

**Ross Township
12086 M-89
Richland, MI 49083
Regular Board Meeting
Partial
Via Zoom Teleconference
June 16, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Supervisor Baker

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 , Alex Harris-Deputy Clerk
 Sarah Joshi

Approve Amended Agenda: to include allowing Sarah Joshi to address the Board before the Reports section of the agenda. A motion was presented by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Trustee Harmon and carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was presented by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Trustee Senkewitz and carried unanimously.

Sarah Joshi addressed the board to ask for our support in the upcoming election. She is running for the Kalamazoo County Clerk/Register of Deeds position.

Reports:

Fire Department: Report included. Emergency Sirens checked and serviced. 152 calls YTD.

Police Department: Report included. New Deputy has started in Ross Township. Marine Patrol has received a grant from the DNR. Weekend coverage mostly

Cemetery Committee: Three new junipers were installed in Day Cemetery to replace three dead junipers.

Parks Committee: Report included. Recently a sewer backup has occurred at the park. Last Thursday Roter Rooter was hired to clean up the backup. (\$300 bill). They will order new entrance signs for traffic control. \$12,000 in park revenue as of 6/16/2020. Also, Brent Gould's bill of \$3,408.30 to install new bathroom fixtures was reviewed. Decision to open the bathrooms until 8:30PM from 7:30pm.

AGS: Report included. Ordinance enforcement list.

Planning Commission: Minutes included from the 5/18/2020 meeting. GAAMPS and Outdoor Furnaces are being reviewed. Master Plan should be available for review (draft copy) on June 22, 2020 after the scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

Lifecare: They are still not in Ross Township full time due to staffing issues. Their main station east of Ross Township services our location. They have averaged one call per day in Ross Township.

Supervisors Report: Report included for review. Covid-19 preparation plan for re-opening. Watercraft control (no wake zone) still at the DNR for review and to schedule a public hearing meeting. Dangerous structure hearing on June 11, 2020. 60 to 90-day time frame to demolish this fire damaged house. Sherman Lake SAD – weed control. A special meeting with the Sherman Lake residents is to be scheduled. Waiting to be able to meet in person at an outside venue to accommodate the 40 plus attendees. Ross Township offices will re-open to the public on 6/17/2020. Our Township flags will be handled by the King family going forward.

Public Comment: All via Zoom Teleconference.

Linda Walters asked if face to face meeting will be allowed in July? TBD

Old Business:

The Ross Township Employee Policy and Procedures revised 6/16/2020 was reviewed and discussed. Attorney Thall handed out and Non-Discrimination Policy for review and to add to our Employee Policy. This decision was postponed until our next Board Meeting to incorporate the new additions.

Credit/Lange Properties: Attorney Thall reviewed the Court's decision to dismiss the cases in favor of the Credit and Lange families. Attorney Thall recommended that the Township appeal the decision based on specific issues in the Court's ruling. The Township has appealed this decision. Future court date will be scheduled in the near future. Also discussed was the approval

of a rental registration ordinance for Ross Township. Attorney Thall will put together a draft copy for Board review and possible future approval.

Additional Public Comments: via Zoom Teleconference;

Andrew, family has been home owners since 1903. The properties have been used as rentals for generations. T. Gallagher, two properties adjoin his property. Favors the appeal of the Court's decision. Has owned his property for 21 years. Rob Credit, his family has owned their property for 97 years. Requested that the Township come to homeowners more instead of neighbor's complaints. Communicate with homeowners, Conner Field, adjacent property to the Credit house. Two things are similar owners do not live there and renters have been a nuisance and hassle for family members. Ted Barney, communicated to neighbors to call them about problems. He has received on two complaint calls in many years.

Any other Old Business: None

New Business:

Zoning Ordinance on Signage – Ordinance No. 118. An amended motion to add under K/1, Temporary Signs do not require a permit, was presented by Trustee Langshaw, supported by Trustee Sulka. A roll call vote approve this new Ordinance was as follows:
Sulka-Aye, Langshaw-Aye, Kellogg-Aye, Baker-Aye, Genung-Aye, Senkewitz-Aye, Harmon-Aye.
The motion carried with a 7-0 vote and was unanimously adopted on 6/16/2020.

Remaining PAR fund allocation. \$9,227 to be used for crack fill treatment as per the report provided. (D Ave. to D Ave. and 37th St. to GL Drive East.) This project will be completed by RCKC.

Park Committee

Remove; Alex Harris

Add: Gail Hurn, Chris Gottwald, Cathy Knauf

Supervisor Baker discussed this request as above and previously discussed the matter with Alex Harris. A motion to approve this request was presented by Trustee Senkewitz, supported by Trustee Langshaw. A roll call vote was as follows:
Sulka-Aye, Langshaw-Aye, Baker-Aye, Genung-Aye, Senkewitz-Aye, Harmon-Aye.
Kellogg-Abstained
The motion was passed on a 6 to 0 vote.

Any Other New Business: None

Members Time:

Rob Baker – planning on an open meeting (in person attendance) for the July Board Meeting.

Cindy Genung – Plan to request RFP’s from local financial institutions. This is required as our present Banking relationship is not convenient. (Mercantile Bank). These requests will go out after Attorney review, possibly in the next two to four weeks.

Lynn Harmon- Not here for the July meeting – up north on a Boy Scout commitment. She will have a possible Board request for the August meeting for an Eagle Scout fund request.

There being nor further business a motion to adjourned was presented by Trustee Sulka, supported by Trustee Senkewitz and carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Kellogg
Ross Township Clerk