

ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING APRIL 14, 2015 MINUTES

The meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Dykstra at 7:00 P.M. Roll call of members showed as follows:

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

Also in attendance: Ross Township Fire Chief, Doug Bogema

Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Amended Agenda adding under New Business (E) Adoption of Ross Township Ordinance # 197, (D) Formation and Development of New Building Bylaws Committee, (G) Discussion of CD's and Money Market accounts, (H) 2015-2016 PC Meeting Dates and (I) 2015-2016 Parks Committee Meeting dates. The motion was supported by Langshaw and **carried**.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the March, 2015 Treasurer's Report, the Bills paid and payable Report for March, 2015 and the 3/10/15 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Ross Township Board. The motion was supported by Langshaw and **carried**.

Reports:

Fire Dept.:

Bogema reported the Fire Dept. has responded to 204 calls so far this year compared to 240 calls this time last year however noted the rate of fire calls will continue to increase. Bogema stated Fire Dept. currently has 3 recruits attending the Fire Academy. He added the Dept. recently purchased new Rescue Jacks to aid in the rescue and extrication from vehicles.

Dykstra inquired about the status of the May 5, 2015 Fire Millage and community feedback. Bogema discussed a few upcoming events the Fire Dept. will participate in which include the following: the Sherman Lake YMCA Open House on April 19th, Talons Flight for Veterans on April 25th, and the Galesburg Augusta School District Prom Disaster event which is a presentation on drinking and driving accidents.

Ordinance Enforcement:

No new business

Police Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept. Report for March, 2015 (see attached).

LifeCare:

Dykstra reviewed the LifeCare Ambulance Quarterly Report for January-March, 2015. Dykstra reported Ron Slagel, CEO of LifeCare, was unable to attend the meeting as he is attending a Conference in Washington D.C.

Planning Commission:

Scott provided an update on current Planning Commission Business including the rezoning of property within the Township and the consideration of zoning classifications related to Veterinary Clinics within the Township.

Parks Committee:

Scott reported the Parks Committee did not have an April meeting and stated the next meeting is scheduled for May 14th. Dykstra reported the Township is seeking a new Ross Township Park Manager and further stated the job posting is included in the Township Newsletter and on the Township Website.

Supervisor Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Supervisor's Report dated April 14, 2015. Dykstra discussed the status of the new building and Fire House design. Dykstra reported Prein & Newhoff completed the topography survey which was needed in order to get the project started.

Bogema discussed his support in keeping the Mac Memorial tree located in front of the Township Hall during the construction of the new building and Fire House. He stated the memorial tree honors Mac (Clayton Mac McDonald) founder of the Ross-Augusta Fire Dept.

Dykstra stated the request to retain Mac's tree has been communicated to the Architecture firm and will not be removed. The Board further discussed the idea of having a trophy case for the display of historical items & events, plaques and mementos dedicated to those who have served the Ross-Augusta Fire Dept.

Public Comments:

No public comment.

Old Business:

Township Website-Approve:

Dykstra reported the redesign of the Township website has been completed and is set for Board approval.

Motion by Durham to proceed with launching the new Township website. The motion was supported by Markillie and **carried**.

Spring 2015 Township Newsletter:

Dykstra reported the Township Newsletter has been completed and will be mailed to the residents by April 27th. Durham expressed positive feedback regarding the new Township Logo.

Township Resident Survey:

The Board discussed the option of sending a survey to the Residents of Ross Township as a way to receive input from the Community. Durham was in favor of having a Town Hall Meeting as a method for receiving input from Township Constituents. Scott discussed some positive features regarding the use of surveys. Durham inquired about the status of the Township email list. Markillie stated information regarding the Township email list is posted on the Township Website and will be included in the Township Newsletter. Markillie reported the Township has not received significant interest from the public requesting to be added to the list however noted the lack of interest may be due to insufficient awareness. The Board discussed options for notifying the public about the Township email list.

Town Hall Meetings:

The Board discussed possible locations for hosting a Town Hall Meeting and potential topics for discussion. The Board discussed having the Meeting at the Township Hall and Fire Barn. Scott stated it would provide the community an opportunity to view the current condition of the Fire Barn and Township Hall. Scott suggested the Board consider having an ice cream social at the Town hall Meeting as a way to bring the Community and the Township together. After extended discussion it was the consensus of the Board to host a Town Hall Meeting for discussion with the Community regarding topics the Township is currently focusing on. Dykstra suggested having the Meeting at the end of June.

Island Cove Acres (ICA) Bridge Update:

Dykstra reported the ICA Assessment District has exceeded their requirement for the Bridge Special Assessment. Dykstra stated the ICA is moving forward with the construction of a new bridge.

Approve Resolution for Charitable Gaming License-Schupan and Sons:

*Trustee Scott recused himself from business relating to this matter.

Motion by Durham to approve the Resolution and Charitable Gaming License submitted by Shupan and Sons for a fund raising event scheduled to take place at the GLVGC, Inc. on June 11th. The motion was supported by Markillie and **carried**.

Approve Proposal-Prein & Newhof Zoning Map Changes/Land Map:

Motion by Markillie to approve the proposal for new Land Use Maps submitted by Prein & Newhof with the agreement to not exceed \$1,000. The motion was supported by Scott and **carried**.

Approve Westshore Services, Inc. Service Agreement:

Motion by Durham to approve the Service Agreement submitted by Westshore Services, Inc. for the two warning sirens the Township maintains. The proposal includes a 2015 inspection for \$550.00 and a four year maintenance agreement for 2016-2019 totaling \$850.00. The motion was supported by Langshaw and **carried**.

Approve formation of New Building Advisory Committee Bylaws:

Postponed until after the May 5, 2015 Election.

Cemetery Headstone Repair-Jeff Furrow:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the proposal submitted by Furrow Family Monument Co. for the repair of Cemetery headstones at the Yorkville and Day Cemeteries. Included in the motion is to authorize Furrow Family Monument Co. to repair as many Cemetery Headstones as possible this year at a cost that will not exceed \$5000. The motion was supported by Scott and **carried**.

Approval of Ordinance # 197 (Zoning and Text Amendments):

Motion by Scott to approve Ordinance No. 197 which amends the Ross Township Zoning Ordinance to add a new definition pertaining to Veterinary Clinics within the Township. The motion was supported by Durham. Roll Call Vote Showed: Langshaw-aye, Markillie-aye, Dykstra-aye Durham-aye and Scott-aye. The motion **carried with all ayes**.

List of Township Certificates of Deposits and Money Market Accounts:

The Board reviewed the list of Ross Township Certificates of Deposits and Money Market accounts provided by Genung. Dykstra requested feedback from the Board regarding options for the expiring Certificate of Deposit currently invested with Mercantile Bank. After extended discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to request guidance from the Township Treasurer. Dykstra stated he will consult with Genung regarding investment options when she returns from vacation.

2015-2016 Planning Commission Meeting Dates:

Motion by Durham to approve the proposed 2015-2016 Planning Commission Meeting dates. The motion was supported by Scott and **carried**.

2015-2016 Parks Committee Meeting Dates:

Motion by Durham to approve the proposed 2015-2016 Parks Committee Meeting dates. The motion was supported by Scott and **carried**.

Members Time:

Dykstra reported the Ross Township Park clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, April 18th has been cancelled until further notice. Additionally Dykstra reported some of the Residents of Foxboro Ln. have expressed interest in having their road chip sealed via a special road assessment. Bogema reported a property located near Yorkshire Lane that may be operating an Assisted Living Facility. Dykstra stated he would investigate the matter. Bogema stated the Fire Dept. doesn't currently have a list of Assisted Living Facilities and noted it would be beneficial for the Fire Dept. to have that information.

Adjournment:

Motion by Dykstra to adjourn the Meeting at approximately 8:05 P.M. The motion was supported by Markillie and **carried**.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Markillie
Ross Township Clerk