

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
November 24, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Treasurer Rhoades, and Clerk Burton, Trustees: Proos, Smith, Sytsma and Westra. Also present: Deputy Clerk Thompson, Recording Secretary Alt, and 11 community members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

November 10, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Building permit report - 10/08; 2. Supervisor report - 11/08; 3. Ada Historical Society Minutes - 10/11/08; 4. International Institute of Municipal Clerks - 11/12/2008; 5. Miller Johnson - Residential land use within the township.

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

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS AND RECEIPTS

Treasurer Rhoades presented Warrants and Receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 **\$26,032.64**; #205 **\$277.32**; #208 **\$343.78**; #590 **\$38.82**; #591 **\$702.42**; #592 **\$1.59**. Total Hand Checks **\$27,396.57**. Warrants: #101 **\$46,510.02**; #205 **\$1,081.07**; #208 **\$9,755.74**; #211 **\$18,741.67**; #213 **\$685.85**; #590 **\$14,545.92**; #591 **\$16,633.71**; #592 **\$2,878.49**. Total Warrants **\$110,831.62**. Total Checks and Warrants **\$138,228.19**. **Moved by Proos, supported by Westra, to approve the Warrant Report of November 24, 2008, in the amount of \$138,228.19. Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Proos, Smith, Westra, Rhodes, Burton, Haga. No - 0. Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

PAY REQUEST NO. 4, KNAPP STREET TRAIL, ADA TRAILS CONTRACT 3

Moved by Westra, Supported by Sytsma to Approve Pay Request No. 4, Knapp Street Trail, Ada Trails Contract 3 for work completed on 10/31/08, in the amount of \$339,873.50. Roll call: Yes - Sytsma, Proos, Smith, Westra, Rhodes, Burton, Haga. No - 0 Absent - 0. Motion carried.

PAY REQUEST NO. 5 & FINAL GRAND RIVER TRAIL CONTRACT 2

Moved by Proos, Supported by Sytsma to approve Pay Request No. 5 & Final Grand River Trail Contract 2. in the amount of \$59,933.90. Steve Groenboom stated one mile of asphalt was donated by Reith Riley, with a savings of \$60,000 to Ada Township. Roll call: Yes - Sytsma, Proos, Smith, Westra, Rhodes, Burton, Haga. No - 0 Absent - 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Proos asked if the special Township Board meeting on December 1, 2008 will be a closed meeting. Supervisor Haga stated it will be a closed session to board members only due to the nature of the litigation in settlement and discussions. Haga stated the newly elected officials will be brought up to date and the second part of meeting could be an action night by the board regarding settlement. Trustee Proos asked, in regard to the DDA, when the ad would run in the press and Supervisor Haga stated it will hopefully come out in the next issue of the Cadence. Trustee Proos asked when the DDA board members are going to be reviewed and voted upon. Supervisor Haga stated he has three applications to review and five more are necessary to fill which can be looked at in January. Trustee Proos asked about the consolidations of the fire service.

Clerk Burton stated she was very pleased and honored to be the new clerk, and looked forward to the next four years.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINTMENTS TO TOWNSHIP BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

Supervisor Haga explained his recommendations. Confirmation of appointment of Sara Easter of 8842 Beech Hill Ct. to serve on the Planning Commission to fill the vacant position of Commissioner Susan Burton; reappointment of Tom Korth for one additional year with term expiring October 2009; reappointment of Trustee Mischelle Sytsma for six months with term expiring May 2009; reappointment of Richard Bowman to a third three (3) year appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Robert Lowry to serve as the Planning Commission's representative on the Zoning Board of Appeals; reappointment of Elise Roe and Randy Van Dragt for a second four (4) year term and the appointment of Randy Damstra as the Park Committee representative on the Open Space Preservation Advisory Board; reappointment of Jon Sarb for a four (4) year term to the Ethics Board.

Supervisor Haga stated presently three (3) positions are available on the Compensation Commission which require filling before the Commission meets in January 2009, three (3) vacancies on the Ethics Board and the Downtown Development Authority Board is in need of members. Supervisor Haga stated interested persons are encouraged to apply for these positions. **Moved by Proos, Supported by Sytsma to approve Supervisor Haga's recommendations for appointments to township boards and commissions. Motion Carried**

REQUEST TO ADD PLANNING COMMISSION STAFFING AND OPTIMIZATION

Trustee Westra stated the item of his request at the last Board Meeting to delay confirmation of the Planning Commission appointments had not been placed on the agenda before the vote. Tom Korth, current Planning Commission chairman, stated the Planning Commission needs a budget which would give the Planner and the Commission latitude to solicit outside help and expertise. **Motion Carried.**

Recording Secretary Agreement. Clerk Burton introduced and recommended new recording secretary, Brooke Alt. Moved by Sytsma; Supported by Proos to approve the Recording Secretary's agreement. **Motion Carried.**

Moved by Westra, Supported by Smith to amend the original motion to change "Supervisor" to "Clerk" section 4 and subsequent sections throughout the Recording Secretary agreement. **Motion to amend is carried.**

Moved by Westra, Supported by Rhoades to make a 2nd amendment to original motion which refers to the words in section 2 of the agreement to reflect digital media process of digital media language. **Motion to amend is carried.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

David Fields of 6526 Ada Drive commented on the DeVos helicopter project. Mr. Fields expressed frustration with the Planning Commission in reference to the DeVos Family and helicopter issue, stating if it was anyone other than the DeVos family, it would have been put to bed in 90 days. Mr. Fields stated the Township needed to think about what is best for the entire community not just one corporation or one family.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at **8:55** p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton
Ada Township Clerk