

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**JUNE 14, 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 showed 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 Murray to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Motion by Murray to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the minutes of May 10, 2005, the Treasurer's Report, bills paid and payable for June. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Kalamazoo County Justice Facilities Proposal:

Tammy Woodhams and Jim Frederick did a presentation on the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Kalamazoo County Justice Facilities proposal. Frederick outlined why the County needs the proposed expansion and how the dollars will be used.

Planning Commission Report:

Allen Harmon, Chair of the Ross Twp. Planning Commission was present to bring the Board up to speed on what the P/C is currently working on. The P/C is working on simplifying the zoning to bring it in line with the Land Use Plan. Harmon stated that they are in the talking stage now and no numbers have been finalized about the number of acres. The P/C is trying to be creative with zoning options; they are looking at density based on the availability of sewer and water. They are looking at encouraging open space development and discouraging the traditional platting. Craig Rolfe will attend the July P/C meeting to discuss the implications of the Right to Farm Act.

Bither stated that a few years ago the P/C wanted to change R/A from one acre/200' of road frontage to 10 acres/330' and he does not want the P/C to spend the time on zoning changes and have a public hearing (which is expensive) only to have the Township Board turn down the proposal. Harmon stated that he will try to keep the Twp. Board up to date on what the P/C is proposing and if it is acceptable to the Twp. Board which will save time, money and work for both boards.

Jon Scott commented that he was on the P/C when they tried to change the zoning in R/A to five acres and the change was widely accepted by P/C members; however was not well received by the farmers and large land owners.

Fire Dept. Report:

Durham reported that the Fire Board met last week. They have done the necessary work on the pumps to get them re-certified.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Bither reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report dated 6/6/05 from AGS. Bither spoke with French after 6/6/05 (the deadline for cleanup – of which he has already had several extensions over a few years of ongoing letters and phone calls) and Bither informed French that he will receive a ticket for noncompliance.

The Powell property is being worked on and the township has received no complaints from neighbors. Bither recommends tabling action on this property for another month.

The township has no jurisdiction over the violation on the Fowler property and this violation should be deleted. The Bassett file should be closed along with the Wilbur file.

Police Report:

Bither reviewed the KCSD police report for May and placed it on file.

Public Comment:

None

Hillcrest Water System Update:

Bither state that the only information that he has is that Phase I of the Hillcrest project is going to be well and septic so the water system is a non issue at this point.

Subdivision Development Ordinance:

Bither reviewed some changes that he would like to make in the Subdivision Development Ordinance; page 93 of the Ordinance the 10 required copies should be replaced with 12 copies; the following fee schedule on Page 4 should be for all plats; Page 3 the fee s/b \$1,000 + \$25/parcel; Page 7 final preliminary fee s/b \$500 + \$20/parcel; Page 10 Final Plat Approval s/b \$200 + \$10/parcel. Variance from the subdivision requirements fee s/b \$500.

Motion by Durham to approve the proposed New Subdivision Development Ordinance along with the stated fees.

Murray felt that the P/C should have input on the wording of this Ordinance since the proposed plat will be referred to them for review and the motion was amended to include "contingent upon approval by the Planning Commission". Scott had concerns regarding wording on Page 8 # 1, he feels the wording s/b as conforming to KCRC standards and the motion was further amended to include wording that streets must adhere to Kalamazoo County Road Commission standards". The amended motion is as follows:

**Motion by Durham to approve the proposed New Subdivision Development Ordinance along with the stated fees contingent upon the review and approval from the Planning Commission of the Ordinance and that wording on Page 8 # 1 be included that all streets must conform to the standards of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission. The motion and amendments to the motion were seconded by Langshaw. Roll Call vote showed all ayes and the motion carried.**

Motion by Genung to assign the responsibility for review of all Plat applications to the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Approval of Parking Lot Seal Coating Bids:

Bither received three bids (from AIM, Arnt and Tustin) to seal coat and stripe the hall parking lot and stripe the park parking lot.

Motion by Durham to accept a bid not to exceed \$2,985. The motion was seconded by Langshaw and carried.

Fireworks Permit for Great Lakes Burn Camp:

Motion by Durham to grant a fireworks permit to Mr. Bonney for the Great Lakes Burn Camp to be held at the Sherman Lake Y-Center on July 7<sup>th</sup> at no cost, subject to

Ross Township being named additional insured. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Cable Franchise Agreement:

Motion by Langshaw to table the Cable Franchise Agreement until July. The motion was seconded by Genung and carried.

Member's time:

Genung received a policy holder disclosure notice for Terrorist Insurance Coverage. The notice states that the Township can take the insurance for \$100 per year or refuse and sign papers that we refused.

Motion by Genung to refuse the Terrorist Ins. Policy as offered. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers  
Ross Township Clerk