

Schoolcraft Township Board

July 9, 2013

Schoolcraft Township Hall

Supervisor Ulsh opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Supervisor Don Ulsh, Clerk Virginia Mongreig, Treasurer Teresa Scott, and Trustee Hovenkamp.

Absent: Feldmeier

Also Present: Attorney Rolfe

Dennis Berkebile of Consumers Energy

Township Residents: Ed and Charlotte Stiller, John and Paula Johnson, and Frank Roerade.

Motion by Scott with support by Hovenkamp to approve the agenda with the change in order of discussion in New Business a.) and b.).

Motion carried 4-0

Motion by Scott with support by Hovenkamp to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2013 meeting as presented.

Motion carried 4-0

Motion by Scott with support by Hovenkamp to approve the List of Bills as presented.

Motion carried 4-0

Treasurer Scott Reported:

Interest Income for June 2013	\$ 110.95
Income for June 2013	\$ 16,169.39
Expenditures for June 2013	\$ 112,424.97
Total Cash	\$ 365,297.83

Motion by Hovenkamp with support by Mongreig to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Motion carried 4-0

Attorney Rolfe reviewed the Proposed Consumers Energy Company Electric Franchise Ordinance #258 which replaces the 10 year Ordinance No. 210 between Consumers Energy Company and Schoolcraft Township that expired January 2012.

Dennis Berkebile of Consumers Energy apologized for the lapse in the ordinance and stated that he supports the 30 year Ordinance #258 as drafted by Attorney Rolfe.

Motion by Mongreig with second by to Hovenkamp to adopt Consumers Energy Company Electric Franchise Ordinance #258.

Hovenkamp -y, Mongreig-y, Scott-y, and Ulsh - y

Motion carried 4-0

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Stiller were present to explain their reasons for installing a new fence on their property at 1460 Balboa. Mrs. Stiller stated that Consumers Energy had removed trees revealing a fence that was installed in 1968 and is in poor condition. The Stiller's were trying to make the area "look good for the neighbors". Mr. Stiller stated that all but three property owners in the neighborhood signed a petition presented to Supervisor Ulsh.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that he has received two complaints of the fence at the township.

Attorney Rolfe told the Stiller's that it doesn't matter how many complaints are received, the obligation is on the Township to deal with complaint, and that this fence is unquestionably against ordinance.

Attorney Rolfe also explained to the Stiller's that the Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission has recently updated the zoning ordinance and they plan to continue discussions possibly resulting in a change in the fencing ordinance as all fencing will be revisited.

Attorney Rolfe advised the Stiller's to leave the existing fence as is pending results of the Planning Commission discussions.

Supervisor Ulsh encouraged the Stiller's to attend the upcoming Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission Meetings.

Supervisor discussed the following properties that Ordinance Office Tina Straw is currently working on:
B&S Auto Parts: Officer Straw has spent many hours and days working with the residents of the property to remove trash, animals, vehicles, and non-compliant buildings and items.
Supervisor Ulsh reported that the property owners are out of compliance of 75 foot setback from the road right-of-way.

Ron Miller: Semi trailer storage: No ordinance against the storage of the semi in the commercial district if it is plated.

Jeff and Kelly Blodgett Property at 2259 East W Avenue: Officer Straw met with Mr. Blodgett who said he would contact Steve Siegwart of Michigan Township Services which he did not.

Supervisor Ulsh will attempt to contact Mr. & Mrs. Blodgett once more to inform that the inspection is due, and either the Blodgett's fix or tear down the structure or the township will fix/tear it down.

Supervisor Ulsh requested a pay rate of \$100.00 for Dangerous Building Hearing Officer Bert Gale.
Motion by Mongreig with support by Hovenkamp to approve the hiring of Mr. Gale at a rate of \$100.00 per occurrence.

Motion carried 4-0

Attorney Rolfe Craig reported that he has recently received correspondence from the Property Services Division of the Michigan Department of Treasury regarding his May 2013 letter. The correspondence states that the commission will be able to grant the request for **Rettenmaier USA LP** for an extension to Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate #2012-200 which the commission initially denied.

Attorney Rolfe has completed the documents for the Zoning Ordinance books. He has delivered the master copy and binders for assembly by the Township staff.

Trustee Hovenkamp reported of two variance requests that came before the Zoning Board of Appeals; one being denied as there was no hardship, and the approved the other request.

Road Committee Chair Scott reported she has contacted the Kalamazoo County Road Commission regarding pothole reports.

Trustee Hovenkamp questioned if Road Commission will be back after the rains to complete touch up work at property owner's driveways. Supervisor Ulsh mentioned that the Road Commission usually does repair damage to driveways.

Chair Scott will contact the Road Commission.

Trustee Hovenkamp apologized for recent absences.

He also reported on the Barton Lake Fact Finding Committee study on access for Angel's Crossing Development; concerns of Barton Lake property owners as to the relationship of the Vicksburg president property owner Reeves, and with American Village Builder's building more condo's with lake access.

Hovenkamp stated, "if they're (Angel's Crossings) true to what they are asking for, canoes and kayaks will be ok". (at the access.)

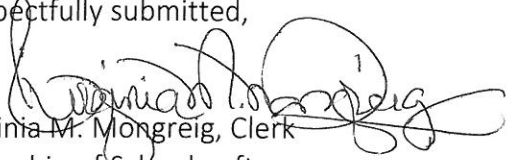
Supervisor Ulsh stated that the Village of Vicksburg can include language in their conservancy as to who can use the conservancy access to Barton Lake

Trustee Hovenkamp asked for an update on the bike trails...no report given.

Treasurer Scott reported the tax season coming along, and that Assessor Brousseau has scheduled the complete re-assessment of the Township as agreed to by the board in early 2013. The residential re-assessment will begin in the Village of Schoolcraft

Supervisor Ulsh reported that the Planning Commission was very complimentary in their review of the J Rettenmaier USA LP site plan review held July 1, 2013

Respectfully submitted,


Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft