

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
September 12, 2016**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustees Hurwitz, Jacobs, LeBlanc, and Proos. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, and approximately 20 community members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Added to the Agenda under Special Presentation (Financial Statements), Motion to Receive and Accept Financial Statements. Also added under New Business: Item D. Ordinance O-091216-1, Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment, Article XXVI Signs. **Moved by Trustee LeBlanc, supported by Trustee Jacobs, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - MARCH 31, 2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Dan Veldhuizen, Siegfried & Crandall, complimented the many staff that do such a great job for the Township. He stated that this is an unmodified opinion, and every year fewer and fewer corrections are made by the auditors. The report stated there is a weakness in the internal reporting. As far as the financial position, the Township in each of its funds is probably in better shape than previous years. There is \$2.4 million in the General Fund, and there are several other funds that total over \$3 million. The Envision Ada project will require a couple of new funds, so that will need some additional attention. The goal is to continue reducing the number of adjustments. Finally, there are a few stated budget violations that will need monitoring. **Moved by Proos, supported by Hurwitz, to receive and accept the March 31, 2016 Financial Statements from the Auditor. Motion carried.**

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

8/8/16 Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications: 1. Treasurer's Investment Report - 6/30/16, 7/31/16; 2. KDL Minutes - 7/21/16; 3. DDA Minutes - 7/11/16; 4. Ada Historical Society Minutes - 7/14/16; 5. GVMC Minutes - 7/2/16; 6. Fire Department Activity Report - 7/16; 7. Parks/Land Preservation Advisory Board Minutes - 7/14/16; 8. Hope Network Transportation Report - 7/16; 9. Kent County Sheriff Dept. 2nd Quarter 2016 Report - 6/30/16; 10. Bronson Parking Email - Borton - 8/29/16; GVMC Minutes - 8/4/16. **Moved by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Minutes and accept the Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS

Treasurer Rhoades reported the general township warrants, with receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$57,305.48; #205 \$6,569.44; #208 \$10,633.61; #248 \$68.13; #301 \$20,240.91; #590 \$5,372.76; #591 \$3,933.86; #592 \$1,217.14. Total all Hand Checks: \$105,341.33; Warrants: #101 \$65,140.53; #205 \$64,904.71; #208 \$11,203.54; #211 \$2,510.34; #248 \$2,433.58; #401 \$42,036.40; #590 \$120,408.80; #591 \$178,474.34; #592 \$8,035.72. Total Warrants: \$495,147.96. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$600,489.29. **Moved by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Warrant Report for September 12, 2016, in the total amount of \$655,190.60. Roll Call: Yes - Jacobs, Proos, LeBlanc, Hurwitz, Rhoades, Smith, Haga. No - 0. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD COMMENT

Hurwitz stated concern with the speed of cars coming down Ada Drive.

Clerk Smith stated a very large rock was dug up in Ada cemetery and moved to the front entrance of the cemetery.

Trustee LeBlanc commented on the letter from a resident concerning loss of large trees on Bronson as a result of the additional parking that was approved. Trustee LeBlanc's recollection was that with the approval there was an agreement to save some of those trees, and he was wondering if the person was looking at the wrong area.

Treasurer Rhoades stated taxes are due on Wednesday, September 14. He also stated the parking spaces on Thornapple River Drive and Ada Drive have pretty much disappeared.

Supervisor Haga stated he has had conversations with the Road Commission regarding the parking on Ada Drive and Thornapple River Drive. The Road Commission will be doing turning counts on those corners.

Trustee Jacobs expressed concern about flooding on the new Headley Street when there are downpours. Supervisor Haga responded that the cause was that bags were put into the drains during construction. Final inspections are on Friday, and the bags should be removed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

KENT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION FASE STREET PROPERTY

Supervisor Haga stated there was a Public Input meeting held regarding possible uses for the Kent County Road Commission Fase Street property located at 7699 Fase Street. He distributed a summary of comments received from Township residents, along with several emails. Overall the input provided a variety of alternative uses for the property; and concerns were raised relative to safety on Fase Street and that the Township should take this opportunity to purchase the property. The Administrative Committee continues to recommend purchase of the Kent County Road Commission property located at 7699 Fase Street for \$400,000, plus the Phase 1 Environmental Assessment be done.

Moved by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to approve purchase of the KCRC property as recommended.

Bob Kullgren, Chair of the DDA, stated at a meeting this morning there were areas of discussion related to the KDL and Farmers' Market need for a more visible location.

Betty Jo Crosby, Grand River Drive, stated she was at the DDA meeting, and would like to know what they plan to do with the building. She suggested the public be allowed to purchase the building and use it for housing.

Moved by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to amend the main motion to approve purchase of the property but deleting the provision that if it is put on the market later the profits would be shared with the Road Commission. Roll Call: Yes - Proos, Hurwitz, Jacobs; No - LeBlanc, Smith, Rhoades, Haga. Motion defeated.

Roll Call on Main Motion: Yes - Rhoades, Smith, Haga; No - LeBlanc, Hurwitz, Jacobs, Proos. Motion defeated.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-091216-1, FOREST HILLS CENTRAL HOMECOMING PARADE PERMIT

Neven Allen, Homecoming Coordinator for the Forest Hills Homecoming Parade, stated she is seeking approval for the parade on Friday, October 14th, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. **Moved by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to adopt Resolution No. 091216-1 to allow the annual Homecoming Parade on October 14th, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Proos, LeBlanc, Smith, Rhoades, and Haga. No - 0. Resolution adopted.**

2016 TAX RATE REQUEST

Supervisor Haga stated this is an annual process we go through relative to setting up our December tax collections. Historically Ada has approved the tax rate under the maximum allowable without Truth in Taxation hearing although we do have a hearing when we do our budget public hearing, **Moved by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve the 2016 Tax Rate Request at the rolled-back amount. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE NO. O-091216-1, ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT, ARTICLE XXVI SIGNS

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated the Planning Commission has been working for several months on revisions to the sign regulations because of the new development as a result of the Envision Ada plan. Most of the revisions focus on the rules concerning wall signs on the buildings. One change is the revision of the definition of the word "sign", and it removes the phrase "in view of the general public". There is a minor change to the term "projecting sign" that adds detail concerning what the orientation of a projecting sign is to the building wall it's attached to. A new definition of "rear entry sign" has been added, which is to establish some new regulations for signs that are near rear entry to buildings. Ferro then went through the dimensions for the signs. Ferro stated there is a two page Ordinance with a change that he recommended in the draft that was approved by the Planning Commission, which is the new definition of the term "sign," which included the wording "including a vehicle or trailer," which he deleted. In the C-1 District there are only four buildings that are currently on Fulton Street. **Moved by Proos, supported by Smith, to send this ordinance back to the Planning Commission for additional handling and processing. Motion carried.**

CLOSED SESSION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION

Moved by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to proceed into Closed Session to Review Attorney Legal Opinion - Pettis Mining site at 8:34 p.m. Roll Call: Yes - Jacobs, Hurwitz, Proos, LeBlanc, Rhoades, Smith, Haga; No - 0. Motion carried.

Moved by Proos, supported by LeBlanc, to return to Regular Session at 8:54 p.m. Motion carried.

Ron Redick, Mika Meyers, stated the proposed resolution is in response to Ms. Pettis' request for approval of a revised contour plan for the property and a determination that site reclamation remediation has been completed. The site reclamation would do the following: 1. Approve the revised contour plan; 2. Make a determination that the plan has substantially complied with the requirements of paragraph 3 M, P, and Q of the Stipulated Settlement from 2001; and 3. Make a determination that a conditional release and discharge shall be issued with respect to obligations under paragraph 3 O of the Stipulated Settlement which would apply to Pettis and successor owners of the property.

RESOLUTION R-091216-2, RESOLUTION REGARDING COMPLIANCE STATUS OF PETTIS MINING SITE UNDER 2001 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT

Moved by Jacobs, supported by Hurwitz, to adopt Resolution R-091216-2, Resolution Regarding Compliance Status of Pettis Mining Site Under 2001 Stipulated Settlement. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Proos, LeBlanc, Jacobs, Smith, Rhoades, Haga. Resolution adopted.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Jacqueline Smith
Ada Township Clerk

Date

JS/dr