

Ross Township Board Meeting Minutes
12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083

July 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Baker at 6:15pm

Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Mike Sulka Diana Langshaw Norm Kellogg
 Rob Baker Cindy Genung Dave Senkewitz
 Lynn Harmon

Absent: None

Also Present: Rob Thall – Township Attorney
 Geoff Lansky – Township Insurance Agent

Agenda:

A motion to approve the agenda was put forth by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Trustee Harmon and passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda: Treasurer Genung requested that we **remove** the prior meeting minutes to amend the minutes under New Business: ZBA Alternate removal of Roger Schweitzer: to show a Motion by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Trustee Senkewitz to remove Roger Schweitzer as an alternate to the ZBA Board.

Passed unanimously

ZBA Alternate Appointment-Blake Hawk. A Motion by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Treasurer Genung to add Blake Hawk to the ZBA Board as an alternate. Passed unanimously.

Parks Committee removal of Zach Klipsch. A Motion to remove Zack Klipsch from the Parks Committee, by Trustee Harmon and supported by Trustee Senkewitz, passed unanimously.

Irving S. Gilmore Grant. A motion by Trustee Sulka, supported by Trustee Harmon to accept the Irving S. Gilmore Grant as submitted by the Parks Committee. Passed unanimously.

Clerk Kellogg also requested that the Township address be included on the Mast head of the meeting minutes.

Two points of discussion was the property located at 591 S. Gull Lake Dr.-grandfathered as to rentals less than 30 days? Also, a status report is needed from AGS for the Board Report

With these corrections, a motion was made by Trustee Senkewitz and supported by Trustee Harmon To approve the consent agenda as follows:

Meeting Minutes- as amended
Treasurers Report
Bills paid and payable
Police Report
AGS Report
Passed unanimously.

Reports:

Fire: Chief Bogema stated that there were 44 calls in June, the busiest June ever. 2/3 of the calls were EMS runs. More water rescues than in the past 10-day period. The new Fire Truck was paid off this week. An ongoing training issue with the State of Michigan – small townships might have to comply with State regulations – new rules still under review at the State level. A suggestion to highlight the Fire Department in the next Township newsletter for next year's millage request.

Planning Commission:

Trustee Sulka reviewed the PC's activity. A pole barn site plan was approved, a joint meeting with the PC, ZBA and Township Board was a success. Solar/Wind farms are on the future agenda for discussion, etc. Residential only for wind generators. Feedback needed from AGS as to chickens in residential districts. Additional feedback needed from residents. Possible update for our Township Zoning Map (2015 rev) from Prein and Newhof if needed.

Cemetery Committee:

Day Cemetery – Friday the road will be repaired with crushed asphalt. Yorkville Cemetery to be approved for the same road work.

Parks Committee:

See attached Park Committee report for details. A Park master plan will be submitted by Sept. 2019 for Board approval. Rest Rooms are not being kept clean. Supervisor Baker approved to have Nicole Bell clean the rest rooms Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday prior to the Park opening. A discussion to purchase 2 Dory Poles to help mitigate the Geese problem at the Park. A motion to approve the purchase of 2 Dory Poles, not to exceed \$500 was put forth by Trustee Harmon, supported by Treasurer Genung and passed unanimously.

Life Care:

Steve from Life Care gave a brief overview of the attached report. June was the busiest month they have had.

Law Enforcement Committee Report:

Trustee Harmon gave an overview of their Committee meeting last night. They have received three RFP's from, Kalamazoo County Sheriffs Dept, Village of Richland Police Dept. and the Village of Augusta Police Department. In addition to these three RFP's another option is to cancel the Kalamazoo County Sheriffs contract. The Committee plans on holding a public meeting August 12th at 6:30pm for discussion of the department proposals from the three above entities. The Committees plan is to have a

recommendation to the Board by August 20, 2019 for the Board to review/discuss/approve for the September 2019 Board Meeting.

Supervisors Report:

Some of our Road paving projects have been delayed due to the County's new Culvert process/procedures implemented this July. They have found a possible additional 10 new culverts in Ross Township. These will need to be replaced/repared before any paving in started. The Township should know by Friday July 19th of the updated culvert status. D Avenue speed study is completed but no details yet. The Township Park needs more cleaning of the bath rooms. Also, two diaper changing stations are needed for the rest rooms. Beach erosion is still an ongoing problem.

Public Comments:

Lyle Showerman, 12412 East D Ave. The worst police support for speed control around the Bay to Mac's garage. Parking in the street issues. Lake side Sheriff Marine support is lacking on the lake. The Devrou house on the July 4th weekend was an issue. Trash left outside, motorhome impedes the roadway, parties on the roof. Ordinance enforcement needs to be done for noise, etc. Also, is this a legal rental unit in Ross Township?

Mike King – speed limit change 25 mph signs gone. Status of the new speed study.

Larry Stenhauer – RCKC discussed the speed surveys and procedures. Also sign up for RC Connect to get road updates and closing information – also useful for Fire Department notifications, etc.

A general discussion ensued about noise ordinance enforcement. Rental properties, do they have limits on attendants in homes. Discuss and request Sheriff's Patrol to enforce-noise and trespassing ordinances.

Old Business:

Health Benefits Ordinance: Ordinance 215

Geoff Lansky – our Township Insurance Agent discussed the overview of the Ordinance and answered 13 questions posed by Trustee Senkewitz in a prior email request. A copy of the questions and answers are included.

A motion to accept **Ordinance 215** as written was posed by Trustee Harmon, and supported by Supervisor Baker.

Trustee Senkewitz asked can we change the vested rights in the ordinance? Attorney Thall stated that the Board can change the vested rights in the Ordinance.

A Roll Call Vote was conducted as follows:

Mike Sulka -yes, Diana Langshaw-yes, Norm Kellogg-yes, Rob Baker-yes, Cindy Genung-No, Dave Senkewitz-yes, Lynn Harmon-yes. Ordinance 215 was passed with a 6 yes, 1 no vote.

Ross Township Health Benefits Ordinance Resolution: A motion to pass this resolution as written was presented by Trustee Harmon, supported by Supervisor Baker.

Discussion ensued about the detail of the resolution as to payment in lieu of insurance, eligibility Requirements and single participant insured under the Townships plan.

A Roll Call vote was as follows:

Mike Sulka-No, Diana Langshaw-No, Norm Kellogg- No, Rob Baker-Yes, Dave Senkewitz-No, Lynn Harmon-Yes.

The resolution was defeated with a 5, No vote to 2, yes vote tally.

Cemetery Advisory Committee Definition: Tabled for a future Board Meeting.

Any Other Business – None

New Business:

None

Members Time:

Clerk Kellogg – stated that the annual audit is ongoing to be completed by July 17, 2019.

Trustee Harmon – Law Enforcement Committee, the next Board meeting in August will be info only. Plan for a Sept 2019 Board vote as to their recommendation.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was presented by Trustee Sulka, supported by Treasurer Genung and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted



Norm Kellogg
Township Clerk