

## **Ross Township Board June 13, 2017 Minutes**

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

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

Also Present: Rob Thall, Township Attorney  
Doug Bogema, Fire Chief

Please see Sign-in sheet for additional attendees

### Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the amended agenda with the addition of the following items:

1. Township Board Special Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2017 under Consent Agenda
2. BS&A Special Assessment Package under (E) of New Business.

The motion was seconded by Blain and **carried**.

### Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Durham to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the May, 2017 Treasurer's Report, Township Regular Board Minutes of May 9, 2017, Special Minutes of May 17, 2017, and June 7, 2017, plus the bills paid for May and payable for June, 2017. The Motion was seconded by Langshaw and carried.

### Reports:

#### Fire Dept.:

Fire Chief Bogema provided an update on the Department's new rescue truck. Bogema reported the new truck is serving the department well and stated they have already used it to assist with a few medical calls and grass fires.

#### Ordinance Enforcement:

Dykstra reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report for May, 2017. Durham inquired about violations with old compliance dates. Dykstra addressed the question and provided an update on the violations listed.

#### Police Report:

The Board reviewed the Police report for May 2017. Dykstra discussed

issues that took place at the sand bar on Gull Lake over Memorial Day Weekend.

Planning Commission Report:

Attorney Thall provided an update on the Planning Commission and discussed new business regarding the establishment of an escrow policy that will be utilized for Special Land Use/Zoning Requests.

Parks Committee:

Dykstra reported the Parks Committee has planned three Food Truck and Music events at the Township Park this summer. Dykstra stated the events are free and will take place on July 10<sup>th</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, and August 14<sup>th</sup>. Dykstra added further information about the summer events is posted at the Ross Township Website.

Supervisor Report:

Dykstra discussed the status of Township events including the Veteran's Memorial, the proposed Employee Manual, and the proposed Township Road SAD. Additionally, Dykstra reported the Gull Lake Triathlon has been cancelled and will not likely take place in the future due to low registration. Dykstra welcomed Trustee Blain to the Board and discussed his appointment as liaison for the Planning Commission.

Motion by Gening to appoint Rob Blain as the Township Board Liaison for the Planning Commission effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

Public Comments:

Marty Jansen of the KCTA was present to provide an update on the Metro Transit Connect Community van. Jansen reported the KCAT has received a 5% increase in service calls since 2015.

Old Business

Roads in Ross Township-Town Hall Meeting Discussion:

The Board discussed the proposed SAD and Town Hall Meetings at this time. Durham inquired about the attendance rate of both meetings. Dykstra reported approximately 100 Residents attended the first Meeting, and approximately 55 Residents attended the second Meeting.

Michigan State University:

Dykstra reported he has had contact with Representatives from MSU regarding their plans related to the Road assessment. He stated he received positive feedback however he hasn't received a determination from MSU as of yet regarding their plans.

King inquired about how Parcel Combinations will affect the assessment. Thall stated it will have an impact on the total but indicated the Board should have a good idea of what the final numbers look like prior to the first public hearing (scheduled for August 8, 2017).

King inquired about whether Dykstra had received contact from Gull Lake Ministries regarding the proposed assessment. Dykstra reported he has not had contact with the GLM regarding the proposed SAD.

#### 41<sup>st</sup> Street:

The Board discussed the 41<sup>st</sup> Street Road Project of 2017 which consists of converting 41<sup>st</sup> Street back to gravel. Dykstra shared a letter submitted by a Resident Lynn Weimeister to the Board regarding the proposed Road SAD.

#### Declaration of Intent- Road Special Assessment District (SAD) Resolution No. 1:

Motion by Durham to approve the Road Special Assessment No. 1 which consists of the Declaration of Intent to improve the road system in Ross Township, tentative designation of Special Assessment District and Notice of Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Genung. Roll Call vote showed: Langshaw-aye, Durham-aye, Markillie-aye, Dykstra-aye, Genung-aye, Blain-aye and King-aye. The motion **carried with all ayes**.

#### New Building Update:

The Board discussed the status of the Building project. Dykstra reported he has contacted a few sign companies regarding the purchase of a new sign for the Township. King recommended Dykstra contact the Sign Center in Kalamazoo.

It was the Consensus to schedule tours of the new building during regular office hours on July 10<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>. Durham offered to volunteer as a tour guide. The Board also discussed having a Dedication Ceremony for the Eagle Scout Veteran's Memorial Project. Jonathon King was recognized for his hard work in completing the Project. Dykstra stated he will contact Jonathon and Mike King to inquire about dates for the Memorial Dedication Ceremony.

#### Employee Manual Update:

Dykstra provided an update on the proposed Employee Manual.

#### Supervisor Application Update:

Discussion ensued regarding the matter of appointing a new Supervisor upon the vacancy that will be effective August 8, 2017. It was the consensus of the Board to set a deadline of July 6<sup>th</sup> for all resumes to be submitted. Additionally, the Board agreed to schedule the interview date at the July Township Board Meeting.

#### New Business

##### Saad ZBA Application/fee reimbursement:

Motion by Durham to adopt a Township Board policy allowing the Township to refund the ZBA Variance application fee minus any costs related to the request. Included in the motion is the agreement to only refund the application fees if the applicant withdraws the request prior to the Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing. The motion was seconded by King and **carried**.

Ross Township Cemetery Process Change:

Motion by Genung to approve the revised Cemetery Grave opening as presented by Clerk Markillie which adds a space for signatures under the lot number designation for interment. The motion was seconded by Durham and **carried**.

Proposed Approval of Zoning Text Amendments-Adoption of Zoning Ordinance No. 203:

Motion by Durham to adopt Ordinance No. 203 which approves zoning ordinance text amendments of Article 21, Section 21.4, Article 21, Section 21.6, Article 20, and Article 16, Section 16.3. The motion was seconded by Blain. Roll Call Vote Showed: King-aye, Genung-aye, Dykstra-aye, Markillie-aye, Langshaw-aye, Blain-aye, and Durham-aye. The motion **carried with all ayes**.

BS&A Assessment Package:

Motion by Durham to approve the BS&A Special Assessment Package in the amount of \$3, 570.00. The motion was seconded by Markillie and **carried**.

Member's Time:

Blain inquired about the Board's expectations for his role as the new Township Board Trustee/Planning Commission Liaison. Dykstra stated the Liaison will serve as a Planning Commission Member and will be expected to update the Township Board of Planning Commission business and communicate to the Planning Commission regarding business of the Township Board.

The Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Monica Markillie  
Ross Township Clerk