

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2014**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustee LeBlanc, Trustee Proos, Trustee Jacobs and Trustee Smith. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, Fire Chief Jim DuVall, and Recording Secretary Dorothy Renegar.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Agenda. Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Haga noted there were two public hearings, the first being Allocation of Community Block Grant Funds (CDGB) and second the FY 14/15 Township Budgets, and asked for a motion to proceed into the public hearing.

ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT FUNDS (CDGB)

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Proos, to move into the public hearing on the Allocation of Community Block Grant Funds (CDGB). Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Haga noted there was no public present and the notice was properly posted.

Motion by Proos, supported by LeBlanc, to close the public hearing regarding Allocation of Community Block Grant Funds (CDGB). Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

FY 14/15 TOWNSHIP BUDGETS PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to move into the public hearing on the FY 14/15 Township Budgets. Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Haga noted there was no public present and the notice was properly posted.

Motion by Proos, supported by LeBlanc, to close the public hearing regarding the FY 14/15 Township Budgets. Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

February 24, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Planning Commission Minutes-1/16/14; 2. Ada DDA Board Minutes-1/13/14; 3. Utility Advisory Board Minutes-1/16/14; 4. Regis Board Minutes-1/22/14; 5. Ada Township Fire Department 2013 Annual Report.

Motion by Jacobs, supported by Smith, to approve the Minutes, Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS

Treasurer Rhoades reported receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$19,665.63; #205 \$3,726.57; #208 \$2,115.97; #213 \$125.00; #248 \$200.00; #590 \$3,763.93; #591 \$1,259.78; #592 \$320.43; Total all Hand Checks: \$31,177.31; Warrants: #101 \$21,184.50; #205 \$5,295.69; #208 \$3,191.46; #213 \$6,850.50; #248 \$440.00; #590 \$667.67; #591 \$2,974.46; #592 \$204.35; Total Warrants: \$40,808.63. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$71,985.94.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Warrant Report for March 10, 2014, in the total amount of \$71,985.94. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, LeBlanc, Proos, Rhoades, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD COMMENT

Treasurer Rhoades stated property taxes have now been turned over to Kent County for collection, and if anyone has any questions, they can call 616-632-7500.

Trustee Smith stated she was disappointed there was no public present for the public hearings.

Clerk Burton asked if AT&T has started construction on the cell tower at Egypt Valley.

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated they have a building permit but has no idea whether they've started.

Supervisor Haga stated it was noted in the MTA newsletter that there are ten pending bills on personal property tax reform. He stated the good news for the Township is rather than not getting our full share back, these bills call for 100% return on our personal property tax losses; this item will be on the August 2014 ballot in an easy to read format.

Trustee LeBlanc asked what that would equate to in revenue for us.

Supervisor Haga stated he doesn't have that answer but he will get it. Also, there have been a number of meetings regarding financing of the Envision Ada Plan, and there have been discussions with our legal counsel and Amway regarding development of the project and the funding. He stated information has been received from Steve Dertz, Manager, Facilities Planning & Real Estate for Amway, that the families and Board of Amway will be meeting tomorrow (the 11th) to discuss the financing plan. Amway is looking for a commitment from the Township in getting the development plan and tax increment plan for the DDA completed, adoption of the Envision Ada Plan as part of the Master Plan, and updating of the Form Based Code. He stated we have put together this letter which details a tough schedule, and have asked Amway to respond to us by Thursday, March 13th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDITOR SERVICES ENGAGEMENT LETTER

The Township received a letter dated February 18, 2014 from Siegfried Crandall P.C., confirming the services they will be providing to the Township.

Motion by Proos, supported by Smith, to approve the Auditor Services Engagement Letter as proposed by Siegfried Crandall P.C., dated February 18, 2014, in the amount not to exceed \$19,000. Yes – 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION R-031014-1, ALLOCATING OF CDBG FUNDS FY 2014-2015

Supervisor Haga stated this resolution reflects our allocation of \$6,966; we spend approximately \$21,000 to \$22,000 per year for the GO! Bus program to residents of the community.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve Resolution R-031014-1, Allocation of CDBG Funds for FY 2014-2015, in the amount of \$6,966 for the GO! Bus program. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, LeBlanc, Proos, Rhoades, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – 0. Resolution adopted.

FIRE SERVICE INITIAL EMERGENCY AUTOMATIC AID

**Grand Rapids Charter Township
Cascade Charter Township
Lowell Area Fire Department**

Fire Chief Jim DuVall noted this will complete agreements with all our neighbors around the Township.

Motion by Proos, supported by LeBlanc, to approve the Fire Service Initial Emergency Automatic Aid agreements with Grand Rapids Charter Township, Cascade Charter Township, and Lowell Area Fire Departments. Yes - 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

In answer to questions by the Board, Chief DuVall stated there could be a very minimal increase in demands on our Fire Department; staff and equipment as a result of this agreement. He stated Grand Rapids and Cascade Townships are working on approvals for this agreement, and Lowell has already given its approval.

CLEMENTS MILL DEVELOPMENT-PROPOSED FIFTH AMENDMENT TO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated last fall the Township Board approved a fourth amendment to the settlement agreement which governs the overall Clements Mill Development. The Planning Commission is currently reviewing a development plan for the last remaining vacant portion of the overall property. He stated the proposed plan reduces the number of condo units from 57 to 33, with a mix of single-family and two-family buildings, and this amendment changes the standard for minimum distance between buildings from 20 feet to 16 feet.

Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Clements Mill Development-Proposed Fifth Amendment to Settlement Agreement as recommended by the Planning Commission. Yes - 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION R-031014-2, ABANDONMENT OF MARS AVENUE RIGHT-OF-WAY

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated Thornapple Pines Development LLC, has submitted a petition to the Kent County Road Commission for abandonment of Mars Avenue. The owner is preparing a residential development plan that will not use Mars Avenue as access to the property, which has been approved by the Road Commission, subject to approval by the Ada Township Board.

Motion by Smith, supported by Rhoades, to approve Resolution R-031014-2, Abandonment of Mars Avenue Right-of-Way. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, LeBlanc, Proos, Rhoades, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – 0. Resolution adopted.

AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED TO BID – 2014 4TH OF JULY ENTERTAINMENT

Motion by Proos, supported by Smith, to approve Authorization to Proceed to Bid – 2014 4th of July Entertainment. Yes - 7; No – 0; Absent – 0. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Susan Burton, CMC
Ada Township Clerk

Date

RS/dr