

ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
APRIL 12, 2005 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Jeff Bither, Supervisor at 7:00 P.M. Roll Call of members shows as follows:

Present;	Jeff Bither, Supervisor	Cynthia Genung, Treasurer
	Martha Chambers, Clerk	Diana Langshaw, Trustee
	Sid Durham, Trustee	Owen Murray, Trustee
	Jon Scott, Trustee	

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Murray to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Accept the Treasurer's Report for March, 2005 along with the Treasurer's Update; approve the minutes of 3/15/05 as amended, the bills paid for March and the bills payable for April, 2005. The motion was seconded by Scott and carried.

Fire Dept. Report:

Genung reported that the Richland Bible Church's youth group volunteered to wash and wax all the fire trucks and did a great job as a service project.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Bither reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report from AGS dated 4/1/05. The French property has a deadline of June 1st to have cleanup completed.

Bither inspected the Powell property on the blight issue and felt that they had made a good effort on cleanup so he put a hold on hiring a dumpster and KPEP; they have until the end of April to have the residence inhabitable. Bither feels that we should wait on condemnation of the property as the Township doesn't really want to condemn a person's home.

The Fowler property deadline is 4/15/05 and AGS will be issuing a ticket if they are still in non-compliance.

Police Report:

Bither reviewed the County Police Report; however their computer system was not working and the report only covers the first 14 days of April.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

LifeCare Ambulance Report:

Ron Slagell was present to review a quarterly report for Jan thru March for LifeCare and answer any questions from the Board. Slagell stated that the mutual aid runs were up this quarter. Murray questioned how the lines of communication are going between LifeCare and Pride in Richland Twp and Slagell stated that the co-operation has been good. Genung stated that the fire runs for Richland are really high since Pride took over as they are called out more often which really increases the expense for the fire department.

Road improvement discussion:

Bither stated that he and Durham drove the Township roads last week to see which roads are the most in need of work. The question is which roads are in the worst condition taking into consideration the amount of traffic that each of those roads has.

It was the consensus of the Board that since we have committed to the bridge on 44th Street and the 43rd Street bridge has little traffic that we will take the bridge out which will remove the existing dangerous structure and hole and not replace the bridge. Genung stated that in the 20 years since the 43rd St. bridge has been out that there has been little complaint until lately when we received a letter from Dave Flook.

Motion by Langshaw to have KCRC remove the 43rd Street bridge and not replace it. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Bither stated that he and Durham also inspected Idlewild and that is mostly potholes which will be patched; 37th St. is a County road which KCRC will wedge and pave at no cost to the Township. The cost of paving S. Gull Lake Dr. is \$98,000 and \$12,400 to wedge.

Motion by Chambers to approve the wedging and paving of S. Gull Lake Dr. per KCRC quote dated 4/11/05 in the amount of \$12,400 and wedging and paving of E. Gull Lake Dr. not to exceed \$27,540 if the price for wedging exceeds the \$27,540 then we will chip seal as KCRC has already quoted that amount for chip seal. The motion was seconded by Murray. Roll Call Vote showed as follows: Murray, aye - Langshaw, aye - Durham, aye - Chambers, aye - Genung, aye - Scott, aye and Bither abstained the vote. The motion carried.

Fire Works Permits:

Motion by Murray to allow the 4th of July fireworks display to be held at the township park contingent upon the township receiving 2 ½ million dollars worth of liability insurance and that the Kalamazoo County

Marine Patrol will be on patrol at the site during the display. The motion was seconded by Scott and carried.

Ordinance #169 approval:

Motion by Durham to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the adoption of Ordinance #169 – Rezoning of property in Section 20. The motion was seconded Langshaw and carried with Jon Scott abstaining from the vote.

Air Conditioning decision:

Motion by Genung to approve the purchase of an air conditioning system for the hall not to exceed \$10,000 total which is to include the electrical work for installation which will replace the existing unit subject to a low noise level. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Member's time:

Langshaw suggested that the Board have a monthly meeting with the Village of Augusta some time in the next year. Scott would like the Board to support a request that Kellogg Forest re-open the drive to car traffic for the public. Genung would like the Board to consider having a survey done on the property that the Township owns surrounding the hall. Genung stated that the property card shows approximately 12 acres and feels maybe some of the property could be sold with the funds being used toward building a new township hall. Bither stated that the Township has received a donation of \$2,000 from the Gull Lake Bible Conference toward additional weather warning sirens. Bither is going to request a donation from the Y-Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers
Ross Township Clerk