

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Treasurer Pratt, Clerk Ensing Millhuff, Trustees: Damstra, Proos, Sytsma and Westra. Also present: Planning Director Ferro, Fire/Rescue Chief DuVall, Parks Director Tatar, Recording Secretary Smith and 6 community members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Added to the agenda under Special Presentation: Update on Roselle Park Projects; Added to the agenda under Reports/Communications - Item 16. Supervisor's Reports dated 1-25-08.

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Wes Steer reported on the progress of the trail, the Woodrick observation deck, and the silo at Roselle Park adding, the first phase of the trail. Mr. Steer stated the silo project has been completed with the exception of some issues with the camera not functioning. The contractor has determined the problem is with the mounting bracket and they are in the process of testing one that will function correctly with the camera. The trail will be checked in the spring for any additional work needed by the contractor. Other components included the restroom building, additional overlook deck along the river, additional railings, and the second phase of the trail project. There were questions/comments from board members regarding the solar restroom, silo lighting/motion detectors, plans for the coming summer, possibility of a garage building, non-paved pathways on the northern part of the property, the wetness of the property, wildlife, and the number of people using the park.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

January 14, 2008, Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Planning Commission Minutes - 12/20/07; 2. Building Permit Report - 1/22/08; 3. Investment Report - 12/07; 4. Sheriff Report - 2007 Annual Report and 4th Quarter 2007 Report; 5. Comcast - 12/28/07 & 01/15/08; 6. Corder Press Editorial - 12/30/07; 7. Steketee - Thank You Note - 01/11/08; 8. 2008 Hardship Exemption Policy; 9. MTA Legislative Update Fax - 01/04/08 & 01/18/08; 10. Utility Advisory Board (UAB) Minutes - 12/20/07; 11. Region 8 Notes - 01/08; 12. Ada Historical Society Minutes - 11/10/07; 13. Open Space Preservation Advisory Board Minutes - 12/13/07; 14. MDOT Bridge Replacement Project Minutes - 11/13/07; 15. Graham Correspondence - Helicopter Pad - 01/18/08; 16. Supervisor's Report - 01/25/08.

Moved by Westra, supported by Pratt, 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 \$3,330.74; #205 \$1,823.77; #208 \$755.05; #213 \$3,825.00; #590 \$311.44; #591 \$311.46; #592 \$12.70. Total Hand Checks \$10,370.16. Warrants: #101 \$18,249.87; #205 \$31,939.76; #208 \$824.79; #211 \$15,695.07; #590 \$37,982.14; #591 \$79,944.42; #592 \$2,491.14. Total Warrants \$187,127.19. Total Checks and Warrants \$197,497.35. **Moved by Proos, supported by Sytsma, to approve the Warrant Report of January 28, 2008, in the amount of \$197,497.35. Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Westra, Haga, Pratt, Damstra, Ensing Millhuff, Proos. No - 0. Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Mitchell, 8771 Conservation, a 31-year resident of the township, explained his interest in joining the Preserve Ada Township group and a meeting they had scheduled with the Township Planner for October 2, 2007. Mr. Mitchell stated he had contacted the supervisor regarding information on the group and the supervisor had been "less than forthcoming with answers to his questions". Mr. Mitchell stated he had asked about membership and the supervisor had said he did not have any information about the group; Mr. Mitchell added since Mr. Damstra is a member of the group and a trustee on the township board and the supervisor is "in charge" he should know and share the information requested. Mr. Mitchell also expressed an interest in being a member of the ethics board, adding if the supervisor was not going to "fully disclose information he should not be on the ethics board".

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Damstra stated he found the Building Permit Summary for 2007 interesting and was surprised the statistics were not lower. He also referred to the investment report encouraging long term investments due to the economy. Trustee Damstra had received many calls about the trail meeting and although he could not attend he encouraged others to do so, adding he had no opinion on placement of the trail, but wanted to make sure the right decisions were made.

Trustee Westra stated a light near the entrance of the building was out and the walks were slippery. He also stated, as a member of the trail committee, he was planning to attend the upcoming meeting and encouraged others to attend as well.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff distributed copies of correspondence from the Kent County Road Commission with information regarding schedules and spending plans by surrounding communities. Clerk Millhuff the Presidential Primary went well and the turn-out was better than expected.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE O-012808-1 AND ORDINANCE O-012808-2 - PUD ZONING OF COMMERCIAL LAND IN VILLAGE OF ADA

Planning Director Ferro explained the two proposed ordinances regarding zoning regulations for commercial properties in the village zoned C-1 or C-2. These proposals came about as a result of the process of developing form-based zoning rules for the village. Developers would have a choice of using normal zoning or the proposed overlay zoning regulations. The future intent is an alternative to form-based zoning would be the PUD review and the PUD zoning would stay in place afterward as an alternative. A committee is currently working on finishing the proposed form-based zoning rules. Rezoning is requested at this time as an interim means of greater control over any major new development. He explained to make sure minor projects in the village are not discouraged or stifled, the proposed exemptions are recommended. Clerk Millhuff asked Mr. Ferro to verify the ordinance was not just "temporary" but would work in concert with form-based zoning. **Moved by Westra, supported by Proos, to adopt Ordinance O-012808-1, which is the ordinance that rezones the list of properties through the PUD zoning. Roll Call: Yes - Proos, Damstra, Westra, Sytsma, Pratt, Ensing Millhuff, Haga. No - 0. Absent - 0. Ordinance adopted.**

Moved by Westra, supported by Sytsma, to adopt ordinance O-012808-2, which is a text amendment to the PUD ordinance language regarding minor projects in the districts as referred to in the previous ordinance, O-012808-1. Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Proos, Pratt, Damstra, Westra, Haga, Ensing Millhuff. No - 0. Absent - 0. Ordinance adopted.

BUTTRICK/THORNAPPLE RIVER DRIVE STREET LIGHT

Supervisor Haga explained there was a need for a street light at the intersection and pointed out there was discussion about leaving the original light and adding a second. **Moved by Proos, supported by Sytsma, to approve Option 2 regarding an additional street light at the intersection of Buttrick and Thornapple River.** Trustee Westra suggested reflective material be added in the cross-walks as a potential safety enhancement. **Motion carried.**

BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Supervisor Haga explained he and the interim assessor had interviewed both candidates and found them acceptable. **Moved by Proos, supported by Pratt, to approve the two appointments to the board of review.** Trustee Westra asked to excuse himself because of a conflict of interest. Board members expressed no problem with Trustee Westra's request. There were questions/comments regarding background checks, documentation and legal requirements. **Motion carried.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Norm Rhoades, 571 Rookway, stated two streetlights on Thornapple River near Teeple have been out for some time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Deborah Ensing Millhuff, CMC
Ada Township Clerk**