

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2013**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustee LeBlanc, Trustee Jacobs and Trustee Smith. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, Director of Parks & Recreation Mark Fitzpatrick, and 5 community members. Absent: Trustee Proos and Recording Secretary Dorothy Renegar.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Haga noted the tentative Agenda with one addition: under New Business, E. Pettis Road Closure Request. **Motion by Smith, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Agenda, as amended. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.**

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

December 10, 2012 Regular Board Meeting; December 27, 2012 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING.

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Fire and EMS Incident Report – 12/12; 2. Planning Commission Minutes – 11/15/12; 3. Treasurer’s Investment Report – 11/30/12; 4. Groesser-Hall Street Project – 12/11/12; 5. Comcast-General Update – 12/10/12; 5. MTA Weekly Update – 12/21/12; 7. Kent County Road Commission Winter Operations – 12/7/12; 8. Kent County Road Commission Damage during Winter Operations – 12/7/12; 9. Hope Network Activity Report – 12/5/12; 10. Comcast Update – 12/19/12; 11. Utility Advisory Board Minutes – 11/15/12.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Minutes, Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS

Treasurer Rhoades reported receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$12,452.69; #205 \$2,513.93; #208 \$1,373.66; #248 \$300.00; #590 \$16,140.92; #591 \$2,039.93; #592 \$468.92; Total all Hand Checks: \$35,290.05; Warrants: #101 \$50,188.14; #205 \$34,699.04; #208 \$5,304.24; #211 \$504.96; #213 \$470.52; #248 \$2,500.00; #249 \$3,700.00; #590 \$119,760.25; #591 \$103,872.51; #592 \$4,538.97; Total Warrants: \$325,538.63. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$360,828.68. Discussed was the desire to re-examine the Regis fee structure during budget talks by the Board, and attempt to negotiate a “not-one-size-fits-all” fee for the township.

Moved by Smith, supported by LeBlanc, to approve the Warrant Report for January 14, 2013, in the total amount of \$360,828.68. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, LeBlanc, Rhoades, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee LeBlanc asked for a status report on two zoning violations from a couple months ago. Planner Ferro responded boundary adjustments are being made on one of the properties in question, and he is waiting on word from the township legal council concerning the accessory building on Windy Hill LLC property, on the north side of Ada Dr.

Trustee LeBlanc said in an MTA Newsletter, mention was made of a new bill signed by the Governor to exempt industrial and personal property tax, and he asked what affect it will have on Ada Township. Supervisor Haga answered that, depending on the outcome of the 2014 ballot question, it will have an impact on reimbursements. If the ballot question doesn’t pass, the township might not receive any reimbursements. If it does pass, the township may get at least 80% of the personal property tax, but there will be limits on values, with public safety being exempt, as he understands it today. The township has about \$81,000,000 in personal property value.

Clerk Burton stated she was informed by Kent County of a vacancy on the County Agricultural Board, due to a resignation. The County is seeking a Township official to fill the position, which will cover the remainder of the term till 2014. Applicants must be a township supervisor or manager, clerk, treasurer or trustee. Applications were given to the Board members. Clerk Burton requested trustees who are attending the MTA Conference in Detroit next week to check their mail box at the township office at least once more before the end of this week, as conference materials are coming in daily.

Supervisor Haga stated on December 19th, while work was being conducted on the bypass project, two sections of pipe were found badly corroded and in need of replacement. He authorized replacement now versus later in the interest of saving money, and a new change order will be brought to the Board in the amount of \$6,323.90. The pipes have now been repaired.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

COMPENSATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT.

There is one more position to be filled on the Compensation Commission, and Supervisor Haga interviewed Lesley DeCator and is certain she would be competent for the position. As such, he recommended the Board approve her appointment to the Compensation Commission.

Motion by Smith, supported by Rhoades, to appoint Lesley DeCator to the Compensation Commission as recommended by Supervisor Haga. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

ROSELLE PARK PLAN UPDATE

Parks Director Mark Fitzpatrick stated in an effort to re-confirm goals, identify areas where costs could be reduced, and define the next stages of development, the Parks & Recreation Committee, with Wes Steer of OCBA, made a few changes in the Master Plan for Roselle Park. One change was to switch the proposed Resource Center and its parking lot, bringing the building closer to the road. This would be a cost savings of approximately \$40,000 for fill materials and wetland mediation needs. Also, a slight change was made in the park entrance, and the three planned playgrounds were consolidated into one. Fitzpatrick asked for the Board's approval of the update in order to move forward.

The Board discussed how donations residents may choose to make can be accommodated. These donations would cover items for the park, for example the playgrounds, and a "wish list" with dollar values could be published for this purpose.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Smith, to approve recommendations by the Parks & Recreation Committee for the update of the Roselle Park Plan. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY EASEMENT – 4950 KNAPP STREET

Planner Ferro stated the Township purchased the property at 4950 Knapp St., on the corner of Knapp and Grand River Dr. Prior to the purchase, agreement was reached with the County Road Commission for cost sharing of that acquisition. Part of the agreement was the township would grant the Road Commission an easement of an additional right-of-way on the two road frontages. Signing off on that easement would complete everything that was agreed to between the County and Road Commission as part of the project. They have already reimbursed the township for their share of the total expenses for the project.

Motion by Rhoades, supported by LeBlanc, to approve the easement for the Kent County Road Commission at the 4950 Knapp Street property as proposed. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION R-011413-1, FY 12/13 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Supervisor Haga reviewed the budget amendment based on the Tax Revenue and Expense report. This was the Third Quarter Revenue and Expense Report for fiscal year 2012/13, and it will be published on the township website for interested public.

Motion by Rhoades, supported by Smith, to approve R-011413-1, for Fiscal Year 2012/13 Budget Amendment #1. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, LeBlanc, Jacobs, Burton, Rhoades, Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos. Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION R-011413-2, PETTIS ROAD CLOSURE REQUEST

Brian Bangma, 8619 E. Fulton, with Grand Rapids Adventure Sports LLC dba 42-85, presented the request for the use and closure of Pettis Ave. to conduct a time-trial as stage one of the West Michigan Stage Race. The request was for a full road closure on Pettis from 4p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 17th, 2013, from the entrance to Forest Hills Eastern High School to Honey Creek, with a Police patrol coordinated through the Kent County Sherriff Department. This will be the third year for the event, and first year for the road closure, due to increased numbers of participants.

The Board discussed their concerns over the road closure day and times, on a Friday from 4 to 9p.m. A request was made by a Board member for Brian Bangma to report back to the Board when more details of the safety plan are available.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Burton, to approve R-011413-2, road closure request for Pettis Ave. from Honeycreek to Forest Hills Eastern High School, on May 17, 2013, from 4 to 9 p.m. Roll Call: Yes – LeBlanc, Jacobs, Smith, Burton; No – Rhoades, Haga; Absent – Proos. Resolution adopted.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton
Ada Township Clerk

RS/dr