

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Dykstra at 6:00 P.M. Roll Call of Members showed as follows:

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

Absent: Jon Scott, Trustee

Approval of Amended Agenda:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the amended Agenda adding under New Business, (D) Residential complaints & Concerns Policy. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

Approval of Amended Consent Agenda:

Motion by Blain to approve the amended Consent Agenda which includes the bills paid and payable for August and September, 2015; and the Ross township Board Minutes of the August 10, 2015 Regular Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Genung and **carried**.

Fire Dept.:

Genung reported the Annual Ross-Augusta Fire Dept. Car Show that took place on August 14th was a success. Genung reported the Fire Dept. raised \$2,500 during the event which will go towards the Haunted House scheduled for October 31st from 1-4 P.M.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement report for August, 2015 (see attached).

Police Report:

Captain Bowen from the KCSD was present to review the Police report on Calls in the Township during August. The Board discussed the status of the issues involving the Gull Lake sand bar. Genung inquired about the animal complaints listed in the Police Report. Captain Bowen addressed questions from the Board.

Planning Commission:

Dykstra reported the Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on September 28, 2015 to consider a Special Land Use Request and Zoning Ordinance text Amendments.

Parks Committee:

No new business.

Supervisor's Report:

Dykstra discussed Township business including the Proposed Township Building & Fire Barn and Ordinance enforcement within the Township.

Public Comments:

Martin Jansen, of the Kalamazoo county Transportation Authority (KCTA), was present to provide information to the Board and public regarding KCTA services. Jansen discussed the Community Van program that is available to the Ross Township residents. Dykstra offered to include information regarding their services in the next Newsletter scheduled to be mailed in October.

Old Business:

Ross Township Fire Station-Decision on exterior brick and stone:

The Board reviewed several exterior brick and stone samples provided by Howard Overbeek and Associates. The Board discussed the process for making certain decisions needed prior to soliciting RFP's. Dykstra reported the site plans and revised drawings have been submitted reflecting the changes that were requested by Board Members and Fire Chief Bogema.

Update on Yarrow-FRN:

The Board discussed the status of the Yarrow property. It was noted Foundations Recovery Network has submitted a Special Land Use Request and site plan application which will be considered at the September 28, 2015 PC meeting/Public Hearing.

New Business:

Speed study Resolutions:

Mark Rogers who resides at 12261 S. Sherman Lake Dr. was present to request the Board to consider reducing the Speed limit on South Sherman Lk. Drive which is currently 55 mph. Dykstra stated to reduce a speed limit within the Township, a speed study would need to be conducted by the KCRC. Rogers submitted a petition to the Board that included signatures from area Residents in support of the request. Discussion regarding the request took place at this time. Dykstra informed the Board of an additional request from a Township Resident to lower the speed limit on D. Avenue between 39th & 40th St. Captain Bowen addressed questions from the Board regarding the process for Reducing a Speed limit. Dykstra provided the Board with a sample Resolution and stated he would request to have Attorney Thall prepare a new Resolution should the Board decide to authorize the KCRC to conduct a Speed Study.

Motion by Durham to authorize the KCRC to conduct a speed study on S. Sherman Lake Drive. The Motion was supported by Markillie and **Carried**.

Motion by Durham to table the speed study on D Ave. between 39th & 40th Street until further information has been provided to the Board. The motion was supported by Markillie and **carried**.

Road Projects-2016:

The Board reviewed the Capital improvement Plan submitted by the KCRC for 2016-2020. Dykstra stated the KCRC will provide a presentation at the October 13th Township Board Meeting which will begin at 6 P.M.

Fall Newsletter-mailed 10-13-15:

The Board discussed topics to include in the Fall Newsletter including the proposed Township building and Fire station project. Dykstra requested input regarding additional information to include in the newsletter.

Resident Complaint Policy:

Motion by Durham to grant Attorney Thall approval to prepare a Resident complaint policy that would allow complaints to be reported confidentially and require certain procedures to be followed when complaints are processed. The motion was supported by Blain and **carried**.

Member's Time: -

Genung stated she has consulted with Attorney Thall regarding new assessment procedures for the Street Lighting Districts. She reported the change would become effective in 2016. Genung added she and Wilkins are in the process of reviewing new Street Lighting maps the Township received from Consumers Energy. It was noted the affected residents would receive Notice and the issue would be considered during two Public Hearings.

Motion by Durham and unanimously supported to adjourn at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Monica Markillie, Ross Township clerk