

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 23, 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. Also present: Recording Secretary Smith and four community members. Trustee Damstra arrived at 7:34 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Sytsma, supported by Proos, to approve the agenda as presented. It was noted the Approval of Minutes should read July 9, 2007. **Motion carried.**

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

July 9, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Fire Call Reports - 06/07; 2. Building Permit Report - 06/07; 3. Investment Report - 05/07; 4. Region 8 Notes - 07/07; 5. ISO - Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule - 07/06/07; 6. Ada Bible Church - Thank You Note - 07/06/07; 7. MTA Legislative Update Fax - 07/06/07 & 07/13/07; 8. Open Space Preservation Advisory Board Minutes - 06/14/07; 9. American Red Cross - Thank You Note - 07/06/07; 10. Jim Decker - Thank You Note - 07/06/07; 11. Roselle Park Project Update - 07/13/07; 12. Township Trail Progress Report - 07/13/07; 13. First Quarter FY 07/08 Revenue Expenditure Report.

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 \$918.65; #205 \$910.76; #208 \$24,716.26; #590 \$42.94; #591 \$468.88. Total Hand Checks \$27,057.49. Warrants: #101 \$63,537.23; #205 \$39,140.60; #208 \$20,271.94; #211 \$16,934.00; #590 \$20,263.10; #591 \$25,061.67; #592 \$4,394.79. Total Warrants \$189,603.33. Total Checks and Warrants \$216,660.82.

Moved by Westra, supported by Proos, to approve the Warrant Report of July 23, 2007, in the amount of \$216,660.82. Clarifications were made regarding two separate AT&T entries, e-mail services, having the Technology and Communications Committee look at expenditures for potential reductions, Brittany Davis for tennis lessons, Ryan's Modern Sewer Cleaning for the water main leak, bond services and Project Fish. **Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Westra, Haga, Pratt, Damstra, Proos, Ensing Millhuff. No - 0. Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Marsh, Spaulding, expressed concern regarding a neighbor who has had washers, driers, boats, trailers, trampolines, and a trashed outbuilding on his property at various times for the past several years. After complaints, the junk has been moved to the back of the property and is now being brought out front again. He believes his property value has suffered because of the situation. He encouraged the board to move quickly on a maintenance ordinance in order to protect the property values. Supervisor Haga explained the board had looked at a proposed International Code but found it to be intrusive, and the Zoning Administrator and Planning Director would be drafting an ordinance to present to the board. Supervisor Haga added the Zoning Administrator had met with the property owner and given him a final notice, with the next action to begin issuing tickets.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Damstra asked for clarification of the contents of the ordinance, and Supervisor Haga replied it would be regarding out-side property maintenance. Trustee Damstra expressed appreciation for the updates regarding construction projects and building permits.

Trustee Proos stated Rieth-Riley is in process of building berms and stated he would like to see a committee formed to keep them in line adding the equipment was running at 6:50 a.m. the past Saturday. Trustee Proos also expressed appreciation for the investment report furnished by the Treasurer.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff gave historical information regarding the recreational vehicle ordinance as well as a noxious weed ordinance and junk ordinance which were discussed but not acted on eight years ago and understood Mr. Marsh's frustrations in the lack of expediting the issue. She agreed enforcement was needed for various types of exterior issues and time-lines placed on building permit completion, but did not agree with property owner infringement through government intervention regarding interior maintenance or exterior décor.

Trustee Sytsma stated a grant program was being looked into for residents who could not afford to make home repairs.

Supervisor Haga noted the Supervisors of Ada, Cascade and Grand Rapids Townships have been meeting on a regular basis to discuss the possibility of developing a combined fire service. Fire Chiefs have been included on a number of discussions, but they are still in the early processes and no final recommendations have been made.

OLD BUSINESS

2008 COUNTY ORTHOPHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Supervisor Haga explained this issue had been postponed from the last board meeting and he had verified if the majority of townships supported the oblique mapping, all townships would be rolled into the project. As of July 17, 50% of townships had responded, with only one not supporting. He clarified the cost to Ada Township would be \$7,500, not the \$15,000 reported earlier.

Sharon VanderBelt, GIS coordinator with Kent County IT, explained \$7,500 represented Ada's share of the project. She added it was not definite there would be a project until they hear from the rest of the townships. Of the \$7,500, approximately 50% of that related to the orthophotography. The value to Ada Township is in reduced property studies and in public safety.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff suggested the cost be charged back and budgeted to the departments which will benefit from the enhanced imaging.

Moved by Proos, supported by Damstra, to approve the draft presentation of the orthophotography, including the oblique, with the estimated cost of \$7,570, with the cost to be shared by the departments who would utilize the program. There were comments from board members regarding the value, alternatives and the possibility the project won't happen. **Motion carried.**

HEADLEY ROLLBACK/TRUTH IN TAXATION

Supervisor Haga explained the updated calculations: operating .9165; public safety .9955; parks .2488; land/parks .3963; trails .4977, resulting in an additional \$107,222 from the budgeted amount. He recommended using the maximum allowable without a hearing, which Ada has traditionally done, although he noted a hearing had actually been held. **Moved by Pratt, supported by Sytsma, to the truth in taxation amounts that were presented: .9165 operating; .9955 fire/police; .2488 parks; .3963 lands/parks; .4977 for on-motorized trails. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-072307-1 - POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Moved by Westra, supported by Ensing Millhuff, to adopt Resolution R-072307-1, the POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 21, 2007. Trustee Westra announced a new radio show on WOOD radio entitled *Front Lines of Freedom*, which was getting national attention. **Roll Call: Yes - Damstra, Proos, Sytsma, Westra, Pratt, Ensing Millhuff, Haga. No - 0. Absent - 0. Resolution adopted.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ensing Millhuff, CMC
Ada Township Clerk

RS: JS