

**ADA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
JULY 13, 2015**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Haga at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Supervisor Haga, Clerk Burton, Trustee LeBlanc, Treasurer Rhoades, and Trustee Jacobs. Absent: Trustee Smith and Trustee Proos. Also present: Planning Director Ferro, Fire Chief David Murray, Parks Director Mark Fitzpatrick, Scout Troop 345, and 20 community members.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Supervisor Haga stated that under Consent Agenda, Item B.1. Planning Commission Minutes should be 4/16/15, not 4/6/15, and to be added is No. 11, Revenue & Expenditure Report, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter-6/30/15.

**Motion by Jacobs, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Agenda as amended. Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 2. Motion carried.**

**GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes**

June 22, 2015 Regular Board Meeting

Receive and File Various Reports/Communications

1. Planning omission Minutes-4/5/15 & 5/2/15; 2. Building Permit-5/15; 3. Treasurers Investment Report-5/31/15; 4. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes-6/2/15; 5. Comcast Update-6/1/15; 6. Hope Network Activity Report-5/15; 7. Ada DDA Minutes-5/5/15; 8. Regis Board Minutes-5/27/15; 9. Ada Park Camp's Volunteer Note-6/2/15; 10. Ade Fire Department Activity Report.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to approve the Minutes and Accept the Reports and Communications under the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.**

Clerk Burton stated on the second page of Minutes, under New Business, the first item has "Township" misspelled.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

**ADA TOWNSHIP GENERAL WARRANTS**

Treasurer Rhoades reported the general township warrants, with receipts in the following amounts: Hand Checks: #101 \$33,083.48; #205 \$1,601.64; #208 \$1,121.80; #2131 \$26,222.26; #249 \$134.40; #401 \$750.00; #590 \$4,564.71; #591 \$2,921.83; #592 \$696.96. Total all Hand Checks: \$71,097.08; Warrants: #101 \$23,513.59; #205 \$51,214.58; #208 \$7,517.17; #213 \$3,695.00; #248 \$1,236.75; #590 \$108,171.85; #591 \$125,444.16; #592 \$942.68; Total Warrants: \$321,725.78. Total All Checks and Warrants: \$392,832.86.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Rhoades, to approve the Warrant Report of July 13, 2015 in the total amount of \$392,832.86. Roll Call: Yes – Jacobs, LeBlanc, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Smith and Proos. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Farmer, 6873 Rix, stated concern with the left-hand turn at Rix and Ada Drive, that one has to pull out so far to see around the bridge and he has had four near collisions because of that. He stated there is a traffic mirror that can be purchased for \$75.00 to \$200.00, and that should save having a major accident there.

Supervisor Haga stated over the years the Township has talked several times with the Road Commission about putting mirrors up, and their response is the public gets too dependent on those mirrors. He stated he would bring it up to the Road Commission again.

**BOARD COMMENT**

Treasurer Rhoades thanked Frank Hoover for all his work with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities.

Trustee Jacobs stated it is nice to see all the new Ada logos on the poles. She stated in regards to Jeff Farmer's comment about Rix and Ada Drive, it is a dangerous situation.

Clerk Burton stated this week the paving of the drives in the Ada Cemetery will be going on. She stated Music on the Lawn at the Ada Historical Society last Tuesday had the Adams Family. The music was delightful and there was a full house.

Supervisor Haga stated July 20 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a Special Board Meeting with these issues to be discussed: Planning Department Temporary Staffing and Permanent Staffing; Resolution for a liquor license for the "Beers At The Bridge" event which is scheduled for August 27. He left a copy of the Water Quality Report for the Ada and Grand Valley Water Systems for each Board member. They were sent to customers, which is done on an annual basis as required by the DEQ.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **RESOLUTION R-071315-1 PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND AMENITIES AGREEMENT**

Supervisor Haga stated this is in regards to the Envision Ada project; the DDA had already adopted the agreement by Resolution.

Attorney Jim White, Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones, stated this is a three party agreement between the Township, the DDA, and Geld, LLC, with Alticor, Inc. as a signatory. The agreement provides for \$13 million of public infrastructure and amenities to be made within the village of Ada, and stipulates a 50/50 share in the funding responsibility; \$6.5 million dollars from the Township and DDA, and \$6.5 million dollars from Geld LLC. White then reviewed what the agreement and timetable cover.

Supervisor Haga stated, as did DDA Chairperson Kullgren at the DDA meeting that morning, the Private/Public Partnership the Township has with Geld LLC is a great partnership, and to recognize the fact that the cost split for the public infrastructure is not the only benefit between the community and Amway. They are making donations of various amounts of land to the Township, and have paid fees to engineers and consultants. The partnership is valuable to our community as a whole.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to adopt Resolution R-071315-1, a Resolution to approve the Public Infrastructure, Amenities and Grant Agreement. Roll Call: Yes – Jacobs, LeBlanc, Rhoades, Burton and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos and Smith. Resolution adopted.**

#### **HEADLEY STREET ABANDONMENT-PROPERTY OWNER AGREEMENTS**

Planning Director Jim Ferro stated as we work on re-construction of Headley Street on a new alignment this summer, an important procedural step is abandonment of much of the existing Headley Street right-of-way, which has a specific process governed by state statute for submittal of a petition to the Kent County Road Commission to abandon the former right-of-way. He then explained the process involved in the abandonment; and stated agreements have not yet been signed by the property owners involved as minor changes may be requested in order to finalize the agreements. Ferro stated the Board is requested to authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the attached agreements on behalf of the Township, subject to possible minor modification of the agreement terms.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Rhoades, to authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the Agreements on behalf of the Township regarding the Headley Street Abandonment Project, and subject to minor modifications. Motion carried.**

**ENVISION ADA PROJECT-EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND THE TOWNSHIP FOR LOCATION OF A COMMUNITY CENTER (DISCUSSION ITEM)**

Supervisor Haga stated the Admin Committee, consisting of Clerk Burton, Treasurer Rhoades and himself, met with The Community Church with Mr. Kullgren facilitating that meeting and who was present to report on the discussions and answer questions.

Kullgren, Chairperson of the DDA, stated he was present at and facilitated the meeting held June 15 between three representatives of the Township and three from the Community for the purpose of exploring the possibility of collaborating on a project that would co-locate the offices of the Township and the Community at the location of a community building being considered as part of the Envision Ada project.

Kullgren stated the location of a new community building would be on the north side of the “new” Headley Street. The preliminary design contemplated a two-story facility. He explained the configuration of the new building, how much space would be needed for either party for the conduct of their business, how this facility might be owned, where the resources might come from to building such a structure, how it might be managed. The rationale would be to create a space where the larger common space, which might be available for The Community, could also serve the Township for its business. He anticipated any discussions evolving from this suggest whether this is a good idea, a bad idea, or if this is something that is worthy of further exploration or not.

Billy Norton, one of the Pastors of The Community Church, stated “if we go forward with the current plan we will have three large buildings in a small footprint of Ada that are highly underutilized. One of the things we want to do is to use what we have been gifted with to bless the community, and bring the community together and let the people connect and make Ada the lively place we all hope that it can be, even more so than it is now. A shared space that gets used; a space that fits our needs better than our current space, hopefully a space that will fit the Township needs better, and most importantly the community; a place where people can gather.”

Discussion amongst the Trustees was targeted on the need for larger Township offices and the uncertainty of the idea of Township government partnering with the church to build a facility. There was concern expressed with the liability issues involved.

Corky Paul, 589 River Street, stated one thing that is important to bring a community together is to have a library, and “I encourage you to have a library in the village.”

LeBlanc stated there are two issues, one being the desire to have new Township office/community building/library, a true civic center in the village; and another is the Township partnering with a church for a new building, and he hoped that wouldn't preclude consideration of a civic center.

Kendra Cowe, member of The Community Church, who also works for the Federal government, stated as a taxpayer she feels this is a great opportunity to share our resources and make the most out of this opportunity.

**2015 TAX RATE REQUEST**

Supervisor Haga went over the process that is performed annually in order to figure the millage rates for tax collections.

**Motion by Jacobs, supported by LeBlanc, to approve the 2015 Tax Rate Request without the hearing, with the rates of .8736 for General Fund, .7706 for Fire Department, .2408 for the Parks & Recreation, .4744 for the Open Space and Parks, and .3777 for the Trail millage. Motion carried.**

**APPOINTMENTS OF NEW PAID ON CALL PERSONNEL**

Fire Chief David Murray stated he is recommending four new volunteers he would like to add to the department, which will bring the staffing up to 22. They are: Eric Bakhuyzen, Justin Arnold, Kyle Kalm and Neil Kuyvenhoven. He stated as far as the gear goes they are going to use the gear that was just turned in.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Burton, to approve the recommendations from the Chief for Appointments of New Paid On-Call Personnel as shown in the memorandum dated July 1, 2015. Motion carried.**

**RESOLUTION R-071315-2, MICHIGAN TITANIUM 2015 ROAD CLOSURE**

Andy Vidros, USAT Certified Race Director stated this will be the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the Michigan Titanium Triathlon. He stated for the run portion of the triathlon, he is requesting a road closure in Ada Township on Grand River Drive from Stiles Creek Dr./Grand River Dr. to Grand River Dr. to 3-Mile Rd. on August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am until August 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 am.

**Motion by Jacobs, supported by Rhoades, to adopt Resolution R-071315-2, Michigan Titanium 2015 Road Closure to be held on August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until August 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 a.m. Roll Call: Yes – Smith, LeBlanc, Rhoades, Burton, and Haga; No – 0; Absent – Proos and Smith. Resolution adopted.**

**ADA COVERED BRIDGE EVENT – “BEERS ON THE BRIDGE”**

Supervisor Haga stated this request is for waiver of Section 11, Disorderly Conduct, which is in the Ada Township Parks and Recreation Areas Rules and Regulations. This Ada Township community event is scheduled to take place August 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Ada Covered Bridge and the deck/lawn adjacent to the bridge, with entertainment by The Thirsty Perch (the final concert of the Music on the Lawn series). Beer will be provided by the Gravel Bottom Brewing.

**Motion by LeBlanc, supported by Jacobs, to waive Section 11 of the Disorderly Conduct of the Ada Township Parks and Recreation Areas Rules and Regulations for this event “Beers on the Bridge” on August 27, 2015. Motion carried.**

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

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Susan Burton, CMC  
Ada Township Clerk

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Date

RS/dr