

**GANGES TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 8, 2005**

FINAL APPROVED

Supervisor Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Ganges Township Hall, corner of 119th Avenue and 64th Street. Board members present by roll call attendance: Hebert, Yonkers, Reimink, Looman, Hutchins. Absent: None.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the agenda with the re-ordering of items under Unfinished Business to move item F. Township Website to the beginning, adding a maintenance request for the Stilson Brown Drain as item 11A under New Business and D Risk Management discussion, with the clarification that item 10D, Saugatuck Weekends v Ganges Township, may result in a closed session of the Board. Motion carried.

Correspondence presented as follows:

Phil Willson, 1840 Morning Glory Rd	02/03/05	Request for Lake Michigan Anti-funneling changes
Don & Dianna Maslanka, 6711 – 118 th	02/04/05	Saugatuck Weekends – Campit & hotel concerns
John & Gail Solomon, 6720 118 th	02/07/05	Saugatuck Weekends lawsuit/discussion concerns
Todd Knight, 6614 122 nd Ave	02/13/05	Blight complaint at 6624 122 nd Ave
Dawn Soltysiak, 6322 113 th Ave	02/24/05	Plan Comm letter regarding Ciesla sand mining application
Dawn Soltysiak, 6322 113 th Ave	02/25/05	Plan Comm letter regarding Ciesla approved application

Public Comments: None

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of 02/08/05 with corrections. Motion carried.

Reimink reported the balances as of 02/28/05 as follows:

General Fund	\$388,187.67
Road Fund	333,278.42
Ambulance Fund	78,303.62
Fire Fund Checking	247,786.28
First Responders Checking	17,981.22
Building Admin.	34,268.54
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,099,805.75

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

Yonkers moved, Hutchins seconded, to amend the General Fund 2004/2005 Operating Budget as follows: increase Attorney & Legal Fees \$15,700.00, increase Zoning Admin. Expenses \$300.00, decrease Contingency 16,000.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 03/08/05 as presented by the Clerk from the following funds: General Fund - \$44,166.06; Fire Fund - \$35,435.18; First Responder Fund - \$286.19; Building Administration Fund - \$1,400.56; Ambulance Fund - \$791.65. Motion carried.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded to authorize the attendance of Paul Shamblin, Zoning Administrator, to the Advanced Planning & Zoning seminar in Grand Rapids on 04/21/05 at a cost of \$349.00. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Compton was absent. Minutes of the 02/01/05 meeting were provided to the Board.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Officer, was absent but submitted a monthly report of 13 runs. Minutes of the 02/01/05 meeting were provided.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Committee will have a meeting on 3/10/05.

The Assessor, Doug Darling, was absent. The Board of Review met for the Organizational meeting on 03/08/05. The Board of Review will meet on March 15th, 17th and 18th. Hebert read the schedule and provided a copy of the Notice.

Al Ellingsen, Building Official, was absent but provided a written report of February activity.

Ken Sargent, Cemetery Sexton, was absent. Michael Winfrey, Hamilton, MI, is currently working on his Eagle Scout project and is making new veteran flag holders for the Township. Michael will assist Mr. Bellenger in placing the flags on the veterans' graves in all cemeteries.

Scott Bruursema, Planning Commission Chair, was absent.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, reported all three townships (Clyde, Manlius, Ganges) will be participating in the trial recycling program. Manlius has provided a sign at the former site directing residents to the Transfer Station. All three townships will split the cost of the moving and setting up the recycle bin.

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to have Ganges Township participate in a 3 month trial recycling program at the transfer station, utilizing the Manlius recycle bin, for Sunday only use, beginning 3/6/05, at a cost of \$80.00 per township per dumpster load. Motion carried.

Marge Shelden, Library representative, presented a report on the new online genealogy program available both at the library and through the internet.

Dave Babbitt, County Commissioner, provided an update on the tentative millage proposal for the new jail which will appear on the August 2, 2005 election ballot.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to contract Jim Lytle, 2746 54th St, Fennville, to create and host a website for Ganges Township. Motion carried.

Hebert announced the Soltysiaks vs. Ganges Township lawsuit (Case # 03-34559-CZ) was settled out of court for \$7,900.00.

Hebert report the Geerlings vs. Ganges Township lawsuit (Case # 044804ON) has been transferred to the Bauckman Sparks attorney.

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to review the Saugatuck Weekends vs. Ganges Township lawsuit in closed session as the last item discussed before Public Comments. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman – Yes; Yonkers – Yes; Reimink – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Hebert – Yes (5/0).

The Board is in agreement to complete the required maintenance of the township hall (roof, window trim) and to proceed with plans to remodel the back section for useable office space, with all files consolidated in one location. Each area/department needs to review all records currently stored with the mandated retention schedule and remove those no longer necessary in order to determine future filing and storage space requirements. All obsolete information will need to be destroyed by shredding or burning.

The diesel fuel tank at Station 1 will not be replaced due to cost inefficiency. The Fire Department will utilize a Township credit card from BP Commercial Credit.

Hebert moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the Zoning Administrator contract with Code Enforcement, Inc, as amended. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to adopt the Resolution for the Brown Stillson Drain maintenance (05-0005), at a cost of approximately \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to reappoint Ron Bellenger, 1219 62nd St, to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of three years, expiring 02/02/08. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to reconstruct 119th Avenue from 68th Street to 66th Street during the summer of 2005 at an estimated cost of \$386,893.50, less the blacktop surface, which will be done the year following reconstruction, per Allegan County Road Commission estimate dated 11/20/04. Motion carried.

Hebert recessed the regular meeting at 9:20 PM and the Board moved to the back room of the Township Hall.

Hebert re-opened the regular Board meeting at 9:55 PM.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to schedule a special meeting of the Township Board with the Planning Commission and Roxanne Seeber, attorney, on Tuesday, 03/15/05, at 7:00 PM at the Township Hall, to review the Saugatuck Weekends vs. Ganges Township case (#04-36938AA). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jackie DeZwaan, 2259 68th St, asked about the number of veteran flag holders that were to be made. The Township will provide materials for 24 flag holders.

Diana Decker, 128 Saugatuck, asked about the results of the test wells done near Lakeshore Dr.

Ganges Township Board

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Minutes of
03/08/05

Michael O'Connor, 6635 118th Ave, showed his appreciation for the start of a township website and is concerned about Paul Shamblin's, Code Enforcement, availability.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Yonkers, Ganges Township Clerk