



# SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway  
Saugatuck, MI 49453  
269 857-3000 / Fax: 269 857-1228  
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## FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

4:00pm –September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by J. Verplank at 4:01pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance (*Stand if you are able*):
3. Roll Call:  
**PRESENT: S. Aldrich, E. Beckman, D. Fox, J. Verplank, S. Phelps, T. Pullen, C. North**  
**ABSENT: None**  
**Also Present: Chief Greg Janik, D.C. Mantels, W. Bales, P. Stanislawski**
4. Reminder: It is requested the board silences cell phones and put them away for the duration of the meeting.
5. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*):  
**Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen, to approve the agenda as presented. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous by voice vote.**
6. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Regular Meeting  
**Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen, to approve the minutes of the 8/19/2024 regular meeting as corrected showing Aldrich as absent and removing the approval of the closed session minutes of 7/15/2024 as they had not been distributed yet. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous by voice vote.**
  - B. July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Closed Session  
**Motion by Beckman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fox to approve the closed session minutes of 7/15/2024 as presented. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.**
7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: (*The Fire Board requests that speakers respect the three-minute time limit for individual comments and the five-minute time limit for an individual speaking on behalf of a group. This is not a question-and-answer session, it is an opportunity to voice your thoughts with the Fire Board.*)
  - A. None
8. Request for Payment:
  - A. Account Payables (*Roll Call Vote*)  
**Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen, to pay the invoices in the amount of \$160,252.56. No discussion.**  
**YAYS: Phelps, Pullen, Aldrich, Fox, Beckman, Verplank, North**  
**NAYS: None**  
**ABSENT: None**  
**Motion passes: 7:0.**
  - B. Financial Report
    - i. Financial Report was reviewed by P. Stanislawski.



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## 9. Fire Chief Comments:

### A. Incident Reports / EMS Report / Calls to Date / Overlapping Calls

1. Incidents – 808 year to date
2. Average Response Time year to date – 6:40
3. Overlapping incidents – 40% in August, 31% year to date.

### B. Community Risk Reduction

1. Department of Fire Prevention – Monthly Report
2. Michigan Fire Inspectors Society - Fatal Fire Statistics

### C. Cost Recovery Update

1. 3 Cases Filed
2. Update provided in the packet

### D. Grant Applications

1. Awarded \$21,000 from the MI EGRAMS Grant for Full Time Firefighters Turnout Gear

### E. TMA – Attenuator Chassis arrived at the vendor and truck will be completed in December.

### F. Chief Janik and D.C. Mantels will be attending the MFIS end of the month to obtain the required inspector credits.

### G. Oval Beach Hazard – Swim Buoy Broken

1. The Dive team located the obstruction after receiving the complaint. After the dive team located it #2194 and crew pulled it out with the crane and jet pump.

### H. Old Allegan Rd and Blue Star Hwy Roundabout people are not slowing down to the 15 mph. Chief suggested to the Township manager and the county, that they install the LED speed signs to tell you how fast you are going to assist in teaching them before enforcement.

## 10. Unfinished Business:

### A. Special Event Fee Committee Recommendation on Fees (*Roll Call Vote*)

1. Chief presented the memo on behalf of the special event committee.
2. The committee recommended that the Fire District does not charge for holiday events.
3. Discussion ensued regarding the need for Fire District participation and other methods available for blocking roadways for safety.
4. Discussion ensued regarding the use of personal vehicles for road blocking as well as incident response for fire personnel.
5. Suggestion to revisit the White Paper the Fire District created regarding parade and event safety.
6. Fox suggested that we explore purchasing some jersey barriers and potentially provide them to the municipalities for them to utilize.
7. Concluded to reconvene the traffic safety committee to discuss the jersey barriers.
8. Motion by North, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen to table the discussion to the next meeting to include a table of special event fees. No further discussion, motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

### B. Stair Lift or Elevator for ADA – Update

1. Estimates came in around \$50,000, but did not include approximately \$25,000 in building and electrical work.
2. Will continue to explore as time allows.



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- C. **Funding Approval Request - Chairs for the Board/Training Room (Roll Call Vote)**  
 Motion by Phelps, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beckman to table the chair discussion until the next meeting.  
 No discussion, motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

11. New Business:

**A. Collective Bargaining Agreement – Attorney Discussion**

- 1. Closed session to discuss strategy related to the ongoing negotiation of the collective bargaining agreement with the Saugatuck Area Professional Fire Fighters Union, Local 5291, pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(c)(being Section 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act).

- 2. Motion to enter closed session. *(Roll Call Vote)*

- 3. Motion by Verplank, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen to enter into closed session at 4:46pm to discuss strategy related to the ongoing negotiation of the collective bargaining agreement with the Saugatuck Area Professional Fire Fighters Union, Local 5291, pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(c)(being Section 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act). No discussion.

YAYS: Verplank, Pullen, Aldrich, Beckman, Fox, Phelps, North

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passes: 7:0.

- 4. Chair Verplank stated the board was back in open session at 5:27pm.

- 5. Motion to approve/deny any action per the closed session. *(Roll Call Vote)*

Motion by Beckman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pullen to appoint Dan Fox and Jane Verplank to the negotiation committee act as board liaisons to the negotiating committee with Saugatuck Area Professional Fire Fighters Union, Local 5291,

YAYS: Beckman, Pullen, Aldrich, Fox, Verplank, Phelps, North

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passes: 7:0.

12. Correspondence:

**A. Commercial Record Article, Letter to Editor from Sarah Ruiter**

- 13. Public Comments: *(The Fire Board requests that speakers respect the three-minute time limit for individual comments and the five-minute time limit for an individual speaking on behalf of a group. This is not a question-and-answer session, it is an opportunity to voice your thoughts with the Fire Board.)*

**A. None**



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## 14. Fire Board Comments:

**Aldrich – None**

**Beckman – None**

**Fox – None**

**Verplank – None**

**Phelps – Hopes next year the fireboats are better taken care of. Chief agrees and would like to work this winter to remove the paint that was installed by the predecessor. Staff are currently obtaining pricing for options.**

**Pullen – Asked about meetings at Township Hall and was reminded that we decided not to do that.**

**North – Douglas had the 1<sup>st</sup> ever 9-11 memorial ceremony and thanked the District for their assistance and D.C. Mantels and Captain Bernhardt for participating and hoping to make it an annual event. Tonight at 7pm will be the honoring ceremony for the good Samaritans that pulled the man out of the river.**

## 15. Adjournment:

### **A. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm**

#### **NOTICE**

**Requests for accommodation or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting.  
Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.**