

**Ross Township
12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083
269-731-4888**

**Regular Board Meeting
July 13, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Hutchings.

ROLL CALL

Present: Christina Hutchings Michael Bekes Syndee Genung
 Lynn Harmon Diana Langshaw Mike Sulka
 Carin Martinek

Absent: None

Also Present: Rob Thall – Township Attorney, Tim Snow, Deputy Clerk, approximately 5 interested residents.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CONSENT AGENDA

Sulka moved, seconded by Langshaw to push all consent agenda item with the exception of the Minutes to the July 20, 2021 Special Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Bekes moved, seconded by Harmon to approve the Minutes of the June 15, 2021 Regular Meeting as received. Motion carried with Sulka voting “Nay”.

PARK COMMITTEE JUNE REPORT

Harmon indicated that all was going well so far and that she appreciated the support from the Supervisor and Trustee Langshaw. She said that some of the poles that assist with keeping geese off the grass have been broken off and need to be replaced. Captain Christensen has been asked about the Township’s Deputy Sheriff being available on July 4.

The Treasurer reported that about 350 annual passes have been sold so far.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Langshaw asked that the Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission be placed under Old Business

Harmon moved, seconded by Genung to approve the Agenda for the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Bekes reported that there was a hearing regarding a nonconforming use at the June 28 meeting. He added that the Planning Commission would like more information regarding activities at the Township. The Supervisor indicated that she would work on that request. Bekes noted that the Planning Commission has been comparing the new Master Plan with the existing Ordinances, which is currently their highest priority.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

The Supervisor said she has received 3 letters in support of the LaBelle paving project. So far there has been \$40,560 pledged toward the project from a total of 20 homeowners. This equates to 70.83% of the total road frontage, which includes the additional property that was added to the proposed district.

The public hearing will be held on July 20 at 6:00 p.m. Harmon and Sulka indicated that they would not be available to attend the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Master Plan – 63-day review period continues
- B. Short Term Rental Ordinance – pending
- C. No Parking Ordinance – pending
- D. Joint meeting with Planning Commission on August 17, 2021. Rebecca Harvey will be invited to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Announce Ross Township Clerk – The Supervisor introduced Carin Martinek, who has been appointed as Township Clerk. She has been sworn in and will begin full time duties on July 19.
- B. LaBelle Special Assessment District – Bekes moved, seconded by Harmon to extend the LaBelle Special Assessment District Public Hearing to July 20, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Planning Commission Recommendations to Include Contingencies on Large Projects – This continues to be reviewed with Attorney Thall. The Attorney indicated that the bond could be as much as 50%. More information will be provided.
- D. Closed Session – Bekes moved, seconded by Genung to move into Closed Session to discuss an Attorney-Client privilege memorandum with the Township Attorney.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Genung, Harmon, Hutchings, Langshaw, Martinek, Bekes

The following voted "Nay": Sulka

Motion carried ~~unanimously~~. 6-1.*

The Township Board moved into Closed Session at 7:05 p.m.

Following the Closed Session, Sulka moved, seconded by Bekes to return to open session.
Motion carried unanimously.

Open session was reconvened by the Supervisor at 8:03 p.m.

Harmon moved, seconded by Genung to direct the Township Attorney to draft a letter for approval by the Board to provide a 90-day notice to cancel the additional 40 hours of law enforcement being provided by the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department, and to authorize the Supervisor to send the letter.

On a roll call vote, the following voted "Aye": Harmon, Hutchings, Langshaw, Martinek, Bekes, Genung

The following voted "Nay": Sulka

Motion was declared adopted.

MEMBERS TIME

Bekes – None

Genung – Reminded the Board about the Augusta Auto Show

Harmon – None

Hutchings – None

Langshaw – None

Martinek – Thank you to the Board for their appointment. Honored to take the position as Clerk.

Sulka – MTA has information regarding applying for federal COVID grants. Attorney Thall said that the MTA was holding a webinar about this subject on Thursday, July 15 and that there are a number of things that these grant dollars could be used for.

There being no further business, Genung moved, seconded by Langshaw to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Carin Martinek
Township Clerk

Timothy A. Snow
Deputy Clerk

*Corrected at 8/17/21 Board Meeting. cjm