

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
April 13, 2009**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton and Treasurer Rhoades, Trustees: Proos, Smith, and Westra, Sytsma. Also present, Recording Secretary Alt, and 28 community members.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Smith, supported by Sytsma, to approve the agenda as presented. Yes - 7; No - 0. Motion carried.**

**GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Approval of Minutes**

March 23, 2009 Regular Board Meeting

**Receive and File Various Reports/Communications**

**1. Planning Commission Report/Minutes 2/19/09; 2. Building Permit Report 3/09; 3. Comcast - Service Changes-3/31/09; 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes-2/3/09; 5. GVMC Transportation Division Policy Committee Minutes-2/18/09; 6. Regis Board Minutes-2/25/09; 7. Utility Advisory Board Minutes-2/19/09; 8. Ada Township DDA Minutes-3/3/09; 9. MTA Legislative Update Fax-3/20/09, 3/27/09; 10. Ada Fire Department Paid On-Call Retirements-3/18/09; 11. Ada Township-Forest Hills School-Central Campus Improvements-3/27/09; 12. Cook-Township Trails-3/31/09; 13. Zuidema-Township Trails-4/3/09; 14. Teliczan-Township Trails-4/3/09; 15. Knoop-Township Trails-4/6/09.**

Trustee Sytsma stated for the record she had submitted a report as the Planning Commission Chair regarding Forest Hills School's road project, and it wasn't included in Reports/Communications.

Trustee Smith voiced her concern that we recruit new firefighters, as we've recently had a retirement. Supervisor Haga responded we are recruiting on a continuing basis.

**Moved by Sytsma, supported by Proos, to approve the minutes and accept reports and communication under the Consent Agenda. Yes - 7; No - 0; Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS AND RECEIPTS**

Treasurer Rhoades presented Warrants and Receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$9,537.70; #205 \$2,138.17; #208 \$1,440.97; #590 \$4,122.54; #591 \$2,367.42; #592 \$497.02. Total Hand Checks \$20,085.82. Warrants: #101 \$49,413.49; #205 \$56,771.87; #208 \$7,025.58; #211 \$305,199.58; #213 \$200.00 #590 \$20,083.99; #591 \$17,717.67; #592 \$4,591.85. Total Warrants \$461,004.03. Total checks and warrants \$481,089.85. **Moved by Proos, supported by Systema, to approve Warrant Report of April 13, 2009, in the amount of \$481,089.85.** Supervisor Haga and Treasurer Rhoades responded to questions/comments regarding expenses on the Vendor Summary report. **Moved by Westra, supported by Proos to amend original motion on warrant report to \$480,649.85 (minus the \$440 to Siegfried & Crandall until further research.) Yes - 7; No - 0; Absent - 0. Amendment carried. Main Motion as Amended: Roll call; Westra, Smith, Proos, Sytsma, Rhoades, Haga, Burton; Yes - 7; No - 0; Absent - 0. Amended Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**BOARD COMMENT**

Trustee Proos made comments referring to email he received regarding the April 15<sup>th</sup> Trail meeting. He suggested the Trail meeting times should be changed if possible, but if not, they've been publicized. Trustee Proos stated the people need to realize the Board and the community are all on the same page as far as wanting what's best for Ada, and the personal attacks need to cease.

Trustee Westra commented on the position of solar Porta-Jons at Roselle Park and their orientation to the sun. He commented on the warrant reports stating he would like to see line items for easier reading. He requested more detail, stating there is software that could make the task easier, and BS&A has project costing capabilities that in the future can easily be transferred to our website. He commented about power washing the graffiti on the train trestles. Supervisor Haga and Treasurer Rhoades both responded the graffiti has been painted.

Trustee Smith commented she read about a new award, The Township Award of Excellence, on the MTA Website. The first recipient is Grand Haven Township, and the Ada Township Board should pass along a congratulations. Trustee Smith added on the same website there are many local government scholarships available, stating we might have students who would be interested.

Clerk Burton commented on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee, stating they are busy planning, and are accepting applications from people who would like to participate in the parade or volunteer for various activities. Those who are interested or who have questions may call the Township Clerks office. She stated the Spring clean up is May 9, 2009 from 8 a.m. - 2:30 pm. Only non-hazardous household waste will be accepted at the Kent County Road Commission garage at the end of Fase Street. There is a leaf pick up on April 21, and May 26, 2009. Leaf bags are available at the Treasurers office for .50 a bag, and are complimentary for citizens 60 years and older. She stated that Deputy Deb Thompson and Clerk Burton are now notaries and offer the service to Ada residents at no charge.

Supervisor Haga commented he received a call from the Governor's office regarding the Enhancement Grant we had applied for, for the M-21 Bridge. At a special meeting at the Road Commission, Lt. Governor Cherry made a presentation to four units of government, including Ada Township. Supervisor Haga received a facsimile check in the amount of \$972,901. Haga reported there was an article in the Grand Rapids Press regarding this.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **RESOLUTION R-041309-1, RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCE PLAN FOR TOWNSHIP OF ADA DDA.**

Jim Ferro, Planning Director, gave a short presentation as to where the DAA is on this project. He stated adoption of Development and Tax Increment Finance Plans are required for the DDA to start generating any tax increment revenue from other taxing jurisdictions. In order to do so, a public hearing must first be held. Since the Plans have to be approved by the end of May, scheduling a May 11, 2009 public hearing would be advisable.

**Moved by Westra, Supported by Proos to adopt Resolution R-041309-1. Roll call: Sytsma, Westra, Burton, Rhoades, Proos, Smith, Haga; Yes - 7. No - 0; Absent - 0. Resolution is adopted.**

#### **RESOLUTION R-041309-2, AMDENDMENT #1, FISCAL YEAR 2008/2009 TOWNSHIP BUDGET**

Supervisor Haga gave a brief summary of the amendment regarding budget.

**Moved by Proos, Supported by Sytsma to adopt Resolution R-041309-2 as amended. Roll call: Sytsma, Westra, Burton, Rhoades, Proos, Smith, Haga; Yes - 7. No - 0; Absent - 0. Amended Resolution is adopted.**

#### **RESOLUTION R-041309-3, LOCAL GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION FOR CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSE**

Marcia Schaub, Vice President, FHE Academic Boosters, gave a brief summary of the request for a gaming license so they may conduct fund raising raffles to help provide funds, materials and services to supplement academic programs in Forest Hills Eastern Public Schools, with a license time frame of 3 years.

Trustee Westra commented on his displeasure with Forest Hills Schools in regard to money management and support for the community. Clerk Burton stated the students at Eastern shouldn't be penalized by not approving the resolution.

**Moved by Sytsma, Supported by Proos to adopt Resolution R-041309-3. Roll call: Sytsma, Burton, Rhoades, Proos, Smith Haga; Yes - 6; Westra; No - 1; Absent - 0. Resolution R-041309-3 is adopted.**

#### **RESOLUTION R-41309-4, AMENDMENT #1 TO FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010 TRAIL FUND #211**

Supervisor Haga summarized/clarified amendment.

**Moved by Rhoades, Supported by Proos to adopt the resolution to approve an increase in the 211 Trail Expense Fund of \$30,000 and a decrease of \$29,131, and to include the transfer of \$117,191 from the general fund into fund #211, the Trail fund, to take care of the deficit fund. Discussion by the Board on whether to move funds from the General Fund to the Trail Fund, or to reduce the Trail Fund, would be the best option. Moved by Westra, Supported by Proos to amend original motion on Resolution R-042109-4, to reduce the Trail Budget from \$1,977,000 to \$1,895,00 and not transfer \$117,191 from the General Fund to the Trail Fund. Yes - 6; No - 1; Absent - 0. Amendent to the Resolution carried. Main motion as**

**Amended: Roll Call; Rhoades, Smith, Proos, Burton, Westra, Sytsma, Haga; Yes - 7; No- 0; Absent - 0. Resolution R-041309-4 is adopted as amended.**

### **IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM POLICY**

Supervisor Haga summarized the Identity Theft Prevention program.

**Moved by Proos, Supported by Westra to adopt the Ada Township Administrative Policy 09-01, regarding the Identity Theft Prevention Program, as recommended by FTC. Yes - 7; No - 0; Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

### **3 MILE ROAD HILL AT PETTIS AVENUE - REQUEST FOR BOARD DIRECTION**

Supervisor Haga reviewed on March 12, 2007, the Township Board held a public hearing on a plan to pave approximately 1,000 feet of 3 Mile Rd., from Pettis Ave. east to the top of the steep hill. The Board made the decision not to pave that section of 3 Mile Rd.

Trustee Westra commented the Board is again faced with paying for a capital improvement project. He still believes the road should be paved, but would not agree to do that before a capital improvement plan is in place. Trustee Smith had questions regarding public works committee report. Trustee Proos commented on the need to create a win-win solution, agreed on the need for a capitol improvement plan, and suggested a route through the development to the south of 3 Mile. Trustee Sytsma commented there may be another option to dealing with this situation in a more environmentally safe way. Trustee Westra stated we need to revisit the packet of information collected the last time this issue came around.

### **RESOLUTION R-041309-5, A RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A REFERENDUM ELECTION ON ORDINANCE O-011209-5 REGULATING HELIPOINTS**

The question of whether Ada township Ordinance No. O-011209-5, a referendum election should be approved and be submitted to the electors at a Township election to be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010.

**Moved by Westra, Supported by Proos to approve Resolution R-041309-5, a resolution to schedule a referendum election on Ordinance O-011209-5 regulating heliports.** Trustee Smith had a question regarding the clarity of the ballot question.

**Moved by Westra, Supported by Smith to amend Resolution R-041309-5 by rewording section 2 and replacing with: *the form of the ballot question shall be determined at a future date prior to the election, in compliance with all State statutes and regulations.* Roll Call: Westra, Smith, Burton, Rhoades; Yes – 4; Sytsma, Proos, Haga; No – 3; Absent – 0. Amendment to Resolution R-041309-5 carried. Main motion as amended, Roll Call: Sytsma, Proos, Rhoades, Burton, Westra, Smith, Haga; Yes - 7; No - 0; Absent - 0. Resolution adopted.**

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chris Barlow, 3 Mile, stated he hopes a solution can be reached, and he agreed to diverting water from 3 Mile on his property temporarily. He wants to be part of a citizen group to restore the road after paving.

Robert Ripley, Three Mile Rd., commented on the Three Mile hill project and hasn't seen any results. He stated he doesn't understand the reasoning on paving Two Mile Road and Egypt Valley and not 3 Mile due to safety issues. Pettis traffic is too fast; the speed limit should be reduced.

Robert Kintz, 6023 Two Mile Rd., stated the Road Commission is limited by State regulations regarding the grade of roads. The grade is too steep.

Kathleen Richter, 6312 Hall St., commented the ballot language regarding the heliport resolution should be very simple and should reference residential.

Karen Holt, 5701 Three Mile Rd., commented that she was surprised with the comments being made at the meeting, stating it is more of a hearing. She stated she doesn't feel the problem on 3 Mile has yet been defined.

Steven Ibanez, Greentree St., commented on the financials regarding the Township. He asked the board if they have a monthly review of the budget. Supervisor Haga responded they have a quarterly revenue and expense review. Mr. Ibanez commented on the board/trail committee budgets, and on the engineering services, wanting to know if they are bid out. Supervisor Haga responded the Township has used Moore & Bruggink for 40 years. Mr. Ibanz asked for clarification on the grant that was awarded regarding the M-21 Bridge, regarding how those monies will be used.

Steve Hall, 115 Bailey Dr., stated the trail millage was sold to the public. He commented he doesn't think the Township should pave 3 Mile Rd.

Michelle Zuidema, 9081 Conservation Rd., stated she stopped the petition on March 31<sup>st</sup>; however post cards continue to come back to her from the community. She again stated there was no map distributed by the Township on the trail route prior to the millage election, and no feasibility study done on the trails. Ms. Zuidema stated we should consider hiring a different engineering firm.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at **9:40** p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Burton  
Ada Township Clerk

RS/ba