

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2007**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Treasurer Pratt, Clerk Ensing Millhuff, Trustees: Proos, Sytsma and Westra. Members absent: Trustee Damstra. Also present: Planning Director Ferro, Recording Secretary Smith and three community members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deleted from the agenda under New Business: Item A. Resolution R-012207-1 - Dudley Party Store, Inc. Liquor License.

Moved by Westra, supported by Proos, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

January 8, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Fire Call Reports - 12/06; 2. Planning Commission Minutes - 12/06; 3. Building Permit Report - 12/06; 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes - 12/05/06; 5. Historical Society Newsletter - 1/07; 6. Michigan Dept. of State - Secretary of State - 12/08/06; 7. Cascade - Operation Santa Claus - Thank you - 12/22/06; 8. Utility Advisory Board Minutes - 11/16/06; 9. MTA Legislative Update Fax - 12/22/06; 10. Ada Township - Gilmore property donation - 1/07; 11. Region 8 Notes - 1/07; 12. GR Foundation - Contribution - 1/07.

Moved by Westra, supported by Sytsma, to approve items on the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS AND RECEIPTS

Treasurer Pratt presented Warrants and Receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$10,410.78; #205 \$3,282.02; #208 \$5,029.39; #590 \$3,171.71; #591 \$1,414.56; #592 \$283.06. Total Hand Checks \$23,591.52. Warrants: #101 \$46,988.38; #205 \$22,387.88; #208 \$2,053.28; #211 \$13,745.42; #401 \$9,169.52 #590 \$23,879.72; #591 \$23,878.42; #592 \$2,499.20. Total Warrants \$144,601.82. Total Checks and Warrants \$168,193.34.

Moved by Sytsma, supported by Proos, to approve the Warrant Report of January 22, 2007, in the amount of \$168,193.34. Trustee Proos asked about ad Supervisor Haga clarified that annual physicals are required for the Fire Department. **Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Westra, Haga, Pratt, Proos, Ensing Millhuff. No - 0. Absent - Damstra. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Norm Rhoades, 571 Rookway, commented about a Grand Rapids Press article regarding 911 calls and the reference by Chief DuVall regarding the inability to communicate with two-way radios. The same article quoted Lt. Parent from the Kent County Sheriff's Department, who stated the problem could possibly be the pagers, even though some cost \$500 each to replace. Mr. Rhoades stated the previous board did not purchase radios based on limited dollars, but on the recommendation of the Fire Chief. He suggested the County put antenna on existing towers, including the state police tower on Pettis and Two Mile, suggesting Ada and surrounding townships write a letter the County making the recommendation.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Westra agreed with Mr. Rhoades and stated he had written a letter in which he had suggested any tower approved by the township have a township easement for improved communications. Trustee Westra thanked Supervisor Haga for the prompt response regarding the dangerous issue of cars parking on Adaway. Supervisor Haga responded there would be further checking in the future.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff recalled the board had recently upgraded radios based on the recommendation by the Fire Department; suggesting the supervisor write a letter to the editor to assure residents the board decisions on emergency equipment are not based on the "lowest" cost but on the expertise of people the Fire Department staff. Supervisor Haga stated he would ask for clarification from the chief regarding his comments. He also stated there were some budget items this year related to pagers.

Trustee Sytsma asked why there wasn't a back-up system. Clerk Ensing Millhuff replied the 9-1-1 Commission suggested a need for communication between different entities. Trustee Proos suggested the matter be put back to Chief DuVall as the board never turned down anything that was needed.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff reported there had been several daytime home invasions in northern and eastern Ada around Bailey and Three Mile. Entry had been gained through back doors and garage doors.

Supervisor Haga followed up on the cable impact and stated it was a little premature to know any impact on the township. A consortium had met, and a report should be available for the February 12 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-012207-1 - TOWNSHIP MEETING SCHEDULES

Clerk Ensing Millhuff noted there was a Tuesday board meeting in May due to the Memorial Day holiday and the holiday dates in red were not actual holidays but employees would be using vacation or personal time between December 24th-January 1st,2007. **Moved by Westra, supported by Sytsma, to adopt Resolution R-012207-1, which is the Township Meeting Schedules. Roll Call: Yes - Ensing Millhuff, Proos, Pratt, Haga, Westra, Sytsma. No - 0. Absent - Damstra. Resolution adopted.**

PETITION TO STRIKE PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM TAX ROLLS

Treasurer Pratt explained these were 2001 personal property taxes and were related to businesses. The majority were businesses which no longer existed adding one business had gone bankrupt. The State allows taxes to be stricken from the roll after five years when they had been deemed uncollectible. Treasurer Pratt explained she had inherited these taxes and she had made a concerted attempt to collect each one and the ones listed were unattainable.

Moved by Westra, supported by Ensing Millhuff, to approve the waiver and consent document relating to the removal of delinquent 2001 personal property taxes from the roll.

Treasurer Pratt stated a lien on personal property taxes goes with the property as a tax lien, so a new owner within the township could be responsible and hopefully the issue would have been covered in a buy/sell agreement. Trustee Pratt added some of the requested removals were due to previous mistakes such as equipment left on a property which did not belong to the property's owner. **Motion carried.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Norm Rhoades, Rookway, noted some of the lights on the streetscapes were not working. Supervisor Haga stated there had been a bad batch of lights. Clerk Ensing Millhuff added the Building and Grounds Department had attempted to replace the bulbs but due to a recall B & G were unable to purchase white replacement lights. Mr. Rhoades stated it would be nice to have a clock in the township hall. Clerk Millhuff responded she had ordered one. Trustee Proos added he would prefer to get the speakers fixed (The speakers had been buzzing during the meeting).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05- p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ensing Millhuff, CMC
Ada Township Clerk