



ACME TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
ACME TOWNSHIP HALL
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690
Friday, May 9, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AT 5:06 p.m.

Members present: C. Dye, A. Jenema, G. LaPointe, D. White, J. Zollinger
Members excused: P. Scott
Staff present: N. Edwardson, Recording Secretary

A. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:

R. Babcock, 4261 Bartlett Rd, read a statement into the record (attached to minutes).

B. Kelly, Bartlett Rd, read a statement into the record regarding all three applicants for the open Trustee's position (attached to minutes).

T. Phillips, 2986 Wild Juniper Trail, commented about the applicants for the open Trustee position. He expressed support for Aukerman.

P. Salathiel, 4884 Five Mile Rd, read a prepared statement into record showing support for Aukerman (attached to minutes)

C. Abernethy, 4312 Westridge, read a statement into record (attached to minutes)

C. Varner, 7189 Bennett Rd, read a statement into the record regarding supporting Aukerman for the open Trustee position (attached to minutes).

B. Kelly, Bartlett Road, again expressed disappointment in not being able to see the applications for the Trustee position sooner than the past Monday.

Additional letters of support for Aukerman and Timmins attached to the minutes.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by LaPointe, seconded by White to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

C. INQUIRY AS TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

Trustee, White, stated that he knew, Doug Grove, from the group of applicants to be voted on at the May 6th meeting. Grove was a supervisor for White's son. The Board did not feel there was any conflict of interest.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Interviewing the top three applicants for the open Trustee position

The three applicants for the open Trustee position, Jean Aukerman, Marcie Timmins and Matt Vermetten were present for the interviewing process. A scoring matrix was used and scoring was based on 1, 2 or 3. 1 (One) being the highest and 3 (Three) the lowest. Applicants were selected in alphabetical order to be interviewed. Zollinger lead the process asking each member of the Board to ask questions. The questions varied from "Where do you see Acme Township in five years?" to "Are you in favor of two monthly meetings?" Upon completion of the interviewing scores were added up.

Motion by LaPointe, seconded by Jenema to approve the appointment of Jean Aukerman, to fill the open position of Trustee on the Acme Township Board of Trustees. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT & OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

C. Albernethy, 4312 Westridge, expressed her gratitude for the interviewing process that had taken place today.

B. Kelly, Bartlett Road, was disappointed in the interviewing processing.

T. Phillips, 2986 Wild Juniper Trail, stated that he believed the Board should have worked with prepared questions. He also felt the other candidates not being interviewed should not have been present during the interviewing. LaPointe commented that it would be in violation of the Open Meetings Act if all the candidates were not able to be present.

V. Tegel, 4810 Bartlett Rd, expressed her support of Aukerman's appointment.

ADJOURN AT 6:40 pm

Special Board Meeting
May 9th, 2014

Citizen Driven ideas for Acme Township.

Now that Acme Township has approved a lease agreement to update Computers and Tech equipment with more storage capability I would like to suggest the Township look into creating a link on their NEW web site. Call it TOWNSHIP MEETINGS, or, something of that nature. Video tape the Township Board of Trustees meetings and the Planning Commission meeting's at the very least. The cost can be minimal. Start the process by hiring a Student from the area high schools, or the college to do the video taping. It would cost the Township around a Thousand dollors per year. It's cost CCAT \$775.00, so far, to hire a student from the college for approximately 8 months. What a great PR boast for the township to get a student involved and would also give that person pocket money to put back into the area. It's a win win situation; the public can request copies of these meetings for a minimal fee if you like, or, for free, watch them on the Acme Township link.

A second link for you to consider putting on the Acme Web site is one for misc. information that the public have a right to see, call it FOIA FREE. Here is an example of its contents: a listing of resume's for use at tonight's Special Board meeting to fill a vacant seat on the Board of Trustees. Brian Kelly should not have had to request a FOIA to look at the resume's in preparation of to-nights meeting; that is public information I'm told. If that's the case I hope Cathy did not charge him a fee. A link like I 'm suggesting here would ultimately free up our clerks time and effort of having to respond and search for this sort of information, the information can go on the link as it is received. It would save those that you are here to serve some money, and, quite possibly the Township too. Again, Citizen Driven!

Rachelle Babcock
Acme, Mi.

From: Brian Kelley, Acme Township resident
To: Acme Board of Trustees
May 9, 2014

Good afternoon,

We are fortunate to have 3 excellent applicants today.

I don't think I have met Mr. Vermetten. I have read meeting minutes from the years he served on the Planning Commission, and he represented the township well.

I understand he is an expert litigator, and his firm handles some fairly contentious cases. Reading over some of those cases, I think he would be the first attorney I would call if I ever felt the urge to bulldoze wetlands without a permit, or file an action against the county, or a township.

Of course attorneys, like many professionals, often must argue for positions that they do not personally agree with. The challenge is that not everyone appreciates that distinction, and perceptions are critical.

Acme is under a microscope, and I have concerns that his activity in those cases, or the activity of his partners, could contribute to the perception that there are conflicts of interest.

As a busy partner in an active law firm, I am concerned that Mr. Vermetten may not have sufficient time to dedicate to this new role in our township. When he is preparing for a major case, or taking it to trial, how will he find the time and energy to perform his duties as a trustee? Will he be available to the community?

I think that lack of time is demonstrated in his application. I very likely put more time and effort into trying to decipher his application than he did in writing it. He did not provide a resume, nor did he provide his vision of Acme. There is no question that he can produce great work - when he has the time, and makes the effort. I don't see that he made hardly any effort, and I question whether he is truly committed to maximizing this opportunity to serve our community. His application suggests that he is not.

We have a lot of work to do in Acme, and we need trustees who can consistently dedicate the time and the energy into doing it.

For stellar examples of devoting time and energy to the Acme community, we need look no further than Marcie and Jean.

I met each of them at townhall meetings, and have been incredibly impressed by their support and on-going hard work for our community. Not just work, but high quality work. We are extremely fortunate to have them volunteering and working on our behalf. I am confident they both would make excellent Trustees. The challenge is in choosing only one.

With Marcie, we have her work on park development, her role as Chair of the Parks and Rec committee, service as a Planning Commissioner, Secretary of the Planning Commission, placemaking, and more.

Jean has also worked hard for Acme on many important projects. Her professional experience is more extensive than Marcie's, and that experience is a great asset.

I have gone back and forth in my selection of only one. At this time, I favor Marcie because of her dual roles on the Planning Commission, and leadership role on Parks and Rec. But I would be very happy with either candidate as our new Trustee.

Both of these individuals have earned this opportunity. If their dedication and hard work for our township have not been enough to earn your support, then I think we could probably expect them to question their level of effort and involvement in the future.

Thank you,

Brian Kelley

May 8, 2014

Dear Mr. Zollinger and Acme Township Board,

While we are aware that you have narrowed your search to fill the vacant Trustee position to three excellent candidates, we would like to encourage you to select Jean Aukerman to fill this important position.

Jean has been a member of the Shoreline Committee since 2008, and she demonstrated immediately that she brought a unique set of skills to our team. Not only did she offer to take on difficult challenges such as the Marina Feasibility Study, but she did so in a professional, systematic manner. By reaching out to both state and local experts, she provided our committee and the Board with a report that allowed the Board to make important decisions regarding the marina. Although she is very detail oriented, she also has the unique ability to see the big picture. For example, she can formulate a detailed business plan while considering the project's overall vision. Additionally, she has the ability to understand difficult issues, as well as the skills necessary to find creative solutions to these difficult issues. These are crucial attributes for a potential Board member.

Jean also likes to work "behind the scenes" on projects when she feels that her skills might be useful. The Shoreline Advisory "Frequently Asked Questions" document was written and updated by Jean. In 2012, she served as a member of the Placemaking Leadership Team and has recently provided support to the Parks and Recreation Committee. When she learned from community input that a boat launch was a high priority for the Township, she rolled up her sleeves and volunteered to lead the application process for a DNR Waterways Grant because of the professional relationships she had established and maintained with the DNR from 2008 – 2011. Again, these are valuable attributes in a Board member.

Finally, Jean's personality is such that she can get along with anyone, and we feel that her ability to build consensus is an asset that would make her an extremely valuable member of the Acme Township Board.

Thank you for considering Jean as your top pick for Acme Trustee. Her resume, as well as her demonstrated commitment to Acme Township, makes her well qualified for this position.

Sincerely,

Paul Brink and Pat Salathiel, former co-chairs of the Acme Shoreline Committee

Charlene Abernethy
4312 Westridge
May 9, 2014

Struck me on Tuesday, the lack of discussion about a new trustee. Are the applications used as the only criteria? If so I am bewildered.

Where was the public input? Applications could only be obtained by FOIA. In an open transparent township government should the residents be give an opportunity to review applications and make their own recommendations?

The board now has 3 choices for the new trustee. Two of them I 'd have a hard time choosing between. They both are

1. Active in Current Township.
2. Give uncounted hours to the township and shared their expertise and strengths.
3. Listen to input from others.
4. Take the input, the financial realities, research, contact experts and formulate a carefully thought out plan.
5. Took the time to present legible, thoughtful applications.

The third candidate

1. Has not attended township meetings for many years.
2. Is not closely aware of the current going ons in the township.
3. Presented a nearly illegible application. How much does this say about the importance of the position?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

At Tuesday's meeting the supervisor tried to have my described applicant #3 be recommended for the board position. No discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. Plus the purpose of the meeting was to pick the top 3 choices.

If my third candidate had been selected on Tuesday, I would like to have why 2 other superb candidates were being passed over for some one who has not even been involved in current Acme affairs.

You all have a chance now to choose your recommendation for trustee, hopefully much more informed.

Jay Zollinger

From: chris varner [chrisvarner@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 10:55 AM
To: jzollinger@acmetownship.org
Cc: Jean Aukerman
Subject: Jean Aukerman - open Trustee position

Dear Jay,

When I heard Jean was applying for the position of Acme Township Trustee I thought, "Wow, what a great fit!"

Simply put, it revolves around the word Trust.

A key learning from my Human Resource Management days is Trust has two key components....that of Integrity (which is what we typically think of), and just as important, is the component of Capability. We can like someone, we can have similar values, we can be aligned on goals and objectives, and feel they won't waiver from what's been agreed to, but if we don't add in the Capability aspect, then we won't be successful.

Jean brings both aspects to the table....and the great news? We've been lucky enough to have experienced it first hand with the project work she's done for the Township....the Marina feasibility study, the Place making project, the Saylor Park boat launch, and countless other instances where she's lent an ear and provided prospectives. All very thorough, balanced, fact-based, and collaborative.

My note is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all the projects and specific ways Jean has demonstrated her Integrity and Capabilities (aka TRUST), rather it's intended to provide an interesting Framework for looking at what I'm sure you'll be hearing from others in terms of why Jean would make a great addition as Trustee to the Acme Township Board.

When I think of Jean....it's all about Integrity and Capability....and that's Trust....quite fitting.

Please accept this letter of Support for Jean Aukerman for the position of Trustee of the Acme Township Board.

Thank you,

Christine Varner
7189 Bennett Rd
Williamsburg, MI 49690

Jay Zollinger

From: Barbara Budros [bbudros@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 10:15 AM
To: Jay Zollinger
Cc: jkaukerman@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Acme Township Board appointment

Dear Jay and the Acme Township Board,

I've known Jean Aukerman for seven years and I cannot think of a better person to serve Acme Township as Trustee than Jean.

I first met Jean when she wanted to join the Board of Conflict Resolution Services and lend her marketing expertise to our organization. I was president of the Board at that time and we engaged Jean to develop a marketing strategy for the organization. Jean jumped right in and worked with us to develop a marketing strategy and identify all the tactical elements. Jean was amazing. She negotiated special rates with key suppliers. As a non-profit business, we needed to stretch our \$10,000 grant award. Jean was able to extend that \$10,000 far beyond the norm. She was always professional and the results she achieved for us were outstanding. If she had been charging for her services, she would have been worth every penny -- but she donated all her time over 3 years of service.

I admire and respect Jean because she has the ability to see and understand a vision, identify "how" to most effectively work toward that vision and, most importantly, implement plans to fulfill that vision. While most people seem to be idea people or implementers, Jean is both. This has been the constant theme for how Jean works whether for a non-profit board, Acme Township, or private clients. I have been incredibly impressed over the years with Jean's ability to network and make friends. Her list of industry and local contacts is amazing. Plus, she's unemotional, analytical, patient, nice and funny. She is also apolitical - she has no one-sided affiliations or agenda-setting motives.

As an example of something outside the business realm, I recently asked Jean to help me out while I was on vacation. I asked her to look in on my 87 year-old Mother who was temporarily in a rehabilitation center after a fall. She said she would be honored, and she dutifully visited my Mother multiple times over 10 days, bringing her small gifts, introducing herself to the staff, ensuring that Mom was doing ok, and keeping me informed. I was confident that if any issue had to be addressed, Jean would be capable of handling it. She took all of the worry out of my being away.

I know Jean has been a dedicated volunteer for Acme Township since 2008. She is happy to work behind-the-scenes to help get important initiatives done. She doesn't care about lime light or self-promotion. She sees and responds to what is needed, does her homework on issues, and works to move initiatives forward.

Acme Township is incredibly fortunate that Jean is interested in serving the Township as a Trustee. I am confident that you will be well-served by taking advantage of this opportunity and elevating Jean into a Trustee position.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Budros

Jay Zollinger

From: Steve Constantin [steve.constantin@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 9:16 PM
To: Jay Zollinger
Cc: Jean Aukerman
Subject: Support for Jean Aukerman

Dear Jay,

It is a pleasure to support Jean Aukerman as a Trustee.

After seeing Jean's work for many years I sought her out to lead a much needed project for the Traverse City Downtown Development Authority.

As DDA Chair I knew that we needed someone who could (1) understand the complex issues, (2) collect best practices data, (3) consult with key stakeholder groups, (4) combine what was learned into a cogent options, (5) present those options to stakeholders, (6) get all involved to rally around the best option and (7) develop an implementation plan.

I have seen Jean lead projects like this for many years and knew that her professionalism, enthusiasm, ethics and interpersonal skills would be highly valued.

I can not imagine a better person to be appointed as an Acme Trustee.

Please contact me if you would like any additional information.

Best regards,

Steve Constantin

Chair, Traverse City DDA

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Steve Constantin

223 Midtown Dr

Traverse City, MI 49684

steve.constantin@gmail.com

231-499-4953

Jay Zollinger

From: Mark.Guy@ejco.com
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 9:00 AM
To: Jay Zollinger
Cc: Jean Aukerman
Subject: Reference letter - Jean Aukerman

Jay - I am writing you this brief but important note to endorse a person for the vacant Acme Township Trustee position. I would like to endorse Jean Aukerman for this position.

Jean is a person that we need as a Trustee as she has the very best interest of Acme Township at heart. I have known Jean for a number of years and she is a very moral, humble, ethical and honest person. I have worked with her as a volunteer (Sayler Park Boat Launch where she has spearheaded our effort to obtain a major DNR Trustfund Grant) and have seen her work with a number of committees in our Township where she has demonstrated qualities such as forward and strategic thinking, honesty, impartiality, fairness and a willingness to work hard and do whatever it takes to help meet a goal. She is a person that would do a fantastic job in this position. I urge you and the Township board to place our trust in her and add her as an Acme Township Trustee.

If you or the board would like to discuss this note or if you need any additional information from me, please feel to call me anytime....my work ph # is 231-536-4416 and my cell # is 231-883-7406.

Thank You,

Mark Guy
Member - Acme Township Parks and Rec. Advisory Committee
Acme Township resident

Mark Guy
Human Resources Manager
tel 231 536 4416 fax 231 536 4411
mark.guy@ejco.com

EJ
301 Spring St., PO Box 439, East Jordan MI 49727 800 874 4100
ejco.com



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

2605 N. West Bay Shore Drive • Peshawbestown, MI 49682 • (231) 534-7750

May 8, 2014

RE: **Ms. Marcie Timmins**
Acme Township Board of Trustees Applicant

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the privilege to work with Ms. Timmins on the Acme Township Planning Commission as commissioners and on the Acme Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee as committee members. Marcie and I were Co-Chairs of the Parks & Recreation Committee until she took over as the sole Chairman of the committee, so I have had a chance to work closely with her and to experience her knowledge and ability to serve on these committees.

Ms. Timmins is very dedicated to serving Acme Township and has proven herself to be a very good leader on the Parks & Recreation Committee. I would definitely support and recommend her service to the Township be expanded to serve as a Board of Trustees.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact my office, as I would be glad to discuss Ms. Timmins' qualifications in greater detail.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Feringa, A.I.A.
Corporate Architect
EDC Project Management Department Manager
Grand Traverse Resort and Casinos Economic Development Corporation
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
(231) 534-8410 office

Jay Zollinger

From: Pat Parker [pparker@gtmetrofire.org]
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 12:02 PM
To: Jay Zollinger
Subject: Recommendation for Jean Aukerman

Jay,

I've been tied up on meetings all day but I hear that you are interviewing Jean Aukerman for a possible replacement as an Acme trustee. I am sending you this email as my recommendation and reference on the capabilities of Ms. Aukerman.

I have worked with Jean on numerous subcommittees the biggest being the Acme marina project. I have been so impressed with her leadership, her collaborative skills, her preparedness, and her passion in making Acme and our community a better place. Her experiences as an executive with Dow Corning makes her a very unique person for your board. She brings a business acumen that is often missing in government.

I look forward in working with her as a task force member on the new fire station/Township Hall project. She has a unusual knack for visualizing projects now and how they might look in the future. Marketing and merchandising is a specialty of hers. Jean also understands meeting a bottom-line and can put together a financial position that can be used to sell a project.

I would strongly encourage you and your committee to give strong consideration in choosing her for the vacancy on your board. I am confident that she will be an incredible addition.

Chief Parker

Chief Patrick J. Parker

Grand Traverse Metro Fire Dept.

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