

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2012**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:30 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades, Trustee Proos, Trustee Westra, and Trustee Smith. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, Recording Secretary Dorothy Renegar, and 8 community members. Absent: Trustee LeBlanc.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Proos, supported by Westra, to approve the Agenda. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY (KDL) ANNUAL UPDATE

Charles Myers, Board Chair, Kent District Library, stated KDL is a Star library for the second year, which is a national recognition. He stated in terms of revenue/expenditures they are operating the 2013 budget at less than the 2005 budget.

Michelle Garrison, Assistant Manager, Kent District Library, stated the library has been around for 75 years, and the continued emphasis is on children and families. She stated along with being a Star library, KDL also achieved an Excellence award, one of only three libraries in the state to receive that award since 2004. Garrison stated last year the number of items checked out increased by 7% for 6.8 million items over 18 branches. She stated they have the largest collection of downloadable materials of any library in the state. Garrison stated they are heavily into urban literacy and follow the American Library Association's practices called "Every Child Ready to Read". She stated those skills are incorporated into everything that is done for young children, from story times to play stations in order for the children to practice the skills that they need. Also, she stated training is offered free to over 2,000 residents to assist them in getting jobs, and they also partner with community groups that use their space to train people in interview skills.

Diane Cutler, Branch Manager, Cascade Library, stated KDL purchased one automatic check-in machine for each branch, and as the Cascade branch is very active, a second check-in machine was purchased by their Friends Group. She stated in 2010 the average time it took to get items checked in was 4-6 days, and with the two automatic check-in machines the time has decreased to only six hours. Cutler stated Cascade purchased their own e-books, and KDL assisted with training in how to use an ipad, kindle, nook, tablet, etc. Also she stated a program was begun called "Guide to Read" to give children an incentive to read, which includes father/son book clubs, book discussions and pizza parties. Cutler stated that a survey taken in the spring showed 98% of the pre-school parents indicated early literacy programs helped their children be prepared for school and for reading.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

May 29, 2012 Regular Board Meeting.

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Fire Call Reports-5/12; 2. Building Permit Report-4/12; 3. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes-4/10/12; 4. Region 8 Notes-5/12/12; 5. Comcast Updates-5/17/12; 6. Regis Minutes-3/28/12; 7. Ada Township Master Plan-Citizens Survey-Summer 2011; 8. Regis Newsletter-"The Register"-4/12; 9. 2012 Planning Commission Priorities.

Motion by Westra, supported by Rhoades, 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 \$655.50; #205 \$778.16; #208 \$702.89; #590 \$471.00; #591 \$749.05; #592 \$67.97; Total all Hand Checks: \$3,424.57; Warrants: #101 \$9,910.63; #205 \$4,384.60 #208 \$6,887.99; #211 \$396.00; #248 \$3,000.00; #590 \$123,369.43; #591 \$103,161.04; #592 \$330.07; Total Warrants: \$251,439.76. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$254,864.33. **Moved by Proos, supported by Westra, to approve the Warrant Report for June 11, 2012, in the total amount of \$254,864.33. Roll Call: Yes – Westra, Smith, Rhoades, Proos, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – LeBlanc. Motion carried.**

PAYMENT 1 SPAULDING AVENUE FORCEMAIN REPAIR

It was recommended to hold \$8,781.92, and authorize payment of \$79,037.24.

Moved by Smith, supported by Rhoades, to approve Payment 1 for the Spaulding Avenue Forcemain Repair payable to RJT Construction in the amount of \$79,037.24 with a 10% retainage of \$8,781.92. Roll Call: Yes – Westra, Smith, Rhoades, Proos, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – LeBlanc. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy Ryan Rowe, Sheriff's Department, stated the speed board has been repaired and is up and operational. He stated they have had a couple home invasions in Ada Township, two businesses were broken into, and he received an email from Mark Fitzgerald, Parks Director, that there was a problem with fireworks in Ada Park. Rowe stated over the past month there were 367 calls for service.

Jeff Brower, 8881 Two Mile Road, stated he was appreciative that the Board approved the cell tower, and hope it is approved by Forest Hills. He complained about all the bike riders using the road, and stated there must be some way to encourage them to use the bike paths.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Westra congratulated the Grand Rapids Triathlon people on a very well managed event, and thanked the Sheriff's Department for having the mounted officers there to insure everyone's safety during the event.

Trustee Proos stated his pleasure in seeing the signage up about the Triathlon, and commented on the great job done on the AdaView which has a lot of good stories and information. He stated he would still like to see an update on the Pettis matter with a report on how much money the Township has been spent.

Supervisor Haga stated a \$50,000 grant has been applied for from the West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition for the section of trail from Vergennes going over the bridge to Ada Drive. He reminded the Board of the "Run for the Cause" on Saturday that runs through the village, and that it is a fundraiser and a fun race.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

SIETSEMA CIDER LLC-SMALL WINERY LICENSE

Jerry Sietsema, Sietsema Cider LLC, stated they began the process of applying for the license in November, and there are four government entities that are involved. They have received approvals from the TTB, and the ATF. He stated the MLCC (Liquor Control Commission) will send it for final approval after it is approved by the Ada Township Board. Sietsema stated under a small winery license they are allowed 50,000 gallons a year, and they are looking at maybe 1,000 gallons this year.

Moved by Westra, supported by Rhoades, to approve Resolution R-061112-1 for the Sietsema Cider LLC-Small Winery License. Roll Call: Yes – Westra, Smith, Rhoades, Proos, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – LeBlanc. Resolution adopted.

Jeff Brower, 8881 Two Mile Rd., stated he is very pleased with cider and donuts happening in the area, but he is not thrilled about a small winery license. He noted three liquor stores in the area, and still has reservations about the winery.

There was a question from the Board on how they would check ID.

Sietsema stated there will be a separate tasting room, and they will follow the guidelines of checking anybody who looks under 40 years of age.

Jim Ferro, Planning Director, stated it is important to keep in mind that the hard cider market is a small niche in the fermented beverage market. He stated hopefully the Sietsema's will be able to sell to a lot of retailers, and the tasting room is one component of how they market their product. Ferro stated it is a way to make agricultural land economically more viable and keep that component of our economy in the township. Also, he stated the small winery license only allows them to sample and sell alcoholic beverages that are produced on the premises.

LICENSE AND RELEASE AGREEMENT-ALTICOR, AMWAY AND AMWAY CAPITAL CORP - 4TH OF JULY PROPERTY UTILIZATION

This regards the Ada Township 4th of July activities, for use of the green space for the daytime activities, parking for fireworks on specified Alticor property, and also the use of the Bank of America property, owned by Amway, for food vendors during the fireworks.

Motion by Proos, supported by Westra, to approve the License and Release Agreement-Alticor, Amway and Amway Capital Corp-4th of July Property Utilization. Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

HALL STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT APPROVAL

The Township's share for the construction project of a five foot sidewalk is \$95,554.66. The low bid for asphalt was approximately \$17,000 more than the cost for concrete. The recommendation was to authorize the sidewalk installation on Hall Street.

Motion by Proos, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Hall Street Sidewalk Project using concrete with DeYoung Concrete, Inc. performing the work in the amount of \$210,454.62, with Ada Township paying \$95,554.66. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, Rhoades, Proos, Burton and Haga; No – Westra; Absent – LeBlanc. Motion carried.

There was an objection to doing both sides of the road and using concrete instead of asphalt. Discussion followed that the two townships, Cascade and Ada, plus the Kent County Road Commission have been talking about this for approximately two years.

Eric Field, Adaway SE, stated he rides Hall Street on his bike a lot because there's hardly any traffic. He stated there are alternative routes to the school from Cascade. Field stated he agrees asphalt is smoother for bicycles, and skates, but concrete is tolerable.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Susan Burton
Ada Township Clerk

Date

RS/dr