

Ray Township Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 19, 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 - 21 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 – Mr. Bohm presented the changes to the agenda tonight: **10b. Free LED.com – Street Lighting Project presentation will be moved up to the beginning of the agenda; **(10g).** Amend Resolution and Budget to Set Elected Officials Salary and at our Attorney’s advice, the minutes will be corrected after adopting the amended resolution.**

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

10b. Ron Cantrell, President, Free-LED.com, Street Lighting Project

Mr. Ron Cantrell, from Free-LED explained his company is involved with DTE and Michigan Saves to save energy for its customers. Mr. Cantrell covered details of the program specific to Ray Township and passed out pamphlets for the Township Board to review. Mr. Cantrell explained it would take 90 days to complete, once the Township makes a decision and to complete the paperwork. It will take four to six weeks to get the program started. A short discussion took place concerning specifics of the program. Mr. Cantrell said there is a 5 year warranty/parts and labor. Mr. Cantrell distributed his card, and explained he is available for any other questions.

MOTION by Ms. Artman to add to the May, 2016 agenda the proposal from Free-LED.com, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

4. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Richmond Lenox Report

Ms. Artman read the report from Jeff White from Richmond and Lenox dated April 4, 2016. The annual scholarship applications for High School Seniors interested in EMS careers was included and a number of thank you notes. It was pointed out they transported for Ray Township a total of 59 runs and the average response time was 10.11 minutes. The full report is available upon request.

b. Letter from Suzanne Graham – Ms. Artman read a letter from Ms. Graham into the record. Ms. Graham complimented the addition of the parking lot lights making it safer walking to her car at night.

MOTION BY Ms. Artman to receive and file the correspondence received at the meeting of April 19, 2016, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.

10g. Amended Resolution and Budget to Set Elected Officials Salary.

Motion by Ms. Artman to adopt the amended resolution to establish Township Officers Salary Resolution Number: 2016-04-A, supported by Mr. Zoccola.

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Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Artman - yes
Mr. Zoccola - yes
Mr. Stier - yes
Ms. Grader - yes
Mr. Bohm - yes

A unanimous vote was recorded. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 15, 2016

Mr. Bohm and Ms. Grader made minor corrections to the minutes; adding amended resolution 10g voted upon above.

MOTION by Ms. Artman to approve the minutes from March 15, 2016 as corrected, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF BILLS -

MOTION by Mr. Stier to approve the bills paid through March 31, 2016, totaling \$89,061.12, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to approve the current bills paid through April 7, 2016 totaling \$4,174.34, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

7. OFFICER’S REPORTS –

a. Supervisor – Mr. Bohm said he attended a meeting which discussed ID theft; he has contacted the senior coordinator for the presentation and would like it brought to Ray Township. Mr. Bohm feels it would benefit all residents regarding the targeting of seniors and their credit.

Bill Kehrer, 20015-30 Mile Road, asked Mr. Bohm about the bridges on 27 and 32 Mile Rds. Mr. Bohm reported the 27 Mile bridge will be open by the end of May. In regard to the 32 Mile Road Bridge, they are in the process of doing the preliminary work. Actual demolition will start May 1. The project will be done by the end of August.

Mr. Bohm attended a meeting at Romeo Airport; they are asking permission to enter our property to determine if any of the trees on the property are in their way of their research. (Proctor Cemetery). He has a copy of the report for anyone to view.

Mr. Bohm reminded the Board that he reported last Fall that the DEQ was concerned about the property at 58751 North Avenue, Scott Williams Trucking. They have issued violations against him and his brother in law because they have violated laws against the DEQ.

In October a letter was written to Michael and Brenda Tupper, at 18168-28 Mile Road; the letter was distributed to the Board regarding this couple, to ask them to comply with the blight ordinance. They came in to speak to Mr. Bohm, and have not complied; Mr. Bohm would like to take action tonight. Mr. Bohm would like to add to the agenda; it will be New Business, 10K.

b. Clerk - Ms. Artman said the Romeo Schools millage election is May 3. Ms. Artman reported she received a letter from the County Road Commission with a Resolution stating the vehicle weight restrictions for Bridge Structure #6381 on 31 Mile Road over Tupper Brook, west of North Avenue and Bridge Structure #6223, on

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29 Mile Rd., over Camp Brook Drain. Ms. Artman also received the 2015 annual report from Public Works Commissioner Anthony Marrocco. All documents available upon request.

- c. **Treasurer** - Mr. Stier reported the delinquent taxes are down to 7%. He said Richmond Door is providing estimate on the garage doors. The doors are too old and they cannot be repaired. It will be brought to the Board next month.
- d. **Trustees** – Ms. Grader thanked Mr. Bohm for the update on the 27 Mile Rd. Bridge. Mr. Zoccola said the Planning Commission will have the Master Plan Public Hearing on May 10. Mr. Zoccola advised the Board that Mr. Kukuk appeared before the Planning Commission for help in holding his special events on his property.

8. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS/REPORTS

- a. **Assessing** – Pending Michigan Tax Tribunal Cases – Mr. Bohm said the Township received a reply from the Pine Valley Golf Course and Marrocco & Karam petitions. Mr. Bohm said we have counter offered, and are waiting now. There is no word from Timberwood, and they have until July 1 for a response. Regarding Mr. Marasco, Kelly Timm attended the hearing, and it was accepted. We have up to 45 days to hear on this matter.
- b. **Building Department** – Permits, Residential Finals and Temp Occupancy Report – Mr. Bohm said the total monthly permits issued between 3/1/16 and 3/31/16 was 26 totaling \$5,872.00.
- c. **Fire Department Report** – Mr. Bohm read the report detailing 25 calls for the month of March. Details include: 15 medicals, 2 wires down, 2 motor vehicle accidents, 3 personal injury accidents, 2 trees down on road and 1 field fire.
- d. **Library Report** – Mr. Bohm said the detailed report is available upon request.
- e. **Senior Report** – Mr. Bohm said a copy is available upon request.
- f. **Recreation Report Budget Report** – Mr. Bohm read the recreation report highlighting a successful Bowling with Sponge Bob event on Saturday, March 5; and Easter Egg Hunt on March 19. Please be advised they are looking for sponsors and volunteers for their annual picnic scheduled for July 17.
- g. **Budget Report** - Mr. Bohm presented the Budget Report through the end of February, 2016, for the General, Fire and Building Fund. 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 April 19, 2016, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **LaFon Blight Abatement** – Mr. Bohm reported the lien has been placed on the property; the taxes have been paid on the property. He suggested the matter be removed from future agendas.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to remove LaFon Blight Abatement from future Agendas, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

- b. **Hazardous Material Abatement Ordinance Amendment** – Mr. Bohm said he and Ms. Artman met with the attorney; the materials requested were provided to the Attorney so she could write a demolition ordinance to fit the communities' need.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to table the Hazardous Material Abatement Ordinance Amendment, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

- c. **Building Department – Outstanding Bonds** - Mr. Bohm summarized the report to the Board. Dillon Industries is no longer involved; the homeowner, Mr. DiNello is now involved at 67735 Romeo Plank. In regard to Mr. Feltrin, at 61400 Romeo Plank, the Building Inspector says it is now safe for him to live in the house, provided a new building permit is obtained. Mr. Bohm said the staff is going through the rest of the list. They are working

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through 2013 and 2014 bonds. Discussion continued regarding the other items on the list; Mr. Bohm said the rest should be resolved shortly.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to table the Deposit/Bond 2016 Building Department Outstanding Bonds, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Macomb County Department of Roads – Limestone Cost Sharing Agreement** - Mr. Bohm noted they have not received a contract yet, so this item needs to be tabled tonight. (The area to be considered will be on 28 Mile Road from Romeo Plank east to Teller Road. Any excess material will be used on Kunstman from 28 mile north to 29 mile).

MOTION by Mr. Stier to table the Macomb County Department of Roads – Limestone Cost Sharing Agreement, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

- b. **Free – LED.com – Street Lighting Project (presented earlier in agenda).**

- c. **Priest Drain** – Last summer the engineer was given the authority to look at the cleanup of the drain. Mr. Bohm asked if the Board would agree to give the Clerk the authority to accept bids for the cleanout of the Drain. Ms. Grader inquired about the dates on the bids and clarification was given; the dates will be changed once the bid documents are approved. Ms. Grader asked to have inspections added in the bid. Discussion followed concerning the drain and the restrictions on the bids. It was decided that Ms. Artman will modify the bid to include inspections by AEW as needed to complete the project.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to allow the Clerk to proceed to get sealed bids for the cleanout of a portion of the Priest Drain Project, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

- d. **Point and Pay** – Mr. Stier said at the last meeting Mr. Malone spoke regarding Point and Pay introducing the program to the Board. A method of credit card payment for the Township. He explained it is no cost to the Township, except for the phone system. A brief discussion reviewing the points covered at the last meeting regarding Point and Pay continued. Mr. Stier advised his recommendation was to proceed with this company as it coincides with the BSA software Ray Township currently has in place. It will take six weeks to put this in place. Mr. Zoccola inquired about adding a comment on the tax bills concerning this option of payment. Mr. Stier said he has already drafted a comment for the back of the next tax bills.

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to allow the Treasurer to connect Ray Township with the Point and Pay System as necessary, including the one-time \$500 phone line connection, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

- e. **PZE Onsite Training** – Mr. Bohm explained this is for Planning, Zoning, and Engineering Training. Mr. Stier said it is an onsite Training Proposal. It will help mostly with the building department, bringing all information for one parcel onto one screen. It will be beneficial to the Township going forward as the Township grows and making it easier to access commercial and residential records. This software will be compatible with our current BS&A programs. Discussion followed concerning costs of implementation.

MOTION by Ms. Artman to purchase the software and training for the BS&A PZE program, in an amount not to exceed \$3,460, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

- f. **Crime Insurance Alternatives** - Mr. Stier advised he had contacted our insurance company for quotes for Crime Insurance Alternatives. Huntington Bank charges \$30/ea. for an account as discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Stier advised his recommendation is to go with Huntington Bank's coverage. Discussion continued to clarify

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this coverage from Huntington Bank. Ms. Grader asked if other municipalities have purchased this protection from other banks to cover their accounts. Mr. Stier said yes, Mr. Bohm concurred.

MOTION by Ms. Artman to allow the Treasurer to purchase account protection for the Township's two checking accounts from Huntington Bank at \$30/month, \$720/year, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

g. Amend Resolution and Budget to set Elected Officials Salary (adopted earlier in agenda).

h. 2015 Annual Report of Macomb Agricultural Purchase of Development Rights Committee – Mr. Bohm said each year as required this report is required to be distributed. He advised we need to receive and file this report.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to receive and file the 2015 Annual Report of the Macomb Agricultural Purchase of Development Rights Committee, supported by Mr. Zoccola. Motion carried.

i. Ray Township Building Demolition 2016 (CDBG) – Mr. Bohm said this concerns the building demolition on North Avenue and Indian Trail, and we are holding a bond. We have not heard back from the contractor or engineer as yet. Mr. Brown said we should find out where the asbestos was dumped, upon the demolition.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to table Ray Township Building Demolition 2016 (CDBG), until we receive the answers to our questions from the engineer, supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.

j. Davis Cemetery Board – Mr. Bohm said the Davis Cemetery has submitted a plan to construct a gazebo. The plan has been approved. This gazebo qualifies as a commercial building. A bond for \$1,000 is required with the application. They are asking to have the bond waived, as well as a portion of the deposit fees required. Discussion followed concerning the cost of the inspections, and the site plan approval. Ms. Hall advised Mr. Bohm that Planning recommended screening to be put up between this gazebo and the neighbor next door. \$1950 was given to Ray Township so far. Discussion followed.

MOTION by Mr. Zoccola to retain \$700 for the completion of the gazebo for inspections and plan review, return the difference \$1,250, supported by Mr. Stier. Motion carried.

k. Tupper Violation, 18168 28 Mile Rd. – Mr. Bohm stated a letter was sent in October, 2015 to Michael and Brenda Tupper in regard to 18168-28 Mile Road. Mr. Bohm said 6 months have passed, and they have not complied. Mr. Bohm would like to have the Boards' permission to have the Township Attorney write a letter, and then issue a ticket for this property. Discussion continued regarding how much time should be allowed in these matters to clean up the blight.

MOTION by Mr. Stier to allow the Supervisor to contact the Township Attorney to write a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Tupper to allow them 30 days to clean up the blight at 18168-28 Mile Road. If not taken care of, permission to issue a ticket for a court appearance in District Court, supported by Ms. Artman. Motion carried.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Goike, 21122-32 Mile Rd., spoke regarding the Friends of the Ray Township historical society and library. The next meeting will be May 4, at 2 p.m. They welcome new members. They are looking for historical renovation projects, and would like help with grants. Ms. Goike mentioned they are looking for donations for the silent auction. The fundraising will be for the library renovations. Fundraising with Kroger rewards and Amazon smiles would be appreciated and to be considered for their group. On Saturday, May 14, they are doing the Indian Trail clean up at 10 a.m. She thanked Mr. Bohm for his letter of support for a grant for the library. She noted money the Board allocated in the upcoming budget for the library, and would like to work with the Board to stay within state guidelines, and work together. Mr. Bohm said the money in the budget is

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for the building, for the preservation of the building. Ms. Goike lastly mentioned keeping Tupper Brook in mind when looking at the Priest Drain.

Richard Smith, 61200 Kunstman Rd., said there is still a noise problem in his neighborhood regarding the gun firing; the man next door to him is torturing the neighborhood. He is the unofficial spokesman for the neighborhood. He was at the Planning Commission and inquired about a noise ordinance, asked for help. He is asking for help again, and something needs to be put in the books to get something done to go after him to help the neighbors. A business is being run out of his home too. This is a problem person. He is blasting his radios at the neighbor's privacy fence now. Mr. Bohm said the attorney said the noise ordinance is one that is hard to defend. The attorney suggests the neighbors sue the man privately. Mr. Smith said he should be able to live in this community peacefully and Ray Township should assist the neighbors. He is hoping for some help. Mr. Bohm said we are going to look at the noise and blight ordinance and ask the attorney what we need to look at to strengthen those ordinances.

Jim DiMaria, Fire Chief, asked if it would be possible that when the limestone is spread on the roads, that the ditches can be cleared so the limestone will not set in them. Mr. Bohm said it is up to the Engineers.

- 12. ADJOURNMENT –
MOTION by Mr. Stier to adjourn at 9:55 p.m., supported by Ms. Grader. Motion carried.**

Charlie Bohm, Supervisor

Paula Artman, Clerk

Date

**Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Jamroz, Recording Secretary**