

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2009**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustee Smith, Trustee Westra, Trustee Sytsma, Trustee Proos. Also present: Planning Director Ferro, Recording Secretary Johnson and six community members. Members absent: none.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Haga noted two changes to the agenda. Under "III.B. - Receive and File Various Communications" one item had been added: Item #7 - Moore & Bruggink Phase III Trail Update - 11/6/2009. Under "VII - New Business" one item had been added: Item A - Township Server - Old Server Donation. **Moved by Burton, supported by Proos, to approve the agenda as amended. Yes - 7, No - 0; Motion carried.**

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes

October 26, 2009, Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Sheriff Report - Quarterly Statistics - 7/9/2009; 2. Community Development Department - 10/27/2009; 3. REGIS Minutes - 8/26/2009; 4. Building Permit Trends - 10/9/2009; 5. Treasurer Report - Cogeneration - 10/30/2009; 6. GO! Bus Activity Report - July/September 2009; 7. Moore & Bruggink Phase III Trail Update - 11/6/2009. **Moved by Westra, supported by Smith, to approve the Minutes and accept the reports and communications under the Consent Agenda. Yes - 7, No - 0; Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS AND RECEIPTS

Treasurer Rhoades presented Warrants and Receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$1,635.77; #205 \$1,924.58; #208 \$814.00; #211 \$86,872.50; #590 \$2,926.70; #591 \$953.65; #592 \$113.22; Total All Hand Checks \$95,240.42. Warrants: #101 \$26,647.17; #205 \$4,725.43; #208 \$2,333.25; #590 \$2,431.39; #591 \$6,517.54; #592 \$1,080.53; Total Warrants \$43,735.31. Total All Checks and Warrants \$138,975.73. **Moved by Westra, supported by Burton, to approve the Warrant Report for November 9, 2009, in the amount of \$138,975.73.** Trustee Smith commended Clerk Burton for the credit detail included in the report; it was very easy to read. **Roll Call: Yes - Sytsma, Westra, Proos, Smith, Burton, Rhoades, Haga. No - 0. Absent - 0. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT OTHER THAN AGENDA

There was no Public Comment.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Proos raised the question of Mr. Marsh's request, that a reexamination of a Property Maintenance Code occur, especially as it relates to his neighbor's property. Trustee Proos indicated he had gone to view the situation; he feels it is not necessary to revise the Township rules to address this issue. Trustee Smith had also visited Mr. Marsh and assessed the complaint; she concurred with Trustee Proos' conclusion in the matter. She felt this issue could be resolved through a neighbor dispute resolution process; she suggested the Dispute Resolution Center of West Michigan (www.DRCWM.org).

Clerk Burton reminded everyone the 2010 Census is approaching. Particularly in light of the shrinking Michigan population, it is essential to get a full and accurate count to ensure a full and fair allocation of federal and state government funds is obtained. The emphasis for this Census is on "snowbirds" (northern residents which relocate to southern climates during the winter months).

Supervisor Haga reminded residents an informational open house to review the preliminary improvement plans for Hall Street between Cascade Road and Forest Hills Central High School will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at Forest Hills Central High School at 5901 Hall Street from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. This open house is sponsored by Ada Township, Cascade Township, and the Kent County Road Commission, which have been working together to develop a plan for this segment of Hall Street that addresses roadway issues as well as the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists.

Supervisor Haga noted a letter from the State of Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) had been received November 9, 2009. The letter apparently crossed in the mail with the Ada Township letter of protest to the UIA. The letter from the UIA indicated the agency had, under their own impetus, decided to reconsider the decision of October 13, 2009, and has now reversed that decision. According to the letter of November 9, 2009 from the UIA, "The services performed by Deborah Ensing,

as an "elected official" are excluded from the term employment under Section 43 (o) (iii) (A) of the MES Act." Therefore, unless the applicant appeals the redetermination, the issue is now closed as far as the Township is concerned.

Supervisor Haga indicated that the Town Hall sound system had been adjusted to gain maximum performance and address acoustic issues in the Hall. Unfortunately, the current acoustical situation is now pretty much at it's peak limit with the existing equipment. In addition, Ada Township has two microphones on loan for testing with the Township sound system and the Town Hall acoustics; the loaned microphones were in use for the November 9th meeting (Supervisor Haga's microphone and Trustee Sytsma's microphone). Supervisor Haga had requested resident Frank Hoover, who was in attendance at the meeting, to sit in the back of the Hall and assess how well the microphones worked. Mr. Hoover indicated that the microphones worked well. If the microphones are purchased, the cost is \$225 per microphone.

Supervisor Haga reported there was a water main break on Scarborough and Grayfield Court on Saturday, November 7th, at 8:30 am. The water main was repaired quickly, but it was necessary to issue a notice to boil water to approximately 35 residents, due to the shutoff and low pressure. In addition, the water leaked underneath the pavement and undermined it, causing damage and buckling from Grayfield Court to Kulross Avenue (a 270 ft by 50 ft section of road needs to be repaired). The repair needs to be done before the asphalt plants close. The estimated cost for the repair is approximately \$5,000.00 - \$6,000.00. Supervisor Haga tried to get formal bids, but most of the local companies would not be able to complete the repair by November 15th, which is when most of the plants close. Therefore, the repair for this section of the road will be done by Superior Asphalt.

Supervisor Haga notified the Board he would shortly be activating the Communications Committee to discuss the needs of additional communications as it relates to technology, incorporating the Media Center project into the Committee, and discussion of strategic planning as appropriate. Supervisor Haga will send out an email requesting ideas and thoughts on this project.

Supervisor Haga stated the Administrative Committee will plan a meeting on alternative requirements for the GO! Bus service. They will hold meetings with the GO! Bus Program representatives as well as meetings with the service users. The Administrative Committee will then submit a recommendation to the Township Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

TOWNSHIP SERVER: OLD SERVER DONATION

Supervisor Haga presented the donation authorization. In a meeting with representatives of a computer service company, he had inquired if they knew of anyone that needed a server of the type the Township was replacing; they recommended Exodus Building, which was in need of a server of the type being decommissioned by Ada Township. Exodus Building is a non-profit, Christ-centered facility that provides job search assistance, counseling for addictive behaviors, and spiritual information to a variety of men in need (men released from prisons and jails, homeless men, etc.). **Moved by Proos, supported by Smith, to authorize the donation of the old Township server to the non-profit organization Exodus Building.** Trustee Westra inquired if the data had been wiped from the drives, and not simply deleted. Supervisor Haga said it had been wiped. **Yes - 7, No - 0; Motion as carried.**

OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Susan Burton
Ada Township Clerk**

RS/kj