

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

**Regular Board Meeting  
February 16, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Supervisor Hutchings

Roll Call was as follows:

Present:           Christina Hutchings           Michael Bekes           Cindy Genung  
                      Lynn Harmon                 Diana Langshaw       Mike Sulka  
                      Linda Walters  
Absent:           None  
Also Present:    Rob Thall – Township Attorney

The agenda was amended to reflect that Mr. Tim Hudson and not Mr. James Baker would be giving the Water Commission presentation. A motion to approve the amended agenda was presented by Trustee Harmon, supported by Treasurer Genung and carried unanimously.

Presentation from the Kalamazoo Public Services (Wastewater) – Presented by Rich Pierson and Tim Hudson. The city provides Ross Township (through GLSWA) sewer disposal services. Provisions have been made to allow GLSWA to provide future water service to Ross Township. Both Rob Thall and John Grumb are up-to-speed on the issues and a proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and a resolution to approve the same. It was suggested by Attorney Thall that the Board adopt the resolution. A motion to approve the IGA Resolution was made by Trustee Harmon; supported by Trustee Sulka and carried unanimously

Consent Agenda: The January 19, 2021 Board minutes were pulled from the consent agenda to make the following corrections – Under Road Commission of Kalamazoo County – *change all Townships to most Townships and delete sentence, “Therefore, there will not be a redistribution in 2021.”* A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Trustee Harmon; supported by Trustee Sulka and carried unanimously. All items under this section are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion with no discussion. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Trustee Harmon; supported by Trustee Sulka and carried unanimously.

Park Committee January 2021 Report:

- Automatic Gate Report was reviewed by the Board. After discussion at the Pro’s and Con’s of a possible gate, it was decided to put this option on the back burner for a future look at when possible funds would become available.

- The Park Committee approved the Athletic Mentors request to hold their Annual Triathlon at the Park again on August 1, 2021.
- The Park Committee received a request from Judge Peter Plummer’s family to have his memorial service held in Ross Township park. It will be held June 06, 2021. The park will be closed on that date from 0900 am to 0130 pm for the event.
- Memorial Plaque for Rob Poth and John Daugherty. The two gentlemen bought a damaged bench from LandScape Forms, stripped it, repainted and refinished it and denoted it to the Park. The Park Committee voted to accept the bid from Otten Trophies in Kalamazoo for \$96.00 to have this made to honor them for their generous gift to the park and the Eagle Scout (Troop #239) project. A motion was made by Trustee Harmon; supported by Trustee Sulka and carried unanimously.
- The Park Committee voted to accept the bid from ROTHCO to install two brown and white standard park signs, each to be placed 300 feet in each direction of the park entrance. The Park signs are to warn cars to slow down as there was a park and children nearby. A motion was made by Trustee Bekes; supported by Trustee Langshaw and carried unanimously.

#### Planning Commission Report -

- The proposed budget has been revised and is lower than expected.

#### Supervisor Report –

- Residential Rental Ordinance – Waiting on official recommendation from Attorney and AGS. It is in civil court.
- Labelle Road SAD Signatures – New petition has signatures and a new letter from resident but no further communication from LaBelle residents. Clerk Walters and Assessor Story will verify the signatures on the petition.
- DNR Watercraft Control Resolution – The DNR recommend establishing a slow no-wake speed watercraft control of boundaries. This would provide safer conditions in the waters of Gull Lake within the jurisdiction of Ross Township. It was decided that the Board would hold a special meeting regarding the “no wake” zone and allow time for public comment. The meeting is scheduled for March 02, 2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Captain Christiansen informed the Supervisor that Deputy Kristy Prahin had a death in the family and has been gone for the last few days.
- PFAS – The drilling in the Richland area is completed. Lab results will be physically mapped out to see the full scope and to identify if the plume has migrated any.

#### Public Comment -

- *Max Waldorf (Marine)* – We oppose. Would impact our business. I do agree with a wake zone on the Southern Bay. The new wake zone seems to be more Northbound. There are 2.2 miles in the new no- wake zone.
- *David Scott* – Agrees with previous person. We need a no wake zone. Yes – South and No – North
- *Attorney Thall* stated that we have to adopt the ordinance exactly as it is or start the process over.
- *Liddell (238 E GL Drive)* – His new dock would be in the no wake zone. Is there a DNR report and an explanation as to the new no wake zone?

- *GLQO (Gull Lake Quality Organization)* – Stated that they are in favor of the no wake zone. Open to contributing anchors and buoys.
- *Linda (not Clerk Walters)* – Attended public hearing. Can't draw line due to boats slowing down. DNR will not approve due to the amount of traffic in the Bay.
- *Peter Asch* – Third generation residents. The wake zone needs to be amended. There is too much traffic on the lake.
- *Kevin Miller* – On lake for 40+ years. I am part of the Gull Lake Marine. I oppose.
- *IPad2* – Supports first two gentlemen.
- *Phil Eisem* – Strongly opposes. Needs more exposure. Horrible idea.
- *Mike Sullivan* – I am next to Avery. 68 years old. Agrees with Kevin Miller. Buoys will cause problems. Urge Board to vote No.
- *Mike Roswit* – Opposed to the new no wake zone. Agrees with a wake zone but the position of it is in question. Create a safe environment for the no wake zone.
- *IPad2Cookie* – 30+ resident of zone. I am in favor of no wake zone. Safety is a factor.

New Business:

- James Dally submitted a letter for reimbursement of his ZBA application fee. He stated that the ZBA meeting was not posted on the Township website in a prominent position and he could not attend. Attorney verified that Mr. Dally should receive a refund. A motion was made by Trustee Harmon; supported by Trustee Langshaw. The vote was 6 ayes and 1 nay (Treasurer Genung). The vote carried in favor of Mr. Dally.
- Ross Township Park, Plaque Dedications, New Road Signage – The Park Committee wishes to thank donors by dedicating plaques in their names. This was previously discussed in the Park Committee report part of the meeting.

Old Business:

- Boiler and Furnace Maintenance – Bids are ongoing.
- Park Regulations and Park Ordinance – Spoke earlier.
- No Parking Ordinance - Nothing new to report at this time.

Adjournment: 8:10 adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Walters*

Linda Walters  
Township Clerk  
February 25, 2021