

**ADA TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2014 MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Betty Jo Crosby at 4:03 p.m.

Members present: Crosby, Damstra, Haga, LeBlanc, Roe and Steketee

Absent: Bergman, Ladd, VandenBerge

Staff present: Planning Director Ferro, Parks Director Fitzpatrick

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2013 MEETING:

It was moved by Roe, seconded by Steketee, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2013 meeting as presented.

Motion passed by unanimously.

STATUS OF PROJECTS:

a. Electrical Service Re-Location Proposal from Consumers Energy

Ferro reported Consumers Energy was not willing to place the electrical service to the irrigation pump house on the Carl Creek Crossing property underground, and planned to proceed with replacement of the existing line on its current easement.

b. Carl Creek Crossing Preserve – Driveway Creek Crossing Repair; Irrigation Pump House Relocation

Ferro reported that the DEQ stream crossing permit has been issued for a replacement deck structure on the Carl Creek Crossing Preserve driveway over the creek, so that construction can in the spring.

It was moved by Damstra, seconded by LeBlanc, to recommend that Moore and Bruggink be directed to proceed with preparation of construction plans, specifications and bid documents.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Consider Potential Cost Sharing of Conservation Easement Appraisal on Cooper Property

Ferro summarized the bids received for preparation of an appraisal of the value of a potential conservation easement on the Cooper property. He noted that requests for proposals were sent to 4 appraisers, and two proposals and quotes were received.

The Board discussed the relative merits of cost-sharing an appraisal with the property owner versus the Township incurring the entire cost. The consensus of the Advisory Board was that it would be best for the Township to pay for the entire cost of an appraisal for our use, as the property owner may wish to have his own appraisal prepared.

Following discussion, it was moved by Haga, seconded by LeBlanc, to recommend retaining Carlson Appraisal Company of Lansing, MI to prepare the appraisal, for a fee not to exceed \$5,000.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Review/Discussion of Proposed Budget for FY 2014-15

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15 was reviewed by the Advisory Board. Haga noted he was proposing that \$100,000 in Open Space Preservation Funds be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Fund in the coming year, to be designated for the construction of the Resource Building at Roselle Park. He noted this was in addition to a \$150,000 transfer that was made in the current fiscal year.

LeBlance commented that we should be more aggressively pursuing priority projects, such as the need for a neighborhood park along the Ada Drive corridor that has been a goal for many years.

Following discussion, it was moved by Damstra, seconded by LeBlanc, to recommend adoption of the proposed budget, including the transfer of \$100,000 to the Parks and Recreation Fund for the Roselle Park Resource Building.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approve Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year Beginning April 1, 2014

The Board reviewed the proposed monthly meeting schedule for the Advisory Board for the coming fiscal year. The suggestion was made to change the meeting schedule to every other month, beginning in May.

It was moved by LeBlanc, seconded by Damstra, to approve a meeting schedule for the coming year, with meetings scheduled bi-monthly on the second Thursday of the month, beginning in May, 2014.

Motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton Township Clerk
RS: jf