

**GANGES TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 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.

Hutchins moved, Yonkers seconded, to accept the agenda with additions, with the clarification that item 10A, Soltysiak v Ganges Township, may result in a closed session of the Board. Motion carried.

Correspondence presented as follows:

Neil VanLeeuwen, 6751 119 th Ave	Rec=d 1/10/05	Response to Hebert=s letter
Linda Jensen, 1763 62 nd St	1/6/05	Planning Commission reappointments
John & Gail Solomon, 6720 118 th Ave	1/7/05	Planning Commission reappointments
Dorothy Boillot, 1734 65 th St	1/9/05	Planning Commission interest in serving
Kathleen Schwegel, 6385 120 th Ave	1/18/05	Planning Commission Chair dismissal
Susan Borland, 6385 120 th Ave	1/18/05	Planning Commission Chair dismissal
Michael O=Connor, 6635 118 th Ave	1/19/05	Planning Commission Chair dismissal
Donald Maslanka, 6711 118 th Ave	1/20/05	Planning Commission interest in serving
Robert Johnson, 2295 Lakeshore Dr	1/25/05	Saugatuck Weekends expansion/hotel

Public Comments:

John Solomon, 6720 118th Ave, read a letter submitted to the Board dated 2/7/05 (to be included in February=s correspondence) regarding Saugatuck Weekends proposed hotel project.

Ron Bellenger, 1219 62nd St, requested the next newsletter address the Blight and Noise Ordinances.

Theresa Wiley, 6633 121st Ave, expressed her appreciation to Don Karaus and Jerry Schorle for their time serving on the Planning Commission.

Al Emery, 1881 Blue Star, stated the Planning Commission has done a lot but needs to get out and review more sites.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of 01/11/05 with addition, as presented by the Clerk. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve the minutes of the Closed Session meeting of 01/11/05 as presented by the Clerk. Motion carried.

Reimink moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of 01/17/05 as presented. Motion carried with Yonkers abstaining due to absence.

Reimink reported the balances as of 01/31/05 as follows:

General Fund	\$401,082.71
Road Fund	281,698.17
Ambulance Fund	66,203.62
Fire Fund Checking	222,895.31
First Responders Checking	20,078.91
Building Admin.	34,956.43
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,026,915.15

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

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to amend the General Fund 2004/2005 Operating Budget as follows: increase Elections 3,000.00, decrease Contingency 3,000.00. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to amend the Fire Fund 2004/2005 Operating Budget as follows: increase Office Supplies 400.00, decrease Mileage/Transportation 400.00. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to amend the First Responder Fund 2004/2005 Operating Budget as follows: increase Mileage/Transportation 200.00, increase Equipment/Uniforms 4,500.00, decrease Salaries 4,700.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 02/08/05 as presented by the Clerk from the following funds: General Fund - \$21,351.64; Fire Fund - \$926.74; First Responder Fund - \$2,125.86; Building Administration Fund - \$1,795.87; Ambulance Fund - \$791.65. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Hebert seconded to authorize the attendance of Board members at the Allegan County Community Leaders meeting in Allegan on 2/23/05. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Compton was absent. No report.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Officer, was absent but submitted a monthly report of 9 runs. He reported the TB tests were done 2/1/05, the 2 new First Responders take their State Exam on 2/21/05, arrangements are being made for continuing education classes and a Heart Start re-certification will be held in March. The EMS Expo is April 20-24 at the Amway Grand Plaza and approval requested for attendance.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Committee did not have a meeting.

The Assessor, Doug Darling, was absent but submitted a written report which was presented by Hebert.

Al Ellingsen, Zoning Administrator, reported a variance request was approved by the ZBA on 1/20/05, the Hernandez violation is scheduled for another hearing on 3/3/05, the Planning Commission has 2 public hearings scheduled for the 2/24/05 meeting. One is for an application from Dan Ciesla for sand mining, the other is to modify the existing Saugatuck Weekends Campit campground.

Scott Bruursema, Planning Commission Chair, was absent.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to authorize the Planning Commission to begin work with Baukman, Sparks= planning person as soon as they are able. Motion carried.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, provided an update on the Transfer Station meeting, and presented a trial recycling program using the Manlius recycle bin and placing it at the Transfer Station.

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 written report of the Library=s activities.

Dave Babbitt, County Commissioner, was absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to enter into a closed session, to discuss the Soltysiak v Ganges Township case. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman - Yes; Yonkers - Yes; Hebert - Yes; Reimink - Yes; Hutchins - Yes (5/0). (Added a session@ - CY)

Hebert recessed the regular meeting at 8:02 PM and the Board moved to the back room of the Township Hall.

Hebert re-opened the regular Board meeting at 8:15 PM.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes of 2/08/05 as reviewed. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to authorize John Hebert, Supervisor, and Steve McKown, Township Attorney, to continue with settlement negotiations with Rodney Schermer of Scholten Fant, Soltysiak=s attorney, regarding Soltysiak v Ganges township, Case No. 03-34559-CZ. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Hutchins - Yes; Reimink - Yes; Hebert - Yes; Yonkers - Yes; Looman - Yes (5/0).

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to transfer the Geerlings v Ganges Township case from Steve McKown to Baukman Sparks. Motion carried.

Hebert reported he, Terry Looman and Scott Bruursema will meet with Baukman Sparks on 2/21 to discuss the Saugatuck

Weekends case.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to discontinue the services of Don Karas, 2025 Brookhill Dr, for Land Use Plan and ordinance work, as of 2/8/05. Motion carried.

Ganges Township Board

FINAL APPROVED

Minutes of 02/08/05

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the resignation of Al Ellingsen with regret from the position of Zoning Administrator effective 3/01/05. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to contract with Code Enforcement Inc, Gobles, MI for Zoning Administration and Ordinance Enforcement services from 3/01/05 through 6/30/05. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman - Yes; Yonkers - Yes; Hebert - Yes; Reimink - Yes; Hutchins - Yes (5/0).

NEW BUSINESS

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to approve the donation of unuseable fire equipment, by current OSHA standards, to the Fire Department in Matehuala, Mexico, after securing a liability waiver from the township attorney. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to accept the resignation of Jerry Schorle, 2152 68th St, with regret from the Planning Commission effective 2/8/05. Motion carried.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to appoint Barry Gooding, 2235 66th St, to the Planning Commission to fill the remainder of Jerry Schorle=s term expiring 4/23/05. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to appoint Jim Birkes, 2344 70th St, to the Planning Commission to fill the remainder of Don Karas=s term expiring 12/03/06. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to accept the resignation of Barry Gooding, 2235 66th St, from the Board of Review with regret, effective 2/8/05. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to appoint Phil Badra, 2230 70th St, to the Board of Review, to fill the remainder of Barry Gooding=s term expiring 12/30/06. Motion carried. (Corrected from 12/03/06 - CY).

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded to authorize Phil Badra, 2230 70th St, to attend the Board of Review training in Lansing, on 2/28/05 at a cost of \$70.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to authorize by resolution #05-0004 to set the Ganges Township Board of Review dates to be Tuesday, 3/8/05 for the organizational meeting, Tuesday, 3/15/05, 9-4 for the 1st Board of Review meeting, Thursday, 3/17/05, 6-9 PM for the 2nd Board of Review meeting, and Friday, 3/18/05, 6-9 PM for the 3rd Board of Review meeting. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman - Yes; Yonkers - Yes; Hebert - Yes; Reimink - Yes; Hutchins - Yes (5/0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dawn Soltysiak, 6322 113th Ave, requested a newsletter to sent out immediately for notification to the residents of the Blight ordinance, Noise ordinance and the trial recycling program, also is concerned about the recording of meetings.

Ed Reimink, 6438 119th Ave, is concerned about asking people about having roads paved.

Al Emery, 1881 Blue Star, stated his daughter doesn=t want 119th blacktopped.

Theresa Wiley, 6633 121st Ave, is pleased there are new people on the planning commission and also pleased the Board is considering constructing a gravel road for paving.

Diana Maslanka, 6711 118th Ave, likes to have the Planning Commission minutes very detailed and all of the public comments included.

Jan Firmiss, 1815 66th St, agrees with the detail to be included in Planning Commission minutes and wants all comments included.

Michael O=Connor, 6635 118th Ave, suggested off-site storage of old records to free up space at the Hall. Also is concerned about the cost of the new zoning administrator services.

Susan Mays, 7038 Creekwood, questioned why the Zoning Administrator position is not being interviewed for to determine the applicant=s abilities. Also questioned the value of the fire equipment donations.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Yonkers, Ganges Township Clerk