

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD
APRIL 11, 2017 MINUTES**

The Regular Meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Dykstra at 7:00 PM.

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

Please see sign in sheet for additional attendees.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Amended Agenda which includes the deletion of the February 2017 Treasurer’s Report and the addition of the draft March Treasurer’s Report. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes of the March 14, 2017 Regular Board Meeting/Budget Hearing, the March 2017 paid bills, and the April, 2017 bills payable. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Reports

Lifecare-Ron Slagell:

Ron Slagell, CEO of Lifecare, was present to provide an update on the 1st quarter of 2017. Slagell reported Response times continue to be under 12 minutes and further stated Lifecare memberships have increased from this time last year.

Fire Department:

Dykstra reported fire runs have increased from this time last year noting the Department had approximately 15 calls on March 8, 2017 due to the windstorm. Dykstra added the new fire truck is currently being built and will be available for pick up within the next few weeks.

Ordinance Enforcement:

The Board discussed the Ordinance Enforcement Report for March 2017 (see attached). Dykstra provided an update on the violations related to 10251 North 42nd St. and 11654 E. D Ave.

Police Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Report on calls in the Township for March 2017 (see attached).

Planning Commission:

No new business

Parks Committee:

Dykstra reported the Park's Committee accepted the proposal submitted by Landscape Architect Firm O'Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates for the creation of a Township Park Master Plan.

Supervisor's Report:

Dykstra reviewed the Supervisor's Report for March 2017. Dykstra discussed the Eagle Scout Project expected to begin this spring and reported Jonathon King has received approximately \$3,000 in donations for the project so far. Dykstra further stated he is seeking park attendant applications for the 2017 Season.

Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority (KCCDA) Funding—Jeff Troyer

Jeff Troyer, Representative from the KCCDA, was present to provide information regarding the upcoming May 2nd Ballot proposal for Consolidated Dispatch Servicing. Discussion ensued between the Citizens present and the Township Board during this time.

Proposed Resolution of Support for KCCDA Proposition for 911 System Funding

The proposed Resolution failed due to a lack of motion.

Public Comment:

Several Residents of Ross Township were present to discuss the condition the roads within the Township and funding for road projects. Dykstra discussed the proposed Township wide Road Special Assessment at this time. The following road topics were discussed below:

- East Gull Lake Road Project status—Dykstra reported a portion of East Gull Lake Drive is expected to be improved during the summer of 2017.
- Township participates in KCRC Funding program annually which matches KCRC funds
- Special Assessment vs. Millage- Township can include tax exempt parcels in a Special Assessment. Tax exempt parcels cannot be included in a millage.

Further discussion regarding road improvement and funding options ensued between the Citizens present and the Township Board at this time.

Old Business

Township Road SAD Town Hall Meetings: Communications, Presentation and Prep:

Dykstra reported the Town Hall Meeting dates have been scheduled for May 17, 2017 and June 8, 2017. The Board discussed methods for notifying the Residents of the upcoming meeting dates. It was the consensus of the Board to send a post card via mail to all property owners/Residents in the Township at least two weeks prior to the Meetings. In addition to the post card mailing, the Meetings will be posted on the Township Website, Facebook page and emailed to the Residents who have signed up to receive email updates.

Proposed Resolution of Support for Roads SAD Proposed Plans and Costs:

King inquired about the appeal process for tax exempt parcels related to the tax tribunal. Dykstra discussed the appeal process at this time. Langshaw expressed concern regarding the cost for road maintenance not being included in the proposed Special Assessment. Additionally, Langshaw expressed support for the Board allocating funds to maintain the improved roads if the Special Assessment is approved.

Motion by Durham to approve the Ross Township Resolution of Support for the 2017 Township Road SAD Proposed Plans and Cost. Included in the Motion is the agreement to replace Trustee Durham's name in the resolution with Road Committee Member. The motion was seconded by Genung. Roll Call Vote showed: King-aye, Genung-aye, Dykstra-aye, Markillie-aye, and Langshaw-aye. The motion **carried with all ayes**.

New Building Update:

Dykstra reported the site work will begin Friday April 14th.

New Business

Request to Purchase 1979 Dodge Ross-Augusta Fire Truck:

Motion by Durham to accept the offer submitted by former Fire Chief Chris Noteboom for the purchase of the 1979 Dodge Fire Truck in the amount of \$4,000. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and **carried**.

Proposed Motion to amend the 2016-2017 Budget-Building expense:

Motion by Durham to amend the 2016-2017 Budget to add \$ 72,909.97 to the Building Construction Expense Account. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Member Comments:

Dykstra shared a letter of Resignation submitted by Jon Scott for his resignation as Trustee from the Township Board and as Liaison for the Planning Commission.

Durham regretfully moved to accept the Resignation submitted by Trustee Scott to be effective May 26, 2017. The Motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

The Board discussed measures needed to fill the Township Board vacancy.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Monica Markillie, Ross Township Clerk

