



TOWNSHIP

**ADA TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 13, 2025 at 3:00 P.M. at the AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY  
MINUTES**

**Supervisor Korth called the special meeting to order at 3:06 P.M.**

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Korth, Clerk DeMarco, Treasurer Moran, Trustee Damstra, Trustee Hurwitz.

**Board Absent:** Trustee Carter.

**Staff Present:** Township Manager Suchy, Deputy Clerk McIntosh, Planning Director Said, Parks and Recreation Director Deason, Assessor Boerman, Downtown Development Authority Director Austin, Fire Chief Murray, Staff Accountant Rodriguez, Buildings, Facilities and Grounds Director Brinks, F&V Operations Representative Kozal.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Trustee Proos, supported by Treasurer Moran to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion Carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment

**NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation: Julius Suchy

Manager Suchy presented the FY 2025-2026 budget. He stated the township is planning an increase in property taxes in the general fund by 3.71% to 1,227,807. He stated that charges for service estimates are conservative as the township is currently evaluating increases to the fee structure impacting these revenues. He stated that the total revenue of \$3,494,053 is up 3.17% from FY 2024-2025. Manager Suchy reviewed elected official compensation and staff raises, he stated that there are currently placeholders for staff and elected officials pay due to final numbers not being reviewed by the compensation commission and the personnel committee, respectively.

Manager Suchy wrapped up the General Fund overview by presenting the large expense projects. He cited events and projects like 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Spongy Moth Spray Program, the Fall Clean-up Day, and Design Engineering for the new Township Hall.

Manager Suchy presented the Public Safety Fund. He stated the Community Policing Officer contract is a placeholder due to Kent County Sheriff Office still working on their union contracts. He presented the unassigned fund balance and presented the support the milage is providing the department.

Manager Suchy moved onto the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation fund. He stated that the 2017 Envision Ada Capital Improvement Bond Final Payment will be made. Suchy stated

that no capital improvements have been budgeted due to a director change and a deeper evaluation required to gain insight into the actual cost of maintenance in the parks.

The Trails fund was presented. Board members asked questions regarding the Grand River Drive Trail Replacement and other trail improvement projects. Suchy stated that the numbers for several capital improvements are estimated due to the projects not being out for bid. Board members asked questions regarding the multiple bridges that are planned throughout the township. Manager Suchy reviewed the cooperations with the Grand River Greenway initiative and Friends of Kent County Parks that will support funding. Board members discussed timelines, potential future projects, maintenance and staff capacity.

Suchy presented the Downtown Development Authority budget, and stated that the tax revenue captured by the DDA fund continues to increase. Suchy highlighted the upcoming purchase of streetscape furniture, irrigation repair, and bond payments from the Envision Ada Capital Improvement Plan.

Manager Suchy presented the building department fund, and stated the positive working relationship with Cascade Charter Township to the success and balance of the department.

Suchy noted American Rescue Plan Fund, he stated that all ARPA funds are allocated and the remainder of the funds will be spent in FY 2025-2026.

The Connecting Community Fund was presented with pledges to date amounting to \$6,411,573 with projected pledges for 2025-2026 as \$2,323,234.

Suchy presented the sewer fund and he stated that the Grand Rapids Sewer Rate increase was 3.35%. He stated that the township is working with Municipal Analytics on a utility rate study. He moved on to the Water Fund, with a water rate increase of 0.37% from the City of Grand Rapids.

Manager Suchy summarized the fund balance to wrap up his FY 2025-2026 budget presentation, he stated that the public hearing for the budget will be on March 10, 2025 at the regularly scheduled township board meeting.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Trustee Proos stated that watching Manager Suchy grow with Ada and bring Ada into a healthy, financially secure community has been wonderful.

Board members thanked Manager Suchy and staff for their work.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by Treasurer Moran, supported by Clerk DeMarco to adjourn the meeting. The special board meeting was adjourned at 5:03 P.M.**