

ROSS TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2007 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
	Jon Scott, Trustee	Owen Murray, Trustee
Absent:	Sid Durham, Trustee	

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Chambers, second by Langshaw to approve the agenda as amended (addition of item "D" LifeCare Quarterly Report) under Reports. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Chambers to approve the Consent Agenda which contains the minutes of 9/11/07, (the bills paid & payable were not included in the packet) and the September Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Reports:

Fire Report:

Genung stated that there was no Fire Board meeting. The Haunted House will be held on 10/27/07 from 1 to 4.

Ordinance Enforcement Report:

Bither reviewed the Ordinance Enforcement Report from AGS dated 10/3/07. A citation for blight was issued to Michelle Love on 40th Street. The Bedford/Abushmais issue will be heard on the November ZBA.

Police Report:

Bither reviewed the KCSD police report for September, 2007.

LifeCare Ambulance Report:

Ron Slagell reviewed the quarterly ambulance report for LifeCare. Slagell stated that the fire investigator is looking at two sources of fire in the ambulance last month; one is the cruise control and the other is the heater on diesel engine. Once the source is determined, LifeCare's insurance company will file suit with Ford Motor Company.

Old Business:

Stoney Creek #5:

Rich Rosenberg does not wish to comply with Craig Rolfe's letter of 9/27 and 10/4/07 because it makes two of his lots unbuildable. Chambers stated that she would like to table this matter until the township attorney reviews it. Scott disagrees with the attorney's opinion in his two letters and feels the Planning Commission needs to make changes in the Ordinance.

Motion by Chambers to table Stoney Creek #5 and refer it back to Township Attorney Rolfe. The motion was seconded by Murray and carried.

Burning Ordinance:

Motion by Genung to adopt the amendment to the Burning Ordinance as proposed. The motion was seconded by Murray and it carried.

Scott's resignation from ZBA:

Motion by Langshaw, seconded by Murray to accept Jon Scott's resignation from the ZBA and the appointment of Ed Harvey as a member to the ZBA and Jon Scott's appointment as an alternate member to the ZBA. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Sherman Lake Weed Control:

Sherman Lake residents special assessed themselves for weed control five years ago; the assessment has expired and the residents are proposing a new special assessment district. The residents are requesting that the Township Board make a motion to accept a new assessment district at \$250 per home. If the Board decides to make this motion creating a new district, the residents that oppose may sign petitions against the district stopping the district with signatures of 20%. Whether the district is made by Board motion or by petitions, two public hearings must be held.

Bither explained that any funds that are left in the account from the expired district must be refunded to the individuals that paid into it. It was the consensus of the Board that we are not interested in creating a special assessment district by motion. The Board is requesting that the district be created by petition so we know exactly the percentage of residents that want another district.

GIS Agreement with County of Kalamazoo:

The Planning Dept. of Kalamazoo County is attempting to expand and develop a countywide Geographic Information System (GIS). The County is requesting the Township Board to approve a Resolution allowing them access to the Township's GIS data from the Township's Engineers, Prein & Newhof. This mapping service will not cost Ross Township any money.

Motion by Murray to approve a Resolution allowing the County access to Ross Township's data information from Prein & Newhof. The motion was seconded by Scott. Roll Call of members showed all ayes and the motion was unanimously accepted.

Member's Time:

Genung stated that she is unhappy with Rebecca Harvey not getting her information to the Township in time to be included in the packet mailing. Harvey is consistently bringing in last minute information after the packets have been mailed. Harvey has been told on several occasions to bill the Township on a monthly basis and does not do it. It was the consensus of the Board to get bids from other planners after the first of the year.

Scott feels that Ross Township is growing and he feels that it is very important for the Township to have a good planner to work with the Board and the Planning Commission.

Murray would like to see the Board hold budget workshops in December, possibly the 1st, 8th or 15th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Martha Chambers
Ross Township Clerk