis and the costs involved.

- Motion by Nugent to support submission of the DNR Spark Grant with a second by Acker. Roll call vote: Nugent, yes; Raad, no; Acker, yes; Snow, yes; Baker, yes. Four (4) in favor, one (1) opposed. Resolution carried.

- **Public Comment:**

- **White property ongoing blight issue.**
 - Rodgers to send letter to resolve blight within 14 days.
 - Reference dates of communications held in person and on phone.
 - If not resolved, the township attorney will write the citation.

Board Privilege: Nugent thanked everyone for their participation. Raad will be busy with the August 8 Baldwin school millage. Acker will be busy with summer tax bills which will be mailed July 1st. Snow suggested requesting help from residents. A call for volunteers will be included on the summer tax bill. Snow will contact if anyone is interested.

Adjournment: Motion by Acker, second by Baker. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gail Raad, Sauble Township Clerk