

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
October 13, 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	Diana Langshaw, Trustee
	Jon Scott, Trustee	Sid Durham, Trustee

Absent: Robb Blain, Trustee -

Also in attendance: KCRC Representatives, Garrett Lennon of Premier Lawn & Snow and - Various Residents of Ross Township (See attached sign-in sheet). -

Approval of Agenda: -

Motion by Langshaw to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Kalamazoo County Road commission (KCRC) Presentation:

Joanna Johnson, Managing Director of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission, and Representatives from the KCRC were present to discuss local roads in Ross Township. The KCRC reviewed road projects that were completed in 2015, discussed plans for future projects, provided information regarding funding options and addressed questions from the Board and Public. Barbara McAllister, who resides at 13919 E. B. Ave., inquired about the process to convert a road back to gravel. Kathy Ragla, who resides at 7671 N. 41st. Street, inquired about the petition process to initiate a Special Assessment District for road improvement projects. The Board discussed funding options for future road projects including, a Township wide special assessment and a Township road millage. The Board thanked the KCRC Representatives for attending the Meeting and for providing the presentation.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the August and September, 2015 Treasurer's Reports, the bills paid & payable for October, 2015; and the Township Board Minutes of September 8, 2015. The motion was seconded by Genung and **carried**.

Reports:

Fire Dept.:

Genung stated the annual Haunted House will take place on October 31st from 1-4 PM. Additionally, Genung reported former Fire Chief Chris Noteboom retired from the Fire Dept. at the beginning of October and; firefighter Mike French will also be retiring at the end of October. Genung discussed having a retirement party to honor the two Gentlemen for their many years of service.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report for September, 2015. Dykstra informed the Board of an issue regarding Associated Government Services (AGS). The Board discussed the current Contract Agreement between the Township and AGS.

Police Report:

Supervisor Dykstra reviewed the Kalamazoo county Sheriff's Dept. Report on calls in the Township for September, 2015.

Planning Commission:

Scott discussed Planning Commission business including the Zoning Ordinance text amendments proposed for Board Consideration under New Business. Additionally, Scott provided an update on the Yarrow Property.

Parks Committee:

Scott submitted a draft Agreement between the County of Kalamazoo, the KCRC, and the Parks Foundation of Kalamazoo County to the Township Board for their review. Scott stated the agreement is for the development, maintenance, and operation of the KRVT from 35th Street to Augusta & Augusta to M89. Further, Scott requested the Board consider adopting a Resolution of Support for the Agreement once it has been finalized and presented to the Board.

Supervisor's Report:

Public Comment:

Parks Committee Member, Mellissa McKay, was present to express support for the development of the Ross Township Trail System proposed to connect to the KRVT. Additionally, McKay discussed the option of using a polled survey to collect information from the Residents regarding the Township Park and proposed Trail System.

Old Business:

Speed Study Resolution (East D Ave-Between 39th and 40th):

Motion by Durham to approve the speed study on East D Avenue between 39th and 40th Street. The Motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

2016 Road Projects:

The Board reviewed the proposed Roads projects listed in the KCRC 2016-2020 Capital Improvement plan. Dykstra stated the Board will need to approve/disapprove the KCRC par fund agreement by the end of December to be eligible to receive funding for road projects in 2016.

New Business:

Approval of Lot Line Adjustment-- 2685/2692 Wendell:

Motion by Durham to approve the lot line adjustment of 2685 and 2692 Wendell as recommended by the Ross Township Zoning Board of Appeals. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Approval of Lot Line Adjustment--1802 Idlewild and 1805 Wild Drive:

Motion by Durham to approve the lot line adjustment of 1802 Idlewild and 1805 Wild Drive as recommended by the Ross Township Board of Appeals. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Snow Removal Bid—Premier Lawn and Snow:

Motion by Durham to accept the 2015-2016 snow removal bid submitted by Premier Lawn and Snow with the Salting Service added to the agreement. The motion was seconded by Scott and **carried**.

Adoption of Ordinance No. 198:

Durham expressed concern regarding the Amendment of Article 8, Section 8.5 relevant to item (A-1) regarding the height of multiple family dwellings. After extended discussion, it was the Consensus of the Board to postpone this item until the November 10th Township Board Meeting. Additionally, it was the Consensus of the Board to refer the issue back to the Planning Commission and Attorney Thall.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Markillie
Ross Township Clerk