

Ray Township Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 16, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Ray Township Hall
64255 Wolcott, Ray, Michigan 48096

Present: Charles Bohm, Supervisor
Paula Artman, Clerk
Douglas Stier, Treasurer
Betty Grader, Trustee
John Zoccola, Trustee

Also present - 23 residents.

1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Supervisor Bohm called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Supervisor Bohm, Clerk Artman, Treasurer Stier, Trustee Grader and Trustee Zoccola present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA -

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to approve the agenda as presented, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC HEARING 2016 CDBG FUNDS -

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to open the Public Hearing for 2016 CDBG Funding, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

Terry Goike, 21122 32 Mile Rd., asked if brick and mortar money was associated with this funding, and if so she was asking for the library. Mr. Bohm said the committee is out on that, they are still looking into it. It was asked how much money is available this year, and it was stated \$7,500.00.

Kevin Brown, 18955 29 Mile Road asked Mr. Bohm if he was aware of the article stating the Shelby Township Lions Club received some CDBG funding for brick and mortar; he said money was given to several service agencies as well. He found the listing of designated amounts and the distribution in the paper. Mr. Brown said he would like to get some of that funding for the Lions Club in Ray Township. Mr. Brown explained the Lions Club doesn't have a designated hall; they use the Township Hall for meetings, and all their money is donated back to the local community. The Lions Club tries to spend everything right here. Mr. Brown wanted to bring that article to the Board's attention.

MOTION by Ms. Artman to close the Public Hearing for 2016 CDBG Funding, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion Carried.

4. PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2016-2017 BUDGET –

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to open the Public Hearing for the 2016-2017 Budget, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion Carried.

Terry Goike, 21122 32 Mile Rd., asked about all the land and building, equipment purchases and improvements. She asked if the prices and monies were earmarked for where the Board expects to spend that money. Mr. Bohm said for the most part none of it is committed. Some is slated for computer improvements, the furniture may need to be replaced as needed; and he said we are thinking about building improvements for the siding on the library; also an emergency tower was included. Ms. Goike asked about library interior paint. She also inquired about the fund balance. Mr. Bohm replied the library paint was included in the funding; and he did not have the exact amount, but his estimate of the General Fund balance is \$600,000.00.

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to close the Public Hearing for the 2016 -2017 Budget, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion Carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS -

Kevin Brown, 18955 29 Mile Road, inquired about documentation he requested previously about the contractor hired for CDBG houses torn down and the wells. Mr. Brown said he bid on this job as well and has looked into this;

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nothing was done correct on this job. Mr. Bohm said he will provide that information to him, but will have to get this information from the Engineer. Mr. Brown said there were no permits pulled for these wells and he has concerns. He went to the Health Department and feels there are serious problems here. Mr. Brown said everyone should be concerned. Mr. Bohm said we turned this over to the Engineer to draw up the specifications, and conduct all the inspections. If there are issues, a meeting should be held. Mr. Brown advised erosion control, MDOT control, etc. needs to be looked into. Mr. Bohm said he cannot answer the questions. We approved his specifications and budget; Bob Beckett went out and approved the job at the very end. Mr. Bohm said we agreed to eliminate the topsoil at the end, and there was a change order on the bid. Mr. Brown said he would like an explanation. He does not want to get sick because someone is not doing their job. The community should be concerned and the contractor needs to be correct with the wells. Discussion continued concerning the wells and specifications. Mr. Bohm said according to the Engineer, and CDBG, the job was done according to the specs. Mr. Bohm will contact the engineer and get further information.

Terry Goike, 21122 32 Mile Rd., said she was commenting for the library at this time. Christy, the Library Director wanted to thank everyone for coming to the Panera fundraiser. Spring Crafts start March 3. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 1 in the library and they welcome any help, especially grant writing volunteers. Ms. Goike said the group is now called Friends of the Library and Historical Society. The next meeting will be March 9 at 2 p.m. in the library; they are looking for new members. The website remains the same. She explained officially through the State they have changed their name, and they are expanding their group. Mr. Bohm asked what the plan is for the historical documents and archives. There is a concern for their security. Ms. Goike explained it is up to the group to setup a small designated section in the library. Ms. Goike explained all historical documents are at the Washington Museum to view. Mr. Bohm said there is a concern where they are located. Ms. Goike said she has made copies and scanned many of the documents for any resident that has requested them. Original documents are not given out. Ms. Goike said the Washington Historical Museum has insurance. It is their 100th Anniversary. She expressed the museum site is secure, the temperature is controlled, and that is why the originals are housed there. Mr. Bohm asked if we have a certificate of insurance for the documents. Ms. Goike said she knows we are covered under their insurance. Mr. Zoccola asked what the value of the historical documents stored are. Ms. Goike was not sure. Mr. Bohm said we should have a certificate of insurance on our documents. Ms. Goike said we are covered under their insurance policy. He said that is something to look into.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Richmond Lenox Report

Ms. Artman read the report from Richmond Lenox dated February 7, 2016; pointing out they transported for Ray Township 108 runs. The full report is available upon request.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to receive and file the correspondence received at the meeting of February 16, 2016, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 19, 2016

MOTION by Ms. Grader to approve the minutes from January 19, 2016 as presented, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

8. APPROVAL OF BILLS -

Mr. Stier asked to add one bill tonight in the amount of \$336.87 payable to the Macomb County Treasurer for the Board of Review adjustment. Mr. Stier said the new total amount for the bills tonight is \$33,513.40.

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to approve the bills through February 4, 2016 as modified, totaling \$33,513.40, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.

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9. OFFICER'S REPORTS –

- a. **Supervisor** - Mr. Bohm updated the Board regarding the Kaczmarek ticket (disturbing the peace). He said a court order was entered, Mr. Kaczmarek did not appeal, and he was put on a one year probation. Mr. Bohm explained he must abide by the rules given. Mr. Kaczmarek pleaded no contest to a consent judgment to disturbing the peace.
Mr. Bohm reported a lien has been filed against home on Indian Trail that was demolished.
He advised the doors have been repaired and weatherproofed on the Senior Center and they open and close properly.
Mr. Bohm advised another sewer meeting was held; it was determined to send a letter to Washington Township to try to clarify their sewer capacity.
A meeting was held with St. Joseph Catholic Church. It was agreed the special land use given in 2007 would apply with them starting a school with a maximum capacity of 100 students.
A meeting was held with a gentlemen and the DEQ regarding the wetlands preservation project at 29 Mile and New Haven Roads.
Mr. Bohm had a meeting with the Huron Metro Parks. They will proceed with the plans to construct a path between the Wolcott Mill and Wolcott Farm crossing the Township park, they are also requesting a small parking lot. Mr. Bohm will be meeting with them again and keep the Board up to date. Ms. Artman said there must be something in writing presented; also if it is a paved parking lot, it must go before the Planning Commission. Mr. Bohm said they will cover all the costs. Mr. Stier asked if they will cut down trees, and go around the wetlands. Mr. Bohm said they won't cut down the trees. Ms. Artman advised all must be in writing before they proceed.
- b. **Clerk** - Ms. Artman said Election Day is Tuesday, March 8. She said the Township offices will be open the Saturday before Election Day for absentee ballots. The Township will receive CDBG funds from the last project during 2015 and 2016 in the amount of \$699.00.
- c. **Treasurer** – Mr. Stier said the Point and Pay Program for credit card payments is being looked into. He said it is a BS&A approved method of payment, through the computer. They charge the individual direct. He will bring more information to the Board before it is implemented. He has reviewed this program with Lisa Hall in Building/Zoning Department.
- d. **Trustees** – Ms. Grader inquired about the 27 Mile bridge progress – Mr. Bohm said as soon as the weather permits they would start the excavation process. The 32 Mile Road Bridge should start on March 1 also. The completion should be by July 4.

10. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS/REPORTS

- a. **Assessing** – Pending Michigan Tax Tribunal Cases – Mr. Bohm referred to the Assessor's report; he advised we are waiting for the people who have petitioned, and they have until May 12 to get it in. The report is available upon request.
- b. **Building Department** – Permits, Residential Finals and Temp Occupancy Report – Mr. Bohm said the total monthly permits issued between 1/1/16 and 1/31/16 were 18, totaling \$2,970.
- c. **Fire Department Report** – Mr. Bohm read the report detailing 26 calls for the month of January. 10 medical, 1 fire alarm, 10 motor vehicle accidents, 3 wires down, 1 possible explosion and 1 assist to a resident. It was asked if there was an explosion and the Fire Chief confirmed.
- d. **Library Report** – Mr. Bohm said the copy is available upon request from Christy at the Library.
- e. **Senior Report** – Mr. Bohm read the Senior Report. Exercise continues on Tuesday and Thursday mornings; the casino trips are quite popular and are self-funding. Mr. Bohm said the trips are available to residents of Ray, Lenox and New Baltimore. Mystery lunches are offered every month; During 2015 seniors from Ray and Lenox collected many personal care items that were donated to the Macomb Foster Care Agency to be distributed in care packages to children entering foster care. The report is available for viewing upon request.

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- f. **Recreation Report** – Mr. Bohm said there are two upcoming events to look forward to: 1. Bowling with Sponge Bob on March 5 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., fee is \$5.00, at Summit Lanes, includes two games of bowling and shoe rental, and 2. the Easter Egg Hunt on March 19 at 11:30 a.m., where the Easter bunny will be available for pictures, and prizes at the event.
- g. **Budget Report** – Mr. Bohm presented the Budget Report for December, for the General, Fire and Building Fund. He advised the percentage should be 75%. If there are any questions, please call Mr. Stier or Mr. Bohm.
MOTION by Mr. Stier to receive and file the department requests/reports as presented, received at the meeting of February 16, 2016, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **LaFon Blight Abatement** – Mr. Bohm said the LaFon matter is complete and cleaned up. They have to finish grading, and this may have to be done in the spring due to the weather.
- b. **Ray Township v. Michael L. Nokielski** – Mr. Bohm said this matter is in regard to the landscaper on North Ave. There is a final pre-judgment hearing on February 18th, and Mr. Bohm will be attending that hearing. If something is not worked out, the Judge will set trial.
- c. **Hazardous Material Abatement Ordinance Amendment** – Mr. Bohm said we are still waiting for our attorney and engineer for updates on this Ordinance Amendment.
MOTION by Mr. Stier to table all unfinished business - 11 a, b and c, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **2015 Ray Township Planning Commission Annual Report** – Planning Commissioner Joe Jarzyna stated the Planning Commission reviewed the report at the last meeting and believed the annual report is in order.
MOTION by Mr. Stier to receive and file the 2015 Ray Township Planning Commission Annual Report, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion Carried.
- b. **Permit for Gilbert's Sportman's Club**
Ms. Artman said Gilbert's called her and she sent them a letter; she has not received a response yet. Ms. Artman has asked to table this item. Last year they did renew their permit, with insurance papers, etc.
MOTION by Mr. Stier to table the permit for Gilbert's Sportman's Club, supported Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.
- c. **2016 Fee Schedule** – Mr. Bohm stated the only increase in fees are the color copies to \$.50 from \$.25. He advised residents don't have a charge for the first 5 copies. Ms. Grader questioned the cemetery fees at Procter Cemetery. Mr. Bohm said we had to comply by the law and post the fees for all items listed. A short discussion followed concerning the list of fees.
MOTION by Mr. Stier to approve the 2016 Fee Schedule as presented, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.
- d. **Keith Hartop – Reduce number of vehicles** – Mr. Bohm explained the first problem we had at this address was blight with too many vehicles parked on the property. A letter was sent to Mr. Hartop and a meeting was held resulting in no resolution. He continues to be working on cars and there are neighbor complaints of numerous parked cars; disturbing the peace and noise is apparent. Therefore, after repeated incidents, Mr. Bohm is requesting the Board's approval to have our attorney send Mr. Hartop a violation ticket for blight, continued noise violation and public nuisance.
MOTION by Ms. Grader to issue an appearance ticket for outdoor storage of excess vehicles on the site as well as excessive noise on the site, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.
- e. **Building Department – Outstanding Bonds** – Mr. Bohm referred to the list of bonds he distributed at the last meeting. He explained he has contacted the five on the list personally, and more time is needed for this item; he would like to table this item to the next meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to table the Building Department-Outstanding Bonds for more information to the next meeting, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

f. Prepare bid for Engineering Firm.

g. Prepare bid for Attorney Firm. – Mr. Bohm explained it has been sometime since the Township has gone out for bids for the engineering and attorney firms. Ms. Artman has the current rates and would like permission to go forth to prepare the bids.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to allow the Clerk to prepare bids for the Ray Township Attorney and Engineering Firms, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim DiMaria, Fire Chief, said the Fire Fighters are having their annual dinner dance on March 19, 2016 at Tina's Country House, \$40.00/person. All are welcome.

14. ADJOURNMENT –

MOTION BY Mr. Stier to adjourn at 8:38 p.m., supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

Charlie Bohm, Supervisor

Paula Artman, Clerk

Date

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Jamroz, Recording Secretary