

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2007**

DRAFT

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Treasurer Pratt, Clerk Ensing Millhuff, Trustees: Damstra and Proos. Also present: Planning Director Ferro, Deputy Clerk Thompson, Recording Secretary Smith and seven community members. Members absent: Supervisor Haga and Trustee Westra. Trustee Sytsma arrived at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Proos, supported by Damstra, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY PRESENTATION

Pamela VanderPloeg, Assistant Director of Kent District Library, referred to the 2006 Annual Report and indicating KDL had a very successful year explaining the reason for the delay was to wait for audit information. She stated the strategic plan and six objectives had changed somewhat for 2007; presenting stats regarding the library's population, circulation, web site, reference questions and programs. She talked about the grants obtained in 2006 and the two important initiatives for KDL are the *Play, Grow, Read* program and the *One Book, One County*. Statistics were given regarding the entire KDL, the Cascade branch, and Ada residents usage.

Rev. Charles Fry, KDL board representative for Ada Township, stated he represents East Grand Rapids and Ada, Cascade and Grand Rapids townships, and he had learned the library is a very large business with a \$15 million budget and staff issues, customer service were all very important part of KDL.

There were questions from board members regarding the significant pay increases for senior management versus the lack of any increase in over three years for the front-line customer service staff, why the KDL is still competing with private movie rental businesses, the recent break-ins at three KDL branches, and lack of alarm systems at the various municipality buildings.

Resident Jon Sarb, 590 River Street, suggested using some of the millage money toward an alarm system for every library.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

August 27, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Ward-Leonard Field Restroom - 8/17/07; 2. Lancaster - Conservation Rd. - 8/19/07; 3. REGIS Minutes - 7/25/07; 4. Trail Project Update - 8/31/07; 5. MTA Legislative Update Fax - 8/24/07.

Moved by Proos, 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 \$6,767.65; #205 \$1,383.08; #208 \$1,356.78; #590 \$2,408.96; #591 \$2,221.43; #592 \$823.56. Total Hand Checks \$14,961.46. Warrants: #101 \$16,808.07; #205 \$898.79; #208 \$8,790.96; #211 \$30,556.44; #590 \$950.63; #591 \$1,458.32; #592 \$43.40. Total Warrants \$59,506.61. Total Checks and Warrants \$74,468.07.

Moved by Damstra, supported by Proos, to approve the Warrant Report of September 10, 2007, in the amount of \$74,468.97. Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Millhuff, Pratt, Proos, Damstra. No - 0. Absent - Haga, Westra. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christian Decker, 1138 Spicebush (Ada Moorings), commented on the upcoming construction at Buttrick and Grand River, hoping the board would consider the potential impacts regarding traffic commutes and emergency response. Clerk Ensing Millhuff replied the project is a MDOT/ Kent County Road Commission project, adding the information she had received earlier is the goal was to leave one lane open at all time; however if the contractor had to close the road there was a maximum limit of five days allowed.

Debbie Glover, 7879 Thornapple Club Drive, explained the Association had received a bill from the Railroad indicating a utility easement fee increase of 700%. The letter had been sent as a result of an audit. Clerk Ensing Millhuff responded the Township does pay some utility easement fees but was not aware of any increase of this type. She explained the Railroad was privately owned in conjunction with the federal government and suggested Ms. Glover contact Mr. Haga to verify easement fees for the utility department.

BOARD COMMENT

Treasurer Pratt reminded everyone the summer taxes were due by Friday, September 14 at 5PM.

Clerk Ensing Millhuff gave an update on the Leonard Field restrooms stating the major delay has been the doors. Clerk Millhuff stated there will be a first-time contest for pre-carved pumpkins to be dropped off at the museum October 30 between 3PM-6PM and the pumpkins will be lit between 5:30 and 8:30 and judged on Halloween, with prizes for the funniest, scariest and most creative. Clean-Up Day will be Saturday, October 27, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be an Open House at Roselle Park from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, October 28. Sating the Scott Woodrick Memorial Observation Deck was almost completed, the trail is paved but in need of some final finishing work.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-091007-1 - FOREST HILLS CENTRAL HOMECOMING PARADE

Bret Lesiewicz, Forest Hills Central Student Council President, explained he had sent an invitation and copy of the insurance certificate. The parade will start at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 5. The route, which was new last year, starts at Central Middle School, north on Alta Dale, left on Clements Mill, right on Highbury, right on Maple Hill, and left on Ada Drive back to the Middle School. **Moved by Proos, supported by Sytsma, to adopt Resolutio R-091007-1, the Forest Hills Central Homecoming parade. Roll Call: Yes - Millhuff, Proos, Damstra, Sytsma, Pratt. No - 0. Absent - Haga, Westra.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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