



**ADA TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Supervisor Korth called the regular meeting of the Township Board to order at 7:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Korth, Clerk DeMarco, Treasurer Moran, Trustees Proos, Carter, Hurwitz and Damstra.

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Township Manager Suchy, Planning Director Said, Buildings, Facilities and Ground Director Brinks, Parks and Recreation Director Deason, Accountant Rodriguez, Assessor Boerman.

Public Present: 6 members of the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Manager Suchy stated that there was a letter from a resident to be included in the Reports and Communication section, and an addition of R-022425-2 to New Business. **Moved by Trustee Hurwitz, supported by Trustee Carter to approve the agenda with the two additions. Motion Carried**

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Trustee Hurwitz to approve minutes, accept and file reports/communications under consent agenda. Motion Carried.

A. APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2025
2. Special Board Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2025

B. RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Ada Historical Society Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2025
2. Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2025
3. Downtown Development Authority Work Session Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2025

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Treasurer Moran presented the Township General Warrants in the following amounts:

Hand Checks: \$0.00

Warrants: \$1,112,492.11

Total All Checks and Warrants: \$1,112,492.11

Trustee Proos requested detail in the future regarding petty cash reimbursement. Trustee Proos inquired regarding various items in the warrant report, and he stated that he wants the township to be wise with our fiscal resources. Township Manager Suchy provided information and context to the purchases and reoccurring bills for Comcast. **Moved by Clerk DeMarco, supported by Trustee Damstra to approve the February 24, 2025, Warrant Report in the total amount of \$1,112,492.11. Roll Call: Yes- 7 (Korth, Damstra, Carter, Moran, Proos, DeMarco, Hurwitz); No-0; Absent- None. Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished business.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Award of Pettis Avenue Phase II Trail Bid to C&D Hughes for an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,556,565.15.

Steve Groenenboom presented the Pettis Avenue Phase II Trail Bid by C&D Hughes. Trustee Proos asked questions regarding the road closure, project timeline and the potential end date for the project. Mr. Groenenboom discussed the plan outlined by the firm and stated that the tentative start date is March 10, 2025 with the project completion date of July 31, 2025. Board members discussed staging of the equipment, traffic with construction on Grand River Drive, and the warranty on the project. Supervisor Korth stated that a trail measuring 10' in width is a waste of money and not appropriate for the natural landscape, and that he would vote against future proposals that have a 10' trail. **Moved by Treasurer Moran, supported by Trustee Hurwitz to award Pettis Avenue Phase II Trail Bid to C&D Hughes for an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,556,565.15. Motion Carried. Yes- 6; No- 1 (Korth).**

Consider Approval of Proposal for Moore + Bruggink Pettis Avenue Trail Phase II Budget for Design and Construction Engineering, Honey Creek Intersection Improvements, Soil Borings, Wetland Issues, and Project Contingencies for an Amount Not to Exceed \$543,434.85.

Manger Suchy stated that this is for project contingencies. Mr. Groenenboom referred board members to the provided memo, and highlighted the Honey Creek Intersection Improvements. Board members asked questions regarding crosswalks, previous invoicing, and safety concerns in the area. **Moved by Treasurer Moran, supported by Trustee Hurwitz to approve the proposal provided in the February 4, 2025 for an amount not to exceed \$543,434.85. Motion Carried.**

Knapp Street & Thornapple River Bridge Updates – Steve Groenenboom, Moore + Bruggink.

Steve Groenenboom presented the updates and stated that permits are required for the floodplain fill, wetland fill, and floodway interference. Supervisor Korth inquired regarding the location of the bridge and the overall height to the bridge. Board members discussed the location of the bridge and boardwalk, street crossings and alternative locations of the pedestrian bridge. Manager Suchy stated that the board can choose to move away from this project despite prior approval given by the board to pursue grant funds. Manager Suchy stated that if the board wants to remove the Thornapple River Bridge, the board will have to communicate to donors and the public why a signature piece of pedestrian walkability in downtown Ada is no longer being supported by the Township Board. Board members stated that if this is part of a larger project and there is grant money allocated and donors involved, then it would continue to pursue the project. Mr. Groenenboom provided a brief overview of the Knapp Street Bridge and the ongoing work of the Grand River Greenway and ARPA Funding.

Award Three Year Weed & Fertilizer Contract to Thornapple River Nursery for an Amount Not to Exceed \$25,473.00.

Buildings, Facilities and Grounds Director Brinks stated that he recommends Thornapple due to their previous work with the township and knowledge of the park system. **Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Clerk DeMarco to award the contract to Thornapple River Nursery for an amount not to exceed \$25,473.00. Motion Carried.**

Award Three-Year Certified Playground Mulch Bid to 3 Oaks Ground Cover for an Amount Not to Exceed \$8,820.00.

Buildings, Facilities and Grounds Director Brinks stated that cost savings amount to almost \$4,000, with an out-clause to be worked in for either organization once it is approved. **Moved by Trustee Hurwitz, supported by Trustee Damstra to award the contract to 3 Oaks Ground Cover for an amount not to exceed \$8,820.00. Motion Carried.**

Consider Recommendation from Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Advisory Board to Approve Progressive Companies Proposal to Complete Design Engineering, Staking, and Materials Testing for Covered Bridge Park.

Parks and Recreation Director Deason presented the proposal. Manager Suchy reviewed the plan with the board. Manager Suchy listed amenities on the north side like the veteran's memorial, dog park and parking, and noted amenities on the south side like the splash pad, pickleball courts, and an improved restroom facility. Mike Oezer, a representative from Progressive Companies, is available to answer questions. Board members expressed concern regarding a December end date due to weather, pavers and landscaping. Mr. Oezer discussed board member concerns and discussed the contract with the board. Manager Suchy discussed options with the board in order to work within the time sensitive nature of the project. He stated that the board could approve everything except construction (removing items 4 and 5), and that can come to the board later, similar to the previously discussed Pettis Ave project. Township Manager Suchy stated that this is the recommendation from the Parks, Recreation, and Land Preservation Advisory Board. **Moved by Trustee Carter, supported by Treasurer Moran to approve Item 1, 2, and 3 from plan with an amount not to exceed \$195,000 and authorizes the Township manager to approve an updated contract provided by Progressive. Motion Carried.**

Consider Purchase of Two Ventilated Doors for Ada Park Shelter Restroom from Fisher Door & Hardware for an Amount Not to Exceed \$6,412.00

Director Deason presented the improvements to the board. **Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Trustee Hurwitz to approve the purchase for an amount not to exceed \$6,412.00. Motion Carried.**

Resolution R-022425-1: A Resolution to Update the Township Cemetery Fee Structure

Clerk DeMarco presented the resolution to the board. Clerk DeMarco cited that the new fee structure identified the specifics of perpetual care and aims to better financially support the Township cemeteries for years to come. Board members asked questions regarding perpetual care fund, and the larger discussion at hand to ensure future support of the cemeteries. Board members advocate for care for the residents, but express hesitancy and request a work session.

Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Trustee Carter to table the discussion until after the budget for FY2025-2026 is approved. Motion Carried.

Schedule Public Hearing for Ordinance O-031025-1: An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Relates to Cemeteries

Clerk DeMarco stated that the ordinance changes have been reviewed by legal and a public hearing is required for the changes to be codified. **Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Treasurer Moran to schedule the public hearing for the March 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Motion Carried.**

Township Committee Appointment Recommendations - Supervisor Korth

Supervisor Korth presented his memo regarding township committees. **Moved by Trustee Carter, supported by Treasurer Moran to approve the appointment recommendations with the addition of the Supervisor serving as liaison to the Historical Society. Motion Carried.**

Resolution R-022425-2: A Resolution Removing the Date of Expiration of the Ada Township Social District.

Township Manager Suchy stated that this is a last-minute addition to the agenda, and stressed the importance to passing this tonight due to remain compliant with an expired Social District. **Moved by Treasurer Moran, supported by Trustee Hurwitz to approve R-022425-2. Roll Call: Yes- 7 (Korth, Damstra, Carter, Moran, Proos, DeMarco, Hurwitz); No-0; Absent- None. Motion Carried.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Township Manager Report – February 19, 2025

Manager Suchy stated that we got samples from Corbin regarding the Trails Wayfinding project with an updated schedule for the March 10, 2025 meeting.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

There was no board member comment.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Bernie Veldkamp, President of the Ada Historical Society. He stated that the Historical Society are kicking off their endowment, funds of which will begin with supporting rehabilitation of the historical building, signage and have raised over \$55,000.

Omar Dieppa, Deputy Sheriff. He stated he is the community policing officer in cooperation with Deputy Chase-Ophoff.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Hurwitz, supported by Trustee Carter to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 P.M.

Date

Jo DeMarco, Clerk