

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
AUGUST 22, 2011**

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, and Recording Secretary Renegar. Also present: Planning Director Jim Ferro, and 7 community members. Absent: Trustee Proos.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Haga stated he had three items to add: under IV. B. Communications, #7 Roselle Park River Festival and Open House Schedule; and under V. Warrants, A. General Township Warrants Report of 8/22/11, and B. Payment #3 Ada Drive Forcemain Project. **Motion by Westra, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Agenda as amended. Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION-KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

Charles Fry, Kent District Library board member, stated their budget is stretched as they open new libraries, increasing staff and hours. This year they were one of two libraries in the State of Michigan to receive a national award. Also, they are one of two or three systems in the country where the municipality owns the facilities and the library organization brings in the materials and the people, so that has stretched their budget and helped them to do a good job. They have had no layoffs, but have adjusted and do business in a different way so they have been able to retain people. He stated they are looking forward to the support of the townships and cities that they serve when it comes to a new millage coming up in 2014. Also, as the result of a national search for a new director, they obtained Lance Werner, an attorney from Lansing who was the person to go to for legal aid for the libraries of the whole state. He knows a lot about library law, and they are finding that helpful already.

Lance Werner, Director, Kent District Library, discussed the many things available at the library, and stated they have opened new branches in Kentwood, and Caledonia. They opened KDL Early Literacy Centers in Alto, East Grand Rapids, Walker and Wyoming, which are early literacy centers for kids to come, grow, and read, with a lot of development appropriate materials to assist kids in learning to read. He stated they had 3.5 million visitors in 2010, circulation was 6.4 million items, and 2.59 million people visited online. Also, a project has been undertaken which enables the library to bring the internet to anywhere in the world. The library has had 153,000 people attend their programs and 238,000 patrons in 2010, which is about 60%.

Diane Cutler, Branch Manager, stated the Cascade Branch is the 2nd busiest branch in Kent District Library. She stated Cascade Branch has about 700-900 visitors per day. Also, she commented on the many fundraising projects the Friends of the Library have undertaken. They continue to work closely with the Forest Hills School District since most of the schools no longer have libraries.

Lance Werner stated the Annual Report is on the web site.

GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

August 22, 2011 Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Building Permit Report-7/11; 2. Parks & Recreation Department-Fall-2011; 3. Kent County Sheriff Department-Quarterly Statistic Report-4/1-6/30/11; 4. Open Space Preservation Advisory Board Minutes-6/9/11; 5. West Michigan Healing Field-Opening Ceremonies; 6. Township Revenue/Expense Report-6/30/11; 7. Roselle Park River Festival and Open House Schedule.

Motion by Westra, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Clerk Burton stated there was one change in the August 8th minutes, 2 trustees absent instead of 1.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS

Supervisor Haga noted a Corrected Copy of the Warrant Report which incorporates the page that was missing and recalculation of totals.

Treasurer Rhoades reported the general township warrants, with receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$5,837.51; #205 \$2,546.27; #208 \$2,996.77; #248 \$48.00; #590 \$41.42; #591 \$242.34; #592 \$1.68; Total all Hand Checks: \$11,713.99; Warrants: #101 \$268,932.38; #205 \$30,325.33; #208 \$5,352.78; # 211 \$1,086.64; #213 \$2,545.86; # 248 \$135.02; #590 \$161,363.29; #591 \$170,039.65; #592 \$4,542.74; Total Warrants: \$644,323.69. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$656,037.68. **Moved by Smith, supported by Burton, to approve the Warrant Report for August 22, 2011, in the total amount of \$656,037.68. Roll Call: Yes – Westra, Smith, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos. Motion carried.**

PAYMENT NO. 3-GEORGETOWN CONSTRUCTION FOR THE ADA DRIVE FORCEMAIN PROJECT

Steve Groenenboom, Moore & Bruggink, Engineer, gave a breakdown on the amount of work that has been done on the forcemain in the past month. Pay estimate #3 is in the amount of \$308,838.25, which is another four weeks of work. Thus far, through two pay estimates they have completed eight weeks for \$672,117.51, including retainage, which has been earned but isn't being paid yet. There are eleven more weeks to go before October 29th, which is the completion date.

Motion by Smith, supported by Westra, to approve Payment No. 3 to Georgetown Construction for Contractor's Application, Ada Drive Sanitary Sewer Forcemain, in the amount of \$308,838.25. Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Hoover, 700 Marbury, thanked Patricia Kain for all her work on the 4th of July.

BOARD COMMENT

Trustee Westra stated in regard to the Resolution of Intent Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township there should be a public hearing or work session to discuss the pros and cons. He questioned if there was a strategy in place for incorporating the Fire Department within our own web site and if there is a timeframe for doing so.

Clerk Burton responded, not yet, and at this point it's up to the Communications Committee.

Supervisor Haga stated the placement of the Fire Department's web site was approved by this Board when the original web site was put in place.

Trustee Smith thanked Mark Fitzgerald for the fantastic job he is doing in putting together the brochures regarding the parks programs.

Supervisor Haga noted there have been 23 applications received for the vacant Trustee position. He requested responses back from the Board regarding their three choices for applicants by noon on Friday the 26th.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-082211-1, PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION RECOGNITION DAY

Motion made by Westra, supported by Rhoades, to adopt Resolution R-082211-1, Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day. Roll Call: Yes – Westra, Smith, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos. Resolution adopted.

Treasurer Rhoades commented that the ceremony location is the Michigan Veterans Home in Grand Rapids at 2:00 p.m. on the 16th of September.

RESOLUTION R-082211-2, RESOLUTION OF INTENT OPPOSING INCORPORATION AS A CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Motion by Westra to postpone Resolution R-082211-2, Resolution of Intent Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township. No support. Motion not acted upon.

Motion by Rhoades, supported by Burton, to adopt Resolution R-082211-2, Resolution of Intent Opposing Incorporation as a Charter Township. Roll Call: Yes – Rhoades, and Haga; No – Westra, Smith, and Burton; Absent – Proos. Resolution not adopted.

Discussion followed that since there is no deadline for the action, the postponement would allow for the full board to vote at a later date, and information about the two types of townships could be posted on the website. The Board was assured State mandated notices had been published, and the township had received no responses from the public.

PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT FOR OPEN SPACE CANDIDATE SITE AT 6195 EAST FULTON

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated the property under consideration for possible purchase is 5.5 acres immediately west of the Country Homes of Ada, south of the 2.5 acre Bottrall property, and has several hundred feet of property on Carl Creek. He stated the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment completed earlier this year identified a significant amount of fill that was brought into the property in the 1970's that was associated with the widening of Fulton Street. As a result of the fill, an environmental consultant recommended a Phase II site assessment be conducted taking some soil samples, soil borings, and doing chemical analysis on the samples to determine whether there are environmental contaminants present. Also, he stated the estimated fee for completing this work is \$5,615, which includes preparation of a report. If contamination is found, there is additional work that would need to be done to complete a baseline environmental assessment and a due-care plan. He further stated the Open Space Advisory Board has recommended we go ahead with the site assessment, with the estimated fee of \$5,615.

Motion by Westra, supported by Rhoades, to approve Phase II Environmental Site Assessment for Open Space Candidate Site at 6195 East Fulton, in the amount of \$5,615, to contract with Dixon Environmental Consulting, Inc. Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1. Motion carried.

Ferro stated the report would be completed within two to three weeks after authorization to commence.

Supervisor Haga noted the first option to purchase this property was renewed once, and the second option was approved today by the property owners, carrying through to October 14th.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Art Kroon, 2194 Grand Valley Drive, stated he did see the notice in the Grand Rapids Press and the Cadence in regard to the resolution on a charter township.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton
Ada Township Clerk

RS/dr