

SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
December 11, 2013

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Hovenkamp, Mongreig, Scott and Ulsh
Trustee Feldmeier arrived approximately 7:10 p.m.

Approval of agenda. Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Approval of prior minutes. Motion by Scott with second by Hovenkamp to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013 regular meeting. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Approval of minutes of closed meeting held November 12, 2013. Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Approve payment of bills. Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott to approve the list of bills for payment. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Scott reported the following for the month of November 2013:

Interest Income	\$ 32.89
Income	\$ 75,720.06
Expenditures	\$ 50,586.64
General Fund Balance	\$236,304.27

Motion by Mongreig with second by Feldmeier to approve the Treasurer's report.
Motion carried 5-0.

Citizen's Time. Patricia Ward of VW Avenue read a statement regarding night to dawn lights in the township, specifically lights to the south of her residence on VW Avenue.

Attorney Rolfe stated that the township ordinance is not devoid of lighting. The township has the legal authority to address and regulate exterior lighting through Zoning Ordinance Article 4, General Provisions, Sec. 4.17- Lighting Limitations. He suggested the Board discuss the complaint/issue before spending time and money forwarding to the Planning Commission as the ordinance covers all land uses.

Ross Township is the only township with a lighting ordinance Mrs. Ward found.

Attorney Rolfe stated that he is aware of the Ross Township ordinance which regulates the lumen power and number of lights on new installations as he is counsel for Ross Township.

Trustee Feldmeier drove by the property in question and noticed the very bright lights. He thinks that limiting lighting - both time and intensity is an issue we should deal with in some way, and believes the lights are in violation.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that the lights are not in violation of Schoolcraft Township's current ordinance.

Mrs. Ward stated that the lights look like a runway from her home.

Attorney Rolfe stated that the complaint should not be forwarded to the Ordinance Enforcement Officer as Supervisor Ulsh Zoning Administrator has received an alleged violation complaint and suggested Supervisor Ulsh should go look at the lights at his convenience and make a determination.

Dangerous Building Enforcement Hearing Discussion– Jeff and Kelly Blodgett property 2259 East W Avenue, Schoolcraft Township

No one was present on behalf of the Blodgett's with their intentions. Mr. Blodgett answered correspondence to Attorney Rolfe that he is very unhappy to hear from the building official that work that could be done by the homeowner was concealed. Mr. Blodgett covered electrical and plumbing work concealing work before it could be inspected. Steve Siegwart of Michigan Township Services asked Mr. Blodgett to remove the drywall in order that the inspection could be performed.

Attorney Rolfe is of the belief that the Blodgett's are walking away from the property.

Schoolcraft Township Dangerous Building Hearing Officer Bert Gale set a December 1, 2013 deadline for the building to be demolished if no intention by the Blodgett's to bring the property into compliance. As of this meeting the Blodgett's have indicated no intent to try to bring the building into compliance.

Attorney Rolfe advised the board that there is a 60 day waiting period for demolition giving the Blodgett's more time to come up with a plan for the building.

Supervisor Ulsh will obtain two bids for demolition. A lien will be placed on the property for the demolition costs.

Motion by Mongreig with second by Feldmeier to approve the decision of the Dangerous Building Hearing Officer to demolish the building. **Motion carried 5-0**

The Blodgett's will be advised by mail from Attorney Rolfe of the status of the matter.

Tax Tribunal Appeals Decision. Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott to table. **Motion carried 5-0**

Discuss Vehicle Parking and Repair Ordinance No.150. Following discussion and suggestions Attorney Rolfe was directed to make revisions and forward a revised draft of the proposed ordinance for the January 14, 2014 meeting.

Proposed Property Address Ordinance No.260. Motion by Feldmeier with second by Hovenkamp to adopt Schoolcraft Township Property Address Ordinance.

Feldmeier	yes
Hovenkamp	yes
Mongreig	yes
Scott	yes
Ulsh	yes

Roll call vote 5-0

Motion carried 5-0

Deferred Compensation Plan Amendment: Motion by Mongreig with second by Hovenkamp to amend the current Schoolcraft Township 457 Plan to include part-time employees and independent contractors to participate in the plan with pre-taxed and/ or Roth employee salary deferral only.
Motion carried 5-0

Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department Operations Lieutenant, Jim Vandyken Addressed the board as the new officer covering Schoolcraft Township. He plans on attending four meetings per year.

Township Service Providers The board will hold a special meeting January 14, 2014 at 6:30 for the purpose of discussing service providers.

Road Committee – Road Chair Scott and Supervisor Ulsh met with Kalamazoo County Road Commission Project Superintendent for Schoolcraft Township Mark Worden. Chair Scott also met with Jim Beaudoin and two others to discuss work done in 2013 and 2014 quotes.

VW Avenue from 12th Street to the Village of Schoolcraft limits improvements may be added to the 2014 schedule as Prairie Ronde Township is planning improvements on VW Avenue near 12th Street, and it is more economical to repair VW Avenue in Schoolcraft Township at that time 12th Street while in the area.

Improvements South 22nd Street will be done in increments.

Supervisor Ulsh informed the board of the following Kalamazoo County Road Commission Local Road Participation Fund timeline:
January 20, 2014 – KCRC is to notify each township of the amount of participation funds available for its use.
February 28, 2014 – Townships must provide a signed specific local roads contract(s) based on project estimates.
May 15, 2014 - Each township must obligate its portion of the participation funds with signed specific local road contract(s) based on project estimates prepared by the Road Commission.

Clerk Mongreig: May, August and November 2014 Elections
Supervisor Ulsh: Office closings - December 26, 2013 and January 2, 2014

Motion by Scott with second by Hovenkamp to adjourn the meeting 8:45 p.m.


Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft