

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
JUNE 9, 2014**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustee Jacobs, Trustee Smith, and Trustee Proos. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, Fire Chief David Murray, Recording Secretary Dorothy Renegar, and 3 community members. Absent: Trustee LeBlanc.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Supervisor Haga added under III. General Township Business, B. No. 13., Grand Valley Metro Council Update of 6/6/14.

**Motion by Smith, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Agenda as revised. Motion carried.**

**GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes**

May 12, 2014 Regular Board Meeting

**Receive and File Various Reports/Communications**

1. Building Permit Report-4/14; 2. Treasurer's Investment Report-3/14; 3. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes-2/4/14; 4. Kent County Senior Millage-2014; 5. Ada Historical Society Minutes-4/10/14; 6. Open Space Presentation Board Minutes-2/13/14; 7. Assessing Department Activity Report-2/13/14; 8. Downtown Development Authority Minutes-4/14/14; 9. Utility Advisory Board Minutes-4/17/14; 10. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day-July 12, 2014; 11. KCSO Community Policing Report-5/14; 12. Comcast Update-5/19/14; 13. Grand Valley Metro Council Update-5/23/14, 6/6/14.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Minutes, Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

**ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS**

Treasurer Rhoades reported receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$66,130.74; #205 \$18,960.36; #208 \$10,650.56; #211 \$750.00; #248 \$68.13; #590 \$5,043.35; #591 \$1,451.43; #592 \$490.81; Total all Hand Checks: \$103,545.38; Warrants: #101 \$42,072.60; #205 \$7,502.19; #208 \$8,804.71; #211 \$2,481.15; #248 \$2,612.87; #590 \$26,833.41; #591 \$34,831.51; #592 \$4,169.87; Total Warrants: \$129,308.31. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$232,853.69.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Warrant Report for June 9, 2014, in the total amount of \$232,853.69. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, Proos, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – LeBlanc. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Czerwinski, Director Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, and member of the Kent County Senior Millage Committee, stated the senior millage serves 17,000 people a year with 43 different services that help them live independently in their own homes. He stated the demand for services continues to increase as the population ages, and on August 5 voters will be asked to consider a senior millage ballot proposal, which would increase the senior millage rate from 1/3 to 1/2 mill.

**BOARD COMMENT**

Trustee Proos asked whether the tanker that fills from fire hydrants located in Grand Valley Estates pays for the water, and if we receive a report every time the tanker fills up.

Supervisor Haga responded that yes, he does pay for the water, and he calls in to report his water usage. Trustee Jacobs stated several neighbors and residents that live near Ada Mooring are concerned about the traffic backup at the intersection of Buttrick and Thornapple River Dr.

Supervisor Haga stated he noticed it, and he can talk to the Road Commission.

Clerk Burton reminded everyone that the Farmers Market opens tomorrow and runs to October 28, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; also, tomorrow night is the first "Music on the Lawn" at the Ada Historical Society.

Supervisor Haga commented the low water pressure being experienced is partly related to the tank painting project, and they are in the process of bypassing the meter to obtain additional pressures, which is being monitored on a daily basis. He stated hopefully by Monday of next week the tank will be filled with water, and everything will be back to normal. Haga stated, regarding staffing, eight applications had been received to fill Fire Chief Murray's former position, and Nick Dewey has been selected to fill that position. For the budgeted Building and Grounds/Park position five individuals were reviewed, and Tom Wodarek has been selected; a resignation has been received from the Zoning Administrator, Steve Kushion, to take effect June 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, last Friday someone ran into one of the stone pillars at Ada Park, and it will cost approximately \$2,000 to refinish the pillar; Saturday morning a car ran over the grass at the credit union and flattened the street light, and a claim will be filed with the insurance company.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **ORDINANCE NO. O-060914-1, AMENDMENT TO ACCESSORY BUILDING REGULATIONS**

Planning Director Jim Ferro highlighted the changes that have been made to the Accessory Building Rules in the Zoning Ordinance since it was approved in 1999. He stated the Planning Commission is requesting revision of the building footprint size and height thresholds above which special use permit approval is required; as well as relaxing the minimum setback requirements on construction of a 2-stall garage in the V-R, R-2 and R-3 districts.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Smith, to approve Ordinance No. O-060914-1, Amendment to Accessory Building Regulations. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Jacobs, Proos, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – LeBlanc. Amendment to the Ordinance adopted.**

##### **TRAIL FUND AND BOARDWALK PROJECT**

Planning Director Jim Ferro explained the Capital Improvements Plan projections for the Trail Fund balance had an error of almost \$100,000; thus there are insufficient funds to pay for the \$120,000 boardwalk replacement project that was budgeted. He stated there may need to be a fund transfer of \$10,000 to the Trail Fund before November 2014 when there is a debt service payment due.

When asked by the Board to clarify the need for the project, Ferro stated the boardwalks are structurally sound, and the reason for replacing them is so they would accommodate a tractor for snow removal.

Supervisor Haga stated we have been discussing these boardwalks for about three years and it was put in the budget this year. If there's a motion it should be to retract the decision we made in May to receive bids for the project.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Smith, to rescind the action of the May 12, 2014 Board meeting to proceed to bid on the boardwalk project. Motion carried.**

##### **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS**

Supervisor Haga requested the Township Board's confirmation of two appointments, Walt VanderWulp and Ted Wright, to Ada's Downtown Development Authority.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Downtown Development Authority Appointment of Walt VanderWulp and Ted Wright, both for third four-year appointments which expire 1/1/18. Motion carried.**

##### **PAID ON CALL FIREFIGHTER APPOINTMENT**

Fire Chief David Murray stated one of the paid on-call firefighters retired, and the department would like to add Jeffery Knowles to the staff. He stated Jeff is a resident of Ada Township, has been a fulltime firefighter for Cascade Township for over ten years, and has the required qualifications as well as basic EMT. Murray stated with his work schedule of 24-hour shifts at Cascade, he will be available during the day shift when the department is in the greatest need of assistance.

**Motion by Rhoades, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Paid On Call Firefighter Appointment of Jeffery Knowles, as presented by Fire Chief David Murray. Motion carried.**

##### **TAX SHARING AGREEMENT WITH KENT COUNTY**

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated this proposed contract with Kent County is to provide for voluntary capture of tax increment revenues in lieu of the county having its incremental increases in tax revenue involuntarily captured by the Downtown Development Authority. He stated the agreement has been reviewed and approved by the Ada Township DDA board, and has been approved by the County Board of Commissioners.

**Motion by Proos, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Tax Sharing Agreement with Kent County as proposed.  
Motion carried.**

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

---

Susan Burton, CMC  
Ada Township Clerk

RS/dr