

**ADA TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE JULY 11, 2013 MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Open Space Preservation Advisory Board was held on Thursday, July 11, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairperson Betty Jo Crosby at the Ada Township Offices, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada, MI.

PRESENT: Betty Jo Crosby, Randy Damstra, George Haga, Jamie Ladd, Rick Steketee

ABSENT: Dan Bergman, Paul Leblanc, Elise Roe, Jeff VandenBerge

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Ferro, Planning Director

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2013 MEETING

It was moved by Steketee, seconded by Damstra, to approve the minutes of the June 13 meeting, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

PROPERTY AT 7535 FASE ST.

Ferro reported that the owner has told him he has received another offer for the property that is \$30,000 higher than the Township's offer contained in the proposed option agreement. Ferro stated he told the owner that the Township was open to a counter-proposal from him.

The Board discussed optional courses of action.

Following discussion, it was moved by Ladd, seconded by Haga, to direct that a new offer be made in an option agreement, with a purchase price matching the other offer received by the owner, subject to written documentation being provided by the owner of the competing offer, and subject to the condition that the amount of the purchase price in excess of the appraised value be raised from private funds.

Following discussion of the motion, it was moved by Steketee, seconded by Damstra, to amend the motion to provide that the purchase price proposed be \$10,000 above the competing offer.

Motion to amend passed by unanimous vote.

On a vote for the motion, as amended, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROPERTY AT 980 BUTTRICK AVE.

Ferro reported on the property owner's response to our proposal that they donate the rear portion of the property to the Township. Ferro stated it has been pointed out to the owner that by making this donation, the reduction in the depth of the remaining land along the road frontage would allow the owner to divide the remainder property into two lots that would conform with the maximum length-to-width ratio standards contained in our zoning regulations and the State land division law. Ferro stated that the property owner has proposed a purchase price of \$10,000 for the rear portion of the property.

In discussion, it was suggested that we should consider purchasing the entire property rather than only the rear portion that abuts Ada Township Park.

Following discussion of this alternative, it was moved by Damstra, seconded by Ladd, that an option agreement be presented to the property owner for purchase of the entire parcel, with a purchase price of \$60,000.

Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton Township Clerk
RS: jf