

**Ross Township
Regular Board Meeting
June 12, 2018**

**12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083**

The regular meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Moore at 7:00pm.

Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Diana Langshaw Norm Kellogg Gary Moore
 Cynthia Genung Robb Blain

Absent: Sid Durham Jeff Price

Also Present: Rob Thall – Township Attorney

Trustee Blain requested to amend the agenda as to Ordinances 205 and 209 and to place this item at the top of the agenda. Supervisor Moore requested the addition to add Gene McKay to the New Business section of the agenda. Both agenda amendments were moved by Trustee Langshaw and supported by Treasurer Genung and carried unanimously.

Supervisor Moore read a statement to the Board and attendees that included a new Ordinance 210 to amend and repeal Ordinance 205. A motion by Trustee Blain, supported by Trustee Langshaw to adopt Ordinance 210 was presented to the Board. Being no further discussion on this matter a Roll Call vote was taken and is as follows: Trustee Langshaw-Aye, Clerk Kellogg-Aye, Treasurer Genung-Aye, Trustee Blain-Aye and Supervisor Moore-Aye. Ordinance 210 was passed unanimously.

Supervisor Moore also stated that Ordinance 209 would be sent back to our Planning Commission for repeal and a public hearing. The Township needs to step back and relook at these and other Township issues. The Township will send out a survey in the next few weeks that will assess the public's opinions on MMF facilities, Law Enforcement issues and Solar Power inquiries to the Township.

A motion by Trustee Langshaw and supported by Trustee Blain to approve the consent agenda was presented. It carried unanimously.

Reports

Fire Department – Chief Bogema stated that it has been a quiet month for the Fire Department. Keith Kenyon will graduate from the Fire Academy next Saturday. He is the oldest person (50's) to graduate and he has brought more energy and upbeat attitude to Ross Township. A discussion of purchasing a new fire truck is beginning. No house fires in the Township.

Police Report: Capt. Christensen from the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's department gave a Township report. It was a quiet month for them also. Some noteworthy issues was a death investigation on 40th Street and theft of checks from local mail boxes. There was a Fort Custer trailer theft – no suspect arrested yet and a local larceny where a suspect has been arrested. Officer Christensen also spoke about the Gull Lake School threats made with graffiti sprayed on some of the buildings walls. The school year ends tomorrow, and they will be working over the summer with school officials to ensure the safety of teachers, students and staff of the school system.

Parks Department: Supervisor Moore stated that Jon Scott was unable to attend tonight's meeting. A new roof was installed on the bathroom facility and new outlets were provided for the Trucks and Tunes events.

Supervisors Report: Supervisor Moore stated the we need to move forward as a Township as we are facing many issues in the future.

Public Comments: Limited to 3 minutes each.

There were many thank you's from the attendees as to the repeal of Ordinance 205. Some topics/points of view were: Thankful to be able to disagree-democracy in action. Thankful I don't have to move. Takes ownership for not paying attention to Board issues. Stay in touch with the community. Thanked the Board for listening.

Old Business:

KCRC update: Supervisor Moore referred our residents to the KCRC website for updates every Friday as to our Township road construction schedule. They also have a Facebook site. We are on course to fix the roads in Ross Township.

New Business:

Solar Energy Companies. Solar panel farms have made inquiries to Ross Township about facilities in our Township. This issue will be part of our Township survey questionnaire.

Township Clean-up Day: Is this something that the Township wants to pursue. Other Townships have done this. Richland Township had a drop off at Gracespring Church to bring in waste, etc.

Law Enforcement Committee: Chairman Gene McKay gave a synopsis of this committee. It was formed as an ad-hoc committee last fall. The previous Township survey had law enforcement issues a number two priority after the Township Road reconstruction needs. The committee talked to Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept., local municipalities, Village of Richland and Augusta and Bedford Township. They also went to Michigan State University's web site – a good resource in how to form your own law enforcement council. The Law enforcement committee has two recommendations to the Ross Township Board.

1) Recommend establishing a contract with the Village of Richland for Police services. This would reduce response times.

2) Recommend that we contract for 80 hours per week Police coverage. Presently 40 hours per week supplied by the Kalamazoo County Sheriffs.

The Law enforcement committee is also working on additional entities to contribute to our law enforcement plan. Law enforcement question(s) will be on the township survey. We value your feedback.

Supervisor Moore stated to the Board Members to start to think about what the Board should do for our police protection. The Kalamazoo County Sheriff's contract ends December 2018. A decision needs to be made in the near future. Trustee Langshaw asked to have a cost comparison available showing our present costs vs. the new 80 hour per week cost.

Resignation Letter: Trustee Jeff Price submitted his resignation letter to the Board. A motion by Clerk Kellogg to accept his resignation, supported by Trustee Blain and carried.

Members Time:

Trustee Langshaw – Can we get Ross Township news in The Gull Lake News publication? Also she would like an application available to all residents who are interested in Township Positions. Have Job descriptions available and build a file of interested residents in open positions.

Clerk Kellogg – Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. Also encouraged attendees to sign up to be election workers for the Township. Applications are available through the Clerk's office.

Treasurer Genung – Wanted guidance from the Board as to the collected deposit fees for MMF facilities.

Trustee Blain: Will not be attendance for the July 10, 2018 meeting due to family issues.

Supervisor Moore: Encouraged everyone to fill out the township survey when received.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was presented by Trustee Blain, supported by Treasurer Genung and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Kellogg
Ross Township Clerk