

**ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2006 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Ross Township Board was called to order by Jeff Bither, Supervisor at 9:00 A.M. Roll call of members showed as follows:

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

Motion by Langshaw to approve the agenda as amended; the motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Motion by Murray to approve the consent agenda which consists of the Treasurer's Report, bills paid for July, 2006, bills payable for August, 2006 and the minutes of 7/8/06 as proposed. The motion was seconded by Scott and was approved.

Reports:

Fire Dept. Report:

Genung reported that the Fire Department is having a training session today at the high school. Kalamazoo Township is proposing to build a new training center (located at the corner of Gull and Nazareth Roads).

Ordinance Enforcement:

Bither reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report from AGS dated 8/3/06.

Police Report:

Bither reviewed the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Dept. report dated July, 2006 covering Ross Township.

Right to Farm Act:

It was the consensus of the Board to table any action on the Right to Farm Ordinance as Bither has a few more questions for Craig Rolfe before we approve it.

Longterm Capital Improvements:

During the last several months the Board has discussed the possibility of building a new township hall or renovating the existing building because we have little room for public meetings, there is next to no storage, the hall is not handicap accessible, the heating and cooling expenses are high because of little to no insulation and old windows. The board discussion have centered around whether to add on to the existing building or to build a new building; which would be more cost effective and also how we will fund this type of project.

Bither is requesting information from several different companies i.e. Miller Davis and Fleis and Vandenberg. The first item that the Board needs to do is set up a steering committee, a needs analysis will need to be done; however there will be a cost involved in the area of \$10,000.

Ordinance #172:

In the rezoning for Abushmaies/Bedford on 37th Street, their attorney listed their three plat numbers; however, they neglected to list all the legal descriptions. Ordinance #171 was approved which put the rezoning in place; Ordinance #172 needs to be approved to correct #171 which will include all three parcel descriptions.

Motion by Genung to approve Ordinance #172 which will correct Ordinance #171 with the stipulation that any legal expenses over the \$2,000 rezoning fee will be billed to the applicant. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Board Meeting Times:

It was the consensus of the Board to set the Township Board Meetings back to the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. beginning September.

Kalamazoo County Emergency Management:

The purpose of the township approving this countywide hazard mitigation plan is if we approve the plan we are eligible for federal funding if a hazardous emergency happens; if we do not approve the plan, we cannot receive federal money.

The approval of the plan was tabled until September in order to have the Resolution printed on Ross Township letterhead.

Approval of ballot language for proposal to eliminate rollback of 1.0 mill in the November General Election:

Motion by Langshaw to approve the proposed ballot language for the November, 2006 General Election to eliminate rollback of 1.0 mill general operating millage for four years beginning 2006 through 2009 which will generate approximately \$79,103. The motion was seconded by Murray. Roll Call Vote showed as follows: Scott – nay, Genung – aye, Chambers – aye, Bither – aye, Langshaw – aye and Murray – aye. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers
Ross Township Clerk