



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
ROSS TOWNSHIP
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN
JANUARY 17, 2023 @6:00pm

Attendee Name	Title	Roll Call Status
Christina Hutchings	Supervisor	Present
Alexander Harris	Clerk	Present
Syndee Genung	Treasurer	Present
Diana Langshaw	Trustee	Present
Michael Bekes	Trustee	Absent
Lynn Harmon	Trustee	Present
Mike Sulka	Trustee	Present
Rob Thall	Attorney	Present

Also present were 12 interested individuals.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

Amended Motion: Approval of Agenda, add GLSWA to Old Business, Add James Baker/ Water to New Business.

Moved By: Lynn Harmon. Seconded by: Syndee Genung.

Vote: Unanimous all Ayes

Result: Carried

Consent Agenda

Amended Motion: Approval of Consent Agenda, remove all draft meeting minutes to be edited.

Moved By: Diana Langshaw. Seconded By: Syndee Genung.

Vote: unanimous all Ayes

Result: Carried



Public Comment

Phoebe Moreo, Community Volunteer – Payroll has no system documentation; w2 & 1099, BS&A Payroll is very manual, 5 Websites to input data after running payroll. 26 pay periods should be changed to 24. To reduce costs payroll should be direct deposit for employees.

Carin Louis – Has helped Syndee and Phoebe with payroll questions. *See attachment

Mark Rodgers – Against the GLSWA & not respectfully treating Ross TWP. *See attachment

Mary Stage – Concerned about recording of meetings and office.

6:39 public comment closed

Consent Agenda

Fire Chief Doug Bogema – Ross/Augusta runs up 11% from last year, now 450 runs. Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment not easy. New Tanker arrived just before Christmas. ARPA funds used towards 3 thermal imaging cameras.

Police Chief Melody Rugg – 62 Calls, Ordered Speed trailers for car counting and flash speed limit. Body Camera & Car Camera are working.

Planning Commission – Question Development agreement, talk to actin chairman.

Clerk – Bureau of Elections responded about hiring a green card holder, he can not run election day, all other responsibilities regarding an election are permissible. I am considering other Deputy possibilities.

NEW BUSINESS

Matt Callendar, The Bluffs water system

Motion: Ross Township Board to reject taking ownership of the Bluffs type 1 water system.

Moved by: Lynn Harmon. Seconded by: Mike Sulka.

Vote: 5-Ayes, 1-Nay

Result: Carried

James Baker, Public Services Director for City of Kalamazoo



- In 1977 City of Kalamazoo formed a wastewater treatment relationship with Ross Township superseded by GLSWA sewage service.
- The City of Kalamazoo in 1995 purchased 224 acres on Greer Dr. in Ross Township for a future well field. Would need water withdrawal permit & treatment facilities, more than 10 years out for development 3-6 million gallons day.
- 2018/2019 City Kalamazoo submitted Planning documents to the State, this included the Township of Ross, Richland, Prairieville, Barry with a public water loop around Gull Lake.
- Ross Township has NO contractual relationship for Kalamazoo City Water. Ross Township requested any future planning come to the board first.

Kalamazoo County Household Hazardous Waste Center

Motion: We agree to reserve the same amount of funds as previous year, for residents to be able to use the service to dispose their household hazardous waste.

Moved by: Mike Sulka. Seconded by: Lynn Harmon.

Vote: All Ayes – unanimous

Result: Carried

New Planning Commissioner

Motion: The board moved to approve Supervisor Hutchings recommendation Mary Stage to serve on Planning Commission.

Moved By: Mike Sulka. Seconded By: Syndee Genung.

Vote: All Ayes – unanimous

Result: Carried

EPS Quote Security Cameras

Motion: To order 2 additional cameras for cash/records vault and back-office area.

Cost \$1,450.00

Moved by Mike Sulka. Seconded by: Lynn Harmon.

Vote: All Ayes – unanimous

Result: Carried



Board of Review

Motion: Approve Resolution for acceptance of letters of protest for March, 2023 Board of Review.

Moved by: Mike Sulka. Seconded By: Diana Langshaw.

Roll Call: Aye – 6; Sulka, Harris, Harmon, Hutchings, Genung, Langshaw

Nay- 0

Result: Adopted

Updating State Required Poverty Level Income Standards

Motion: Approve Resolution for updating state Required Poverty level income standards for property Tax poverty exemption for Tax year 2023.

Moved by: Lynn Harmon. Seconded by: Alexander Harris

Roll Call: Aye – 6, Sulka, Harris, Harmon, Hutchings, Genung, Langshaw.

Nay-0

Result: Adopted.

Board of Review

Motion: Approve Resolution to Provide for Alternate Starting Dates for March 2023 Board of Review.

Moved by: Diana Langshaw. Seconded by: Syndee Genung.

Roll Call: Aye -6, Sulka, Harris, Harmon, Hutchings, Genung, Langshaw

Nay – 0

Result: Adopted

Selection of Payroll Provider for outsourcing Payroll

Recommend move to budget meeting.



OLD BUSINESS

Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority

Ross Township is very disappointed in GLSWA, the request for John Crumb financials and employment contract, salary details have been denied. Ross Township is a member with oversight of GLSWA and should have access to these documents when requested without cost. The suggestion was made to have Ross Twp Trustees attend the GLSWA meetings with Supervisor Hutchings. Lynn Harmon volunteered to attend the February 13th meeting.

Motion: FOIA John Crumb Financials and employment contract, salary details at cost of \$115.28.

Moved by Lynn Harmon. Seconded by Mike Sulka.

Vote: All Ayes - unanimous

Result: Carried

Budget Meeting Dates

Wednesday February 15th, 2023 – 5:30pm

Wednesday February 22nd, 2023 – 5:30pm

Regular Board Meeting Date

Tuesday February 21st, 2023 – 6:00pm

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:49p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexander D Harris
Township Clerk

