

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 11, 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	Martha Chambers, Clerk
	Sid Durham, Trustee	Jon Scott, Trustee
Absent:	Cynthia Genung, Treasurer	Owen Murray, Trustee
	Diana Langshaw, Trustee	

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Scott to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried with all ayes.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Durham to amend the September minutes and approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Scott and carried.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Bither reviewed the AGS Ordinance Enforcement Report dated 10/4/2005. The French file is closed. The Powell property needs finals on mechanical, electrical and building by the end of 30 days so this file is on hold. The Bassett file is closed. The Love file can be tabled. The Buckner property is on hold; Bither is trying to find someone to take the used tires off the property.

Police Report:

Bither reviewed the police report from Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept. for September, 2005. Durham is concerned about the number of stops that seem to be outside of Ross Township; Bither will talk to the Sheriff's Dept. and try to find exactly why this is happening.

Forest Beach Lot Split Request:

The Zoning Board of Appeals heard a variance request on Lot 5 of Forest Beach last week. Jon Scott who is a member of the ZBA Board along with being a Trustee on the Township Board reviewed the ZBA findings and stated that the ZBA approved the variance request to recognize the two lots. Lot 5 existed under multiple forms as it started out as unplatted land which was later platted also a change in the Ordinance changed the rear yard to front yard on lake lots. The information presented to the ZBA was that Lot 5 was a probable split which may or may not have been recorded.

The variance was approved to change the lot line 16' to create two lots of equal size which made the lots less non-conforming. Scott stated that the granting of this variance in no way guarantees that a building permit will be issued on this land.

Motion by Scott to split Lot 5 per the ZBA's findings noting that the approval of this split does not in any way indicate a building permit will be issued. The motion was seconded by Durham. Roll Call vote showed Scott - aye, Chambers - aye, Bither - aye and Durham - aye and the motion carried.

Public Comment:

Ron Slagell, Operations Manager of LifeCare Ambulance stated that they Purchased an automatic garage door opener for the ambulance bay in the garage. Life Care has been very involved with the evacuees from Hurricane Katrina.

Durham stated that he and Owen Murray will work on a Cost Recovery Ordinance and also need to look at a Dry Hydrant Ordinance.

Hillcrest Development Water System:

Bither reviewed a memo from Gull Lake Sewer & Water and stated that Hillcrest Development has paid \$5,500 for Prein & Newhof to do a water feasibility study for a water system. The township will be asked to fund a water system at some time in the next few years; Gull Lake Sewer will act as Ross Township's agent in this project

Snow Plow Bids:

Bither opened the snow plow bids; we received four bids from the following, Dustins, Jay's, Mike's Power Wash and Bob Vaccaro (see attached original bids). It was the consensus of the Board that Jay's Lawn & Garden Services was the lowest bid and it was noted that Jay is a township resident.

Motion by Chambers to accept the bid from Jay's for snow removal as proposed for the 2005-2006 season. The motion was seconded by Durham and carried.

Siren Maintenance Contract:

Motion by Durham to approve a contract with West Shore Services for an annual inspection of the two weather sirens in the township for an annual fee of \$450.00. The motion was seconded by Scott and carried.

Telephone Voice Mail approval:

When the Township purchased the telephone system, the cost for voice mail was \$2,500 so it was not added to the system. Bither did a recent price check on adding the voice mail system and the price has dropped to \$500 with \$140 for installation and training for a total of \$640.00. The new system will have the capability of 24 mail boxes and will give the Township phone coverage for the weekends.

Motion by Durham to approve the purchase of the voice system not to exceed \$640.00. The motion was seconded by Scott and carried.

Member's Time:

Scott feels that Joe Gesmundo will be back to the Board some time in the spring regarding the changes at Yorkville Cemetery.

Bither has received a request from Bert Gale from AGS to use the township hall for two days in December so he can host an electrical class. It was the consensus of the Board to allow Gale to host this class.

Bither feels that the Board needs to develop a disaster plan for the township. Bither will talk to officials at the County to see what information is available and will also talk to the fire department.

Motion by Bither to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Chambers and carried with the meeting over at 7:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers  
Ross Township Clerk

