

Supervisor Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Ganges Township Hall located at the corner of 119th Ave. and 64th St. Board members present by roll call attendance: Yonkers, Hebert, Reimink, Hutchins, and Looman.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the agenda dated 1/13/09 as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Robert Soltysiak, 6322 113 th Ave	1/8/09	Rezoning concerns, Harrington property M89
Pam & Dale Pierson, 6264 118 th Ave	1/13/09 (email)	Request to deny Harrington & Black rezoning
Tom Harrington, 6802 124 th Ave.	1/12/09	Request to approve his rezoning

Public Comments :

Carmen Behn, 2276 68th St, requested the Board deny the rezoning request from Mr. Harrington and discussed a previous petition circulated with 48 signatures of property owners on Blue Star Highway wishing to be rezoned to Residential from Commercial.

Janet Schroeder, 6944 Lakeshore Ct, commended the Planning Commission for the work on the Master Plan and would like to see consistency.

Kathleen Olsen, 2198 Lakeshore, feels the Master Plan already has too much commercially zoned property and does not want any additional parcels rezoned to commercial.

John Gottlick, 2342 Lakeshore, favors additional regulations in the commercial area.

Don Karaus, 2025 Brookhill Dr, referred to a map presented with the Harrington correspondence which shows the property use/taxation class of all parcels.

Andy Murch, 2384 Lakeshore, has a well affected by the contamination at M89 and supports more restrictions in commercial developments.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the regular meeting minutes of 12/9/08 as presented. Motion carried.

Reimink reported the balances as of 12/31/08 as follows:

General Fund	\$438,960.52
Road Fund	13,971.65
Ambulance Fund	45,377.45
Fire Fund	42,199.72
First Responders Checking	37,341.61
Building Admin.	38,288.71
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 616,139.66

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to accept the Treasurer=s report as presented. Motion carried.

Reimink moved, Hebert seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 1/13/09 as presented from the following funds: General Fund - \$19,801.29; Fire Fund - \$13,842.77; First Responder Fund - \$10,409.69; Building Admin. Fund - \$4,024.81; Ambulance Fund - \$916.95. Motion carried.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the attendance of the Board of Review members at 2009 Board of Review Training at one of the two closest locations at a cost of \$85.00 each. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Doug Compton was absent.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Official, submitted a written report of 11 runs for December.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Committee met in December. The Fennville AMR ambulance is frequently backing up the Allegan ambulance. Follow up is being done to determine why and what needs to be done to correct it. Steve ~~Stegman~~ **Stedman** has retired from AMR as **Area Director**.

Al Ellingsen, Building Official, submitted a written report with 3 permits issued, 14 inspections and no land divisions. Al also prepared the

2008 annual report which shows a drop in the number of permits issued (-32%) but an increase in the building permit valuation (+74%) over 2007.

Gary Holton, Cemetery Sexton, was absent.

Jim Birkes, Planning Commission Chair, reviewed his written report of the Commission's activity in December which included 2 meetings, 12/16/08 and 12/18/08, with both utilized to work on the Zoning Ordinance update. The main focus now is in categorizing commercial and industrial uses. The Planning Commission's Annual Report was also submitted.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, reported the next meeting is Thursday, 1/15/09. Dave Kempker will remain as the Manlius Township representative though he is no longer a trustee on the Board.

Jane Nally, Library Representative, introduced the new Library Director, Bob VandeVusse. He provided background information and the annual report.

Tom Jessup, County Commissioner, was absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to send the To Do, LLC Rezoning request (03-07-005-008-00) back to the Ganges Planning Commission for reconsideration. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman – yes; Yonkers – yes; Hebert – yes; Reimink – yes; Hutchins – yes (5/0).

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to send the Bruce & Barbara Black Rezoning request (03-07-021-015-00) back to the Ganges Planning Commission for reconsideration. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Yonkers – yes; Reimink – yes; Hutchins – yes; Looman – yes, Hebert – yes (5/0).

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to reappoint Jim Loew, Judy Jensen and Phil Badra to the Board of Review, each for a two year term ending 12/31/2010. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the Ganges Township Guidelines for Poverty Exemption as presented. Motion carried. The income amounts reflect a 35% increase over the 2009 Federal Poverty Income levels.

The Board is in agreement to include the Proposal A information sheet in the Property Assessment Change Notices when mailed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hebert reported the Consumers Energy proposed substation project is being re-evaluated due to DNR property involvement.

Jeff Dornbush, 6625 Pine Hill Dr, responded the training budget should be higher due to the required 24 hours of training/year for certification. He also stated First Responders are called off once someone is on the scene and there are already enough there.

Carmen Behn, 2276 68th St, stated that besides the large amount of commercial acreage on Blue Star, there is also a substantial amount of industrial property on M89. She feels Mr. Harrington already has enough other commercial and industrial property and should not have his rezoning request approved.

Ed Reimink, 6438 119th Ave, asked to have the rezoning motions read back.

Jim Keag, 2086 66th St, suggested the Board allow the people along Blue Star to have their property rezoned to residential if that's what they want.

Don Karaus, 2025 Brookhill, inquired about the ISO evaluation since it would reduce homeowners insurance if lowered. Hebert reported it is on hold awaiting new procedures from the regulating agency.

Rob Soltysiak, 6322 113th Ave, thanked the Board for sending the rezoning requests back to the Planning Commission.

Looman moved, Yonkers seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

