

**Ross Township
Board Meeting
April 10, 2018
7:00 PM
12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083**

The regular Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Moore at 7:00pm.

Roll Call was as follows:

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

Also Present: Rob Thall – Township Attorney

Absent: Sid Durham

A Motion by Trustee Langshaw to approve the agenda supported by Trustee Blain and carried.

Trustee Price pointed out two mistakes in the Meeting minutes of 3-13-18. Clerk Kellogg amended the minutes to show the correct meeting days for the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

A Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended was made by Trustee Blain, supported by Trustee Langshaw and carried.

A motion to approve the bills payable report by Trustee Langshaw supported by Trustee Price and carried.

Reports:

Life Care Ambulance Services – Ron Downs from Life Care gave an update on 1st Quarter 2018. 72 emergency calls YTD. All calls are under a 15 minute response time. They have implemented a First Watch reporting system. This will allow them to track and report activity in a more efficient manner. They do provide non-emergency transportation on a fee basis.

Ron Kendall-Kalamazoo County Commissioner. Ron gave an updated on the multi district lawsuit against opioid manufacturers. He is not convinced it will be successful.

Fire Department: Chief Bogema stated that they assisted in two house fires in Hickory Corners and Bedford Township in the past couple of weeks. Runs are down slightly from last year to date. Four of his firefighters have gone through extra training.

Police Report: No report distributed.

Supervisors Report: Supervisor Moore stated that the Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) has had two meetings since the last Regular Board meeting. The Commission works well together and should have a recommendation to the Board within the next few weeks. It looks like the Brook Lodge property is sold. The possible new owners have big plans for the property. Our SAD Bond sale was completed today. Finally, our Township newsletter was distributed last week. So far Supervisor Moore has received some positive feedback on the newsletter.

Public Comments: None

Old Business:

Park Grant has been submitted by the due date. The grant writer expects at least a 90% chance of it being approved. 60 to 90 day approval window.

Park Rental: A discussion on the possibility of renting Ross Township Park to private parties ensued. Two requests so far have been a Wedding reception and small sailboat regatta. The board had concerns of these parties taking over the Park, i.e. not having enough room for normal Park patrons. This concern will be given to the Parks Committee.

New Business:

SAD Bond Sale

Mark Nettleton of Mika Meyers our Bond counsel described the sale of our Township SAD bonds for our road construction project. They received 4 bids today at 2pm. They are 14 year bonds with 5/3 Securities having the lowest bid at 2.859817%. No total payoff is allowed until April of 2024 by Ross Township.

Mark expects to close on April 26, 2018 for funding to the Township.

A resolution to Award the sale of the Special Assessment Bonds to 5/3 Securities was motioned by Trustee Blain, supported by Trustee Price. A roll call vote was as follows:

Trustee Price-Aye, Trustee Langshaw-Aye, Clerk Kellogg-Aye, Supervisor Moore-Aye, Treasurer Genung-Aye, Trustee Blain-Aye. Nays- None. All Ayes, the motion was approved.

Law Enforcement Committee (LEC): Trustee Blain gave an update on the committee's activities. Mr. Blain recommended the Board make the LEC a permanent committee. They will ask possibly two new members to join the committee in the immediate future. Galesburg Schools is interested in the project and may participate on the committee. Trustee Price expressed that the committee should have stated goals and expectations to become a permanent fixture. Supervisor Moore stated that the committee is looking to provide more coverage, less costs and higher visibility than our present coverage provided by the Kalamazoo County Sheriff Department. A motion to approve the LEC to a permanent status was given by Treasurer Genung, supported by Trustee Price and carried unanimously.

Other new business: Treasurer Genung talked about two additional parcels that may need to be vacated from our SAD tax roll. They are a Kalamazoo County Road Commission and Michigan State University parcel. A discussion on the possibility of one or both possibly paying these bills ensued. It was a Board decision to table this request until the next Board meeting. At that time we should know if the parcels are to be paid or vacated.

Clerk Kellogg stated that the next Board Meeting Scheduled for May 8th is on Election Day. A motion by Clerk Kellogg supported by Treasurer Genung was stated to move the meeting to May 15, 2018. Motion was carried by all Ayes.

Members Time:

Clerk Kellogg: stated that the Ross, Richland and Bedford Clerks held a three day voter registration signup at Gull Lake High School during lunch hours. Between the three Townships we had approximately 40 to 50 students register to vote during the three days.

Supervisor Moore: Shared an article in Gull Lake Living that a resident was grateful for Police coverage in the Village of Richland. It is an exciting time for the Township with many positive things happening.

Treasurer Genung: Shared an article from the B.C. Shopper about residents seeking help to get their roads improved. Also Ms. Genung stated that the Road assessment fund is now \$1,099,914. This figure includes the \$703,000 in total road assessment payoffs by residents.

Attorney Thall responded to a question about the tax tribunal status. He stated that they will be heard near the end of June. 26 people have cases before the tribunal.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn by Trustee Price, supported by Trustee Langshaw and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Norm Kellogg
Ross Township Clerk