



**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 11, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to Governor Whitmer's Public Act 228 of 2020, The Ada Township Board, in order to protect the public health, conducted its meeting via electronic communications via ZOOM Meeting. The roll was called. Members present: Supervisor Leisman, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Moran, and Trustees Hurwitz, Jacobs, Proos and Winczewski. Members Absent: None. Also present: Township Manager Julius Suchy.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Hurwitz, supported by Jacobs, to approve the January 11, 2021, Agenda as presented. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**

- A. Township Board Minutes
  - 1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 12/28/2020.

**RECEIVE AND FILE VARIOUS REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Reports/Communications
  - 1. Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes - 12/17/2020
  - 2. Zoning Board of Appeals - Special Meeting Minutes - 12/22/2020

**Moved by Proos, supported by Moran, to approve the Minutes and Accept the Reports/Communications. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS  
Township General Warrants**

Treasurer Moran presented the following: Hand Checks: \$474,927.89, Warrants: \$612,130.75. Total of all Checks and Warrants: \$1,087,058.64. **Moved by Proos, supported by Winczewski, to approve the Warrant Report for January 11, 2021, in the total amount of \$1,087,058.64. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**AdaTowne & AdaCroft Water Main & Street Improvement Change Order #1 for a Decrease of \$161,248.31 and Pay Application #5 (Final) for \$566,399.36**

**Moved by Proos, supported by Hurwitz, to approve a decrease of \$161,248.31 for AdaTowne & AdaCroft Water Main & Street Improvement Change Order #1. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**Moved by Hurwitz, supported by Moran to approve Pay Application #5 in the amount of \$566,399.36 and to withhold \$50,000.00 to CL Trucking & Excavating LLC. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**BOARD COMMENT**

Trustee Winczewski spoke about the maps on the website, noting they are difficult to read. He believes it is time to update the maps on line.

Treasurer Moran stated the library looks fantastic and he is excited for the opening.

Clerk Smith stated she will be out of the office at least the next two weeks but will be doing some work from home, and her staff is available in the office.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **A. Consider Recommendation from Planning Commission to Adopt Ordinance O-122820-1, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 78 of the Ada Township Code of Ordinances for the Keeping of Poultry**

Planning Director Ferro presented this request. He said the current zoning rules only allow keeping of farm animals and do not accommodate keeping of poultry in the R-1, R-2 and R-3 districts and do not provide standards for keeping poultry in the AGP, RP-1, RP-2 and RR districts. Approval of the proposed amendment is recommended, pursuant to several conditions. Trustee Proos said he understands the need for rules, but believes we do not want to create a situation to create rules that are tough to enforce. There was some discussion about raising chickens, wherein this is more likely for fun rather than running a business for most. Planning Director Ferro said the Township had received several inquiries and he suggested they come to a Planning Commission meeting and express their interest. Trustee Winczewski stated in terms of the higher density neighborhoods, this is an expansion of rights. He said he is not sure about the rural jurisdictions, but in his view we are adding restrictions to the rural lots and he believes we should re-write this so the rural lots are not having their rights restricted. Supervisor Leisman stated the Board can either take action on this or send it back to the Planning Commission to revise the ordinance to remove any new regulations that do not currently exist. Trustee Winczewski proposes this be sent back to the Planning Commission to address two points - the addition of restrictions in the AGP, RP-1, RP-2 and RR districts and readdress the item where poultry cannot roam free on any lot/parcel of land. There was further discussion on these items and whether to table or not take any action on this. Planning Director Ferro responded that the problem with not taking any action is that staff still has to tell residents inquiring about having chickens that it isn't legal in places where people want to have chickens.

**Moved by Moran, supported by Winczewski, to refer this back to the Planning Commission for further consideration consistent with the discussion tonight Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

### **B. Award Ada Booster Station Improvement Project Bid to Allied Mechanical Services for an Amount Not to Exceed \$234,200.00**

Steve Groenenboom of Moore & Bruggink stated the DEQ has ordered Ada Township to increase the booster pump station capacity at Ada Drive by Patterson. Two bids have been received and it is recommended to accept the bid by Allied Mechanical Services in the amount of \$234,200.

**Moved by Proos, supported by Smith, to approve Allied Mechanical Services' bid in the amount of \$234,200 for the Ada Booster Station Improvement Project, with the total budget not to exceed \$290,000. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

### **C. Consider Approval of Updated Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cooperative Agreement with Kent County**

Township Manager Suchy explained that Ada Township is part of the Community Development Block Grant Program through Kent County. He was notified by the Deputy County Administrator that HUD was asking for an updated agreement as they go through a bit of a recertification process. He stated if the Board is comfortable with this, it should be approved as Resolution R-011120-1, which we would have to present at the next meeting.

**Moved by Jacobs, supported by Proos, to approve the Updated Community Development Block Grant Cooperative Agreement. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**D. Proposed 2021 Committee Appointments**

Supervisor Leisman stated this is in follow-up to the discussion from November 23. He said he has been working with the planner to look at what committees we have, balance who should be on them, which committees are necessary, etc. A memo to the Board was submitted setting forth a list of the committees they have come up with so far. Supervisor Leisman summarized some of the details. Supervisor Leisman also noted in the past we didn't always have three Township Board members on the committees. Treasurer Moran stated this looks good and he is in favor of this.

**Moved by Moran, supported by Smith, to approve the proposed 2021 Committee Appointments. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

**E. Schedule Work Session to Discuss Trails Committee, New Millage & Future Projects**

Supervisor Leisman stated this is something that was also previously discussed. The thought would be that the manager could work on scheduling a zoom meeting with the entire Board and inviting the Trail Committee for any input. Township Manager Suchy added that if any board members have conflicts or dates that do not work the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> and January 25<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon somewhere between 3 and 5, please let him know.

**Moved by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to approve setting a special work session meeting of the Township Board at a time to be determined as discussed. Roll Call: Yes - Hurwitz, Jacobs, Leisman, Moran, Proos, Smith and Winczewski. Motion carried.**

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**A. Township Manager Report - January 6, 2021**

Township Manager Suchy summarized a few items on his report, noting a lot of his time has been focused of the Amy Van Andel Library and Community Center. He would love to give a tour to anyone interested. He also thanked Assessor Stephanie Boerman for her hard work and dedication in assisting Vergennes Township with their assessing duties due to their assessor leaving. Additionally, Charles Steven Hivley will be starting an unpaid internship with the Township on January 11<sup>th</sup>. He will be working remotely to provide support on a number of issues and items that required additional legwork and research for the Township Manager.

**B. Assessing Department December Report - January 5, 2021**

**C. Fire Department December Report - December 2020**

**D. Historical Society Museum Manager Update - December 2020**

**E. Parks & Recreation December Report - January 6, 2021**

Parks Director Mark Fitzpatrick gave a brief update regarding the Leonard Field Park, noting they have RJM design working on two projects.

**F. Planning Department December Report - January 6, 2021**

**G. Engineering December Monthly Report - January 6, 2021**

Steve Groenenboom, Moore & Bruggink, briefly summarized his report.

**H. Ryan's Municipal December Utility Report - December 2020**

Stephanie Kozal reported that they have the data logger into smell for HTS at the meter pit - will be pulled out this week and will have that data, with a goal to have a proposal soon.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Smith  
Ada Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date