

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
DECEMBER 9, 2014 MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting/Public Hearing of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Supervisor, Paul Dykstra, at 7:00 P.M. Roll call of members showed as follows:

Present:	Paul Dykstra, Supervisor	Cynthia Genung, Treasurer
	Monica Markillie, Clerk	Robb Blain, Trustee
	Jon Scott, Trustee	Diana Langshaw, Trustee
Absent:	Sid Durham, Trustee	

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Markillie to approve the Amended Agenda adding item (E) ICA Resolution to New Business. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the November, 2014 Treasurer's Report, the Township Board Minutes of the November 10, 2014 Special Meeting, the Township Board Minutes of the November 11, 2014 Regular Meeting; and the bills paid and payable report for November, 2014. The Motion was seconded by Genung and **carried**.

Ross-Augusta Firefighters Recognition- Glen Eldridge and Russell Shirley:

Dykstra presented recently retired Volunteer Firefighters Glen Eldridge and Russell Shirley each with a plaque to honor them for their many years of service as volunteer Firefighters for the Township of Ross and the Village of Augusta. Glen Eldridge was recognized for serving on the fire Dept. for 63 years; and, Russell Shirley was recognized for serving on the Fire Dept. for 52 years. Family Members of the two Firefighters and Members from the Fire Dept. were present to honor Eldridge and Shirley for their Service to the Township and Village of Augusta.

Public Hearing for Island Cove Acres Bridge Improvement Project Special Assessment District:

Open Public Hearing:

Motion by Langshaw to open the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Dykstra discussed the proposed Island Cove Acres Special Assessment District Bridge Project. He reported the Resolution to establish the Special Assessment District is proposed for consideration under new business.

Public Comments and questions: No Public Comments

Board Comments and questions: No Board Member Comments

Close Public Hearing:

Motion by Genung to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Dangerous Building Enforcement Hearing-Rubick

Open Dangerous Building Enforcement Hearing:

Motion by Markillie to open the Dangerous Building Enforcement Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Blain and **carried**.

Public Comment and Questions:

Mike Rubik, and John May, Contractor representing the Rubik family, were present to discuss the status of the dangerous building located at 16511 East C Ave. Mr. Rubik reported that the family has agreed to have the house demolished at their own will. It was noted that the Township's Hearing Officer issued the Rubik family an order to have the dangerous building located on their property demolished. Bert Gale, the Township's Zoning Administrator, was present to address questions regarding Demolition process. Gale discussed the permit requirement to move forward with having the house demolished.

Board Public Comment and Questions:

At this time the Board reviewed a letter submitted by John May, the Contractor representing the Rubik Family, regarding the status of the dangerous building. The Board discussed the option to modify the demolition order due to circumstances that were brought to the attention of the Board.

Close Dangerous Building Enforcement Hearing:

Motion by Markillie to close the Dangerous Building Hearing. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

Motion by Genung to approve the demolition of the dangerous building located at 16511 with the following modification to the demolition order: The Board will allow 28 days for the demolition to be completed. The motion was seconded by Blain and **carried**.

Reports:

Fire Dept.:

Fire Chief Bogema was present to provide an update regarding new business for the Fire Dept. Bogema stated fire calls have declined from this time last year.

Ordinance Enforcement:

Dykstra reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report for November, 2014 (see attached).

Police Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Police report for November, 2014 (see attached).

Supervisor's Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Supervisor's Report dated December 2, 2014. Dykstra provided an update on a few of the item listed in the report including the Township Park and the Township Building. Dykstra reported he has consulted with the new Township Attorney regarding the transition plan and Services Agreement.

Parks Committee:

Scott provided an update regarding the Park Committee. Scott reported the Committee is in the process of developing their Vision and Mission Statement. Scott stated educating the public and fund raising continues to be the main focus. The Board discussed the idea of holding a Town Hall Meeting in the spring to educate the community on certain events in the township as a way to request feedback from the Township constituents. Scott further reported he and

Dykstra met with Kristie Maiers from Richland Township to discuss grants and the process for - requesting Parks and recreation grant funds from the State. -

Accept Parks Committee Meeting dates: -

Motion by Blain to approve the Parks Committee Meeting dates as presented. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Elected Officials Reception:-Treasurer Genung, Clerk Markillie, and Trustee Langshaw:

Langshaw stated she attended the annual elected officials Reception that took place November 13, 2014. She stated Markillie and Genung also attended the reception.

Public Comment-Non Agenda Items: No Public Comment

Old Business:

Building-Firehouse Update

Dykstra reported he has received building proposals from the three Architect Firms selected at the last Board Meeting. Dykstra stated he plans to mail a copy of the Proposals to the Board within the next week.

Sirens:

Dykstra reported he has consulted with West Shore Services regarding the Township Warning sirens. Dykstra stated the siren located near Sherman Lake Drive has failed and the siren located at the Gull Lake Island landing area is only 70% operational. Dykstra stated the cost to have the siren located near Sherman Lake Drive operating again is approximately \$10900. After extended discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to move forward with efforts to get the Township sirens operating again and revisit the issue at the February 6, 2015 Budget workshop.

New Business:

New Township Attorney-Accept Service Agreement:

Motion by Scott to accept the Bauckham, Sparks, Lohrstorfer, Thall, & Seeber, P.C. Legal Services Agreement. The Motion was seconded by Genung and **carried**.

Approve 2015 Police Protection Agreement:

The Board discussed the proposed Police Protection Agreement for 2015. Dykstra noted the positive feedback he has received from residents regarding the current contracted Deputy and the response to police calls in the township.

Motion by Markillie to approve the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept. Agreement which authorizes the Township to contract with the KCSD for 1 deputy in the amount of \$118,511 for the 2015 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Genung and **carried**.

Approve 2015 Health Savings account Contributions for Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer:

The Board reviewed the proposed Health Insurance Rates for 2015. Dykstra reported the health savings accounts for the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer will need to be renewed before January 1, 2015. Dykstra requested approval for 2015 HSA Contributions. He stated the Board has contributed \$2000 per official in previous years. Genung stated the deductible amount for a single person is \$1750; and, the deductible amount for a family is \$3500. Markillie reported she didn't use the funds in her health saving account during 2014, therefore, is not requesting a 2015 HAS contribution.

Motion by Scott to fund the Health Savings Accounts for the Supervisor and Treasurer with the agreement not to exceed \$5000 total. The motion was seconded by Blain and **carried**.

Approve Letter of Support for Four Townships Water Resources Council Grant:

Motion by Markillie to approve the letter of support for the Four Townships Water Resources Council Grant. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

Approve the Island Cove Acres Resolution to establish the Special Assessment District:

Motion by Markillie to approve the December 9, 2014 Resolution creating the Island Cove Acres Special Assessment District, approving the improvement project plans and cost estimates, and scheduling the Public Hearing on the proposed special assessment roll for January 13, 2015. The motion was seconded by Genung. Roll Call vote showed the following: Markillie-aye, Dykstra-aye, Genung-aye, Blain-aye, Scott-aye and Langshaw-aye. The motion **carried with all ayes**.

Adjournment:

Motion by Scott to adjourn at approximately 8:15 P.M. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Markillie
Ross Township Clerk