

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD  
NOVEMBER 15, 2016 MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Dykstra.

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

Absent: Robb Blain, Trustee

Additional Attendees:

Township Attorney, Rob Thall  
Township Fire Chief, Doug Bogema  
Garrett Lennar, Premier Lawn and Snow  
Lester Heidmous, Road Committee Member  
Tom Gallagher, Road Committee Member

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Treasurer's report for September 2016, the bills paid and payable for October, 2016, and the October 11, 2016 Regular Township Board minutes. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

**Reports**

Fire Dept:

Fire Chief Bogema was present to update the Township Board on Fire Department business. Bogema stated the Department has applied for a County wide grant for the purchase of new fire equipment, further stating the Department would be eligible to receive 10% of \$100,000 of grant monies. Bogema stated the Department has received approximately the same number of calls it had received as this time last year.

Ordinance Enforcement:

Dykstra reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report for October 2016 (see attached). Dykstra provided an update regarding the Dolan violation and noted the issue is scheduled for court hearing on November 28, 2016. Additionally, Dykstra discussed the Ordinance Violation regarding the Gleason Property.

#### Police Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept. report for calls in the Township during October 2016 (see attached).

#### Planning Commission:

Scott provided an update on Planning Commission business including recent work regarding Horse Boarding and the development of a Watershed Protection Ordinance.

#### Parks Committee:

Scott reported the Parks Committee is currently working with Parks Planner, Lee Adams, on the development of a Ross Township's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Additionally, Scott discussed the current Parks Committee Member opening. Scott recommended Township Resident, Lynne Chipman, for the position.

Motion by Scott to accept the recommendation to appoint Lynne Chipman to fill the Parks Committee vacancy. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

#### Supervisor Report:

Dykstra provided an update regarding Township Business. Dykstra reported the new building and the move have been the main focus. Additionally, he thanked the staff who assisted with the move. Durham acknowledged Dykstra for his time, hard work, and dedication with the new building project.

#### Road Committee:

Durham provided an update regarding the Road Committee work that has been completed to date. Durham reported the Committee is recommending the Township Board establish a 7 year Special Assessment District on a per parcel basis which includes \$250 for improved parcels and \$125 for vacant parcels per year. It was noted tax exempt parcels would be included in the Special Assessment. Durham recommended the Board approve a Resolution to establish the proposed Special Assessment District. Thall stated a Resolution of intent to establish the District would need to be developed for consideration at the December Meeting.

Details regarding the proposal were discussed at this time. Les Heidmous, Road Committee Member, inquired about the assessment related to non-profit parcels. Thall addressed questions regarding the primary and private roads in the Township.

Motion by Durham to proceed with the process of establishing a road repair Special Assessment District in the Township. The Motion was seconded by Scott and **carried**.

#### Public Comment:

No public comments

#### Old Business

#### Fire Station Update-Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:

It was the consensus of the Board to have the Ribbon cutting ceremony for the new building and fire station in the spring of 2017.

## **New Business**

### **2017 Health Savings Account Renewals:**

Motion by Scott to approve the renewal of the HSA Accounts for 2017 in the amount of \$3400 for a Single plan and \$5700 for a Family plan with the agreement not to exceed \$9100. The Motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

### **Snow Removal Bids:**

Motion by Durham to approve the bid submitted by Premier Lawn and Snow for 2016-2017 snow removal services. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

### **Ross Township/Social Media:**

Motion by Scott to authorize the Supervisor to create a Facebook page for Ross Township with the agreement to have a Facebook Policy adopted prior to launching the page. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

### **Resignation of Board of Review Member Lyle Showerman:**

Motion by Genung to accept the Resignation submitted by Lyle Showerman from the Board of Review effective November 15, 2016. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

### **Resignation of ZBA Member Ed Harvey:**

Motion by Markillie to accept the resignation of ZBA Member Ed Harvey effective immediately as of November 15, 2016. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

### **Appointment of New ZBA Member:**

Motion by Durham to approve the appointment of Jim Dekryter to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective November 15, 2016. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

### **Appointment of New BOR Member:**

Motion by Scott to appoint Norm Kellogg to the Board of Review effective November 15, 2016. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

### **Proposal of additional Term for Planning Commission Member Victor Ezbenko:**

Motion by Durham to renew the expiring Term of Planning Commission Member Victor Ezbenko, effective January 1, 2016. The motion was seconded by Scott and **carried**.

### **Member's Time:**

The Board expressed support Township Treasurer Syndee Genung and welcomed her back from her leave of absence. Scott acknowledged Dykstra and staff for the work put forth during the building Project.

Markillie recommended to have Norm Kellogg and Gene McKay added to all of the accounts with Mercantile Bank as additional check signers.

Markillie resolved to delete Trustees Langshaw and Durham from the Mercantile Bank accounts effective November 15, 2016 and moved to add Gene McKay, Norm Kellogg, Monica Markillie, and Cynthia Genung to the Mercantile Bank Accounts effective November 15, 2016. The Resolution approved unanimously. Roll Call Vote showed: Durham-aye, Langshaw-aye, Markillie-aye, Scott-aye and Genung-aye. The Vote **carried with all ayes**.

Motion by Genung to appoint Gene McKay as the Deputy Treasurer effective immediately. The Motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Adjournment:

The Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Markillie,  
Ross Township Clerk