



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 21st, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

- **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:04pm by Supervisor Hutchings.
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- **Roll Call**

The following Board Members were present: Treasurer Genung, Clerk Louis, Supervisor Hutchings and Trustees Sulka, Langshaw, Bekes and Harmon. No members absent. Approximately seven interested Residents were present.
- **Approval of Agenda**

Trustee Bekes moved to amend Agenda to include Salary for Officer pay under New Business as the number one item and in turn moving the planned New Business to items to numbers two, three and four and a presentation to the Board by Jim DeKruyter prior to Citizen Comment. Trustee Langshaw seconded motion and motion carried unanimously.
- **Consent Agenda**
 - A. Draft Board Minutes**
 - B. Treasurer's Report**
 - C. Clerk's Report**
 - D. Ross Township Policing Stats**
 - E. Ross-Augusta Fire Department Update**
 - F. AGS MTD Invoice and Enforcement Service Updates**

Clerk Louis Moved to approve Consent Agenda less the May 17th, May 26th, June 15th Special Meeting and Joint Planning Commission/Board Meeting Draft Board Minutes from this meetings Consent Agenda, include them in the next meeting's Consent Agenda to allow for further review by Board Members . Trustee Sulka seconded motion. Motion Carried Unanimously.

- **Jim DeKruyter-Marine Patrol Boat Update**

Jim DeKruyter presented the Marine Patrol Boat Purchase. The boat is a nineteen-foot 2007 Century center tower with only 113 engine hours of use for \$29,900.00. This included in the purchase a 2007 tandem axle trailer and 115 hp engine. The boat appraised at \$35,000.00-\$37,000.00.

He further explained that while shopping for a Boat Lift at DockMaster on M-89 they were surprised by the generous offer of the use of a boat lift for no cost to the Township which typically sells for \$10,000.00. DockMaster further offered to install and remove the boat lift for free seasonally as well as professional maintenance.

Four sections of docks were located at and at a \$4,000.00 value it was offered to the Township at no cost and will additionally be installed and removed seasonally at no charge by DockMaster.

Jim believed that by the end of that week a location for the boat, lift and dock would be secured. He stated that most locations are \$4,000.00 however the sight they were securing would be at no charge to the Township. He summarized that the donation and cost savings to the township for 2022 was \$24,500.00-\$26,500.00. Next yeas savings would be \$4,000.00 . He reviewed previous donations towards this project being sandbar neighbors donating \$16,000.00, Gull Lake Ministries \$10,000.00 which was earmarked and used for the purchase of the boat. The remaining \$4,000.00 of the purchase was paid by the Township. In order to fully outfit the patrol boat for service he estimated another \$5,000.00 would be needed.

A discussion was held amongst the Board and it was decided that a Rental Agreement was needed in order to secure the boat site. Trustee Harmon moved to Draft a Rental Agreement with a liability provision. Trustee Bekes seconded; motion carried unanimously. Trustee Sulka noted that a \$250.00 donation was made by a resident at the Meeting on 6/20/22 which is earmarked for the patrol boat supplies that are needed.

Further discussion was held regarding the need to set up a fuel account with Gull Lake Marina. Trustee Harmon Moved to open a fuel account with the Marina with the stipulation that only Boat fuel would be an allowable charge i.e.no luxury, food or snack items be charged to the fuel account. Trustee Bekes seconded motion; motion carried unanimously.

- **Citizen Comment**

Tim Walters spoke of his concerns regarding Medical Marijuana Business and how the Ross Township Board was addressing concerns of security, nuisance odor, light, noise, light, soil contamination, ability for neighbors to have recourse against a business as well as the business holding liability insurance to cover any damage to neighboring properties or any environmental damage. He also suggested the Township look into the Department of Defense's surplus sales program.

Attorney Thall addressed the Medical Marijuana Law, Caregiver Act and regulations that are currently in place vs. the current pending Legislation. Once the legislation is finalized, the Planning Commission is will address concerns, a Public Hearing will be held, then the Board would have to approve the PC's recommendation for local the Ordinance.

Public Comment closed at 6:51pm.

- **Ross Augusta Fire Chief/LifeCare Comments**

Reports are available.

- **Planning Commission Update**

Trustee Bekes stated there was no new business. The Public Hearing for the Medical Marijuana Caregiver matter is scheduled for the 27th.

- **Supervisor Update**

Yorkville Cemetery is in need of Tree maintenance on the North West tree line. Richland Tree Service is providing an estimate for tree trimming and maintenance. This expense will be paid by the Cemetery's perpetual care fund. Trustee Bekes moved to allow a two-week response time for the submittal of estimates for this project by other companies and authorize supervisor Hutchings to pay up to or below \$8,000.00 for the completion of the tree maintenance. Seconded by Trustee Sulka. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Hutchings explained the need for off-site storage for Township records as the storage area is needed as an office for the Police Chief. Estimates from InfoSafe were presented to the board for review. A discussion was held amongst the Board regarding the spectrum of services provided in the estimate and the need for more specific detail. It was agreed that Supervisor Hutchings would request this from InfoSafe provide the Board with updated estimates.

New signs are needed for the Cemeteries that are updated to include verbiage about broken items being discarded if left at gravesites. Trustee Sulka moved to purchase six signs that include the updated verbiage. Trustee Bekes seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Buoys are needed for the park swim zone as well as slow now wake zone. It was decided that three buoys are needed for the park and two more are needed in the slow no wake area. Trustee Harmon moved to purchase five buoys. Clerk Louis seconded; motion carried unanimously.

A Townhall Meeting will be scheduled in the future to review the spending of ARPA Funds. This will be mailed with Summer Tax Bills. This meeting is scheduled for September 19th.

The MTA invoice for annual dues was presented for approval. Trustee Sulka moved to approve payment of \$6,852.61 to MTA for Ross Township's Annual Dues. Trustee Bekes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Siegfried & Crandall's Audit invoice was presented for approval. Trustee Sulka moved to approve payment to Siegfried & Crandall for Audit Services provided in the amount of \$11,122.50. Trustee Langshaw seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

AGS permits and Ross's Police department update was given.

Bert Gale of AGS will enforce Solar Panel screenings and complaints at this time.

- **Clerk Update**

Clerk Louis discussed the statuses of FOIAs being submitted to the Township.

Absentee Voter Applications are going out as planned and required.

End of 2nd Quarter Budget Reports will be provided to the Board at the next meeting.

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **No Parking Ordinance in South Bay**-pending

2. **Marijuana Caregiver Business in Res. Zoning**-pending with PC

3. **The Bluffs-Indemnification Agreement and Escrow Update**

\$75,000.00 is in escrow.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Legislative Section 41.95 Salary for Officers**

Trustee Bekes presented the Legislation that allows for Trustees to receive reimbursement or pay for additional meetings to the one per month normally scheduled. He suggested a \$100 stipend be granted for all special meetings scheduled above and beyond the pre-scheduled monthly meeting. This is the approved allowance for the Planning Commission as well as the Zoning Board of Appeals members. Trustee Bekes moved to adopt Resolution 62122-1 that would allow the Township to pay the Trustee Members an additional \$100.00 stipend for any meeting attended in addition to the pre-scheduled monthly meeting effective July 1, 2022. Seconded by Supervisor Hutchings. A roll call vote was held. The following members voted aye: Bekes Genung, Hutchings, Langshaw and Louis. The following members voted nay: Harmon and Sulka. Resolution 62122-1 adopted.

2. **Ross Twp. Master Plan**

A discussion was held regarding the Draft Master Plan. It was agreed upon the Attorney Thall would draw up verbiage for a special Ordinance re: Business and Residential use of Solar Power. Trustee Harmon moved to return the Draft

Master Plan to the Planning Commission for addition of Solar Power ordinance verbiage. Clerk Louis seconded. A roll call vote was held. The following members voted Aye: Bekes, Sulka, Harmon, Genung, Louis, Langshaw and Hutchings. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Tree Cutting and Stump Removal: Yorkville Cemetery -Addressed in Supervisor's Report.

4. Cemetery Signs (4) -Addressed in Supervisor's Report.

- **Trustee Updates**

Trustee Langshaw discussed that Tax Exempt status on prospective future land projects. Trustee Harmon discussed the EGLE Project Fund availability.

- **Adjournment**

Trustee Sulka motion to Adjourn meeting at 8:50pm. Clerk Louis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carin Louis
Township Clerk