

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: Looman, Yonkers, Hebert, Reimink, Hutchins.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the agenda dated 03/14/06 with additions of items 11D – Road Commission Projects, 11E – Poverty Exemptions, 11F – 121st Avenue road end letter from Jeff Jocks, Attorney, and the revision of item 11A to include the Road Millage Renewal. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Ganges Planning Commission	03/01/06	Storage building, M89, setback concern
Aaron Plummer, 6918 120 th Ave.	03/01/06	Objection to raising Sq. Ft. minimum in Zoning Ord.
Lee Coltson, Bellevue, MI	03/03/06	Code Enforcement Officer interest & qualifications
Theresa Wiley, 6633 121 st Ave.	03/14/06	Objection to local road paving projects priorities

Public Comments:

Theresa Wiley, 6633 121st Ave, requested 121st Ave. be paved. She is under the misconception that the Ten Year Road Plan as proposed in 1998 by a citizen committee was adopted by the Board.

Ron Bellenger, 1219 62nd St., asked for a timeline on the Hernandez violations on 62nd St.

Sally Howard, 6632 118th Ave., voiced compliments on the Hall remodeling.

Looman moved, Hutchins seconded, to approve the regular meeting minutes of 02/14/06 as presented. Motion carried.

Reimink reported the balances as of 02/28/06 as follows:

General Fund	\$401,384.77
Road Fund	488,507.84
Ambulance Fund	76,638.73
Fire Fund Checking	234,198.41
First Responders Checking	37,304.48
Building Admin.	54,586.60
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,292,620.83

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

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to approve a Fire Fund 2005/2006 Operating Budget amendment, as presented, as follows: Increase Contracted Services line item \$1000.00; Increase Education line item \$500.00; Decrease Equipment line item \$1,500.00. Motion carried.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to approve a General Fund 2005/2006 Operating Budget amendment, as presented, as follows: Increase Township Board line item \$5,000.00; Decrease Contingency line item \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 03/14/06 as presented by the Clerk from the following funds: General Fund - \$20,793.24; Fire Fund - \$1,397.97; First Responder Fund - \$517.28; Building Admin. Fund - \$2,325.22; Ambulance Fund - \$815.40. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve the invoice from MCY Systems for a copier cartridge for \$79.99. Motion carried with Yonkers abstaining due to business conflict.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to approve the contract with Sessions Lawn Care, Fennville, MI, for the 2006 summer mowing for the cemeteries (4) and Township Hall, as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman – yes; Yonkers – yes; Reimink – yes; Hutchins – yes; Hebert – yes (5/0).

Yonkers moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the attendance of any board member at the Leadership Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members seminar at the Griswold Auditorium, Allegan, on 4/27/06, at a cost of \$45.00/person. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Doug Compton, was absent. A resident has asked to have a building burned by the Fire Department which would provide training experience for the firefighters. Hebert will refer to legal counsel and follow up.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Official, was absent but submitted a written report of 4 runs for the month. The EMS Expo is being held in Grand

Rapids in April and provides continuing education credits to participants.

Hutchins moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the attendance of any First Responder at the EMS Expo, Grand Rapids, at a cost of \$115.00/day plus the cost of lodging if attending 2 or more consecutive days. Motion carried.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Committee met 3/07/06 and continued discussion of replacing the ambulance unit in Fennville, possibly with a larger vehicle. Heath Township has shown interest in being serviced by Fennville AMR but a fee would have to be established.

The Assessor, Doug Darling, was absent. Hebert reported the March Board of Review met today (3/14/06) and will meet again on 3/16 & 3/17/06.

Paul Shamblin, Zoning Official, submitted a written report with no change in activity from the prior month. The Board approved Hebert to send a letter to Shamblin requesting more timely/faster follow up and enforcement of the Hernandez violations since the Court has already ruled on this.

Al Ellingsen, Building Official, submitted a written report and responded to the concerns of the setback problem with the M89 storage building.

Ken Sargent, Cemetery Sexton, was absent. Assistant Holton will begin the spring clean up of the cemeteries and has been involved in several burials with Sargent.

Barry Gooding, Planning Commission Chair, provided an overview of the 2/15/06 master plan work meeting and the 2/28/06 regular meeting. The next special work meeting for the master plan will be 3/15/06 at the Hall at 7:00 PM. Gooding, Looman and Yonkers will bring back the remaining chairs in storage beforehand.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, reported the Transfer Station board had a special meeting on 2/20/06 called because a local contractor brought a 16-18 yard trailer of debris. Manager McLeod felt the charge of \$100.00 per load was too low since it fills half of the container. A rate was set by the Transfer Station Board of \$10.00/Cu. Yd. which is the rate to have the dumpster emptied.

Marge Shelden, Library representative, provided a written report and said the Heritage Quest genealogy program was renewed for another year.

Dave Babbitt, County Commissioner, reported the County will have a millage proposal on the August ballot for ¼ mil and there may also be a proposal from the Community on Aging area.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Yonkers reviewed conditions at all 4 cemeteries and provided a report and pictures to the Board. Yonkers will contact Something Different Signs for estimates for regulation signs at Plummerville and Taylor and name signs for Taylor, Loomis and Hutchins cemeteries. Loomis and Hutchins both are in need of cleanup with Loomis being the most overgrown. Holton will attempt to have the cleanup completed at all cemeteries by Memorial Day. He has already completed significant work at Taylor. Don Karaus Sr. agreed to allow tree limbs/brush to be added to his brush pile during the spring months for this year. Holton will coordinate with Mr. Karaus. The Board thanked Mr. Karaus for his assistance. Yonkers will contact Albert Crane to discuss Hutchins cemetery.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the millage proposals and is in agreement to ask for the Fire, Ambulance and Road millages on the August ballot. Amounts and length of each will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to donate the obsolete voting machine and 486 computer system to a non-profit organization for handicapped adults. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Hutchins seconded, to accept the estimate from the Allegan County Road Commission, dated 02/24/06, to resurface 64th Street from 118th Avenue to 122nd Avenue (approx. 1.99 miles), at a cost of \$179,305.35, to be completed in 2006. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Hutchins – yes; Reimink – yes; Yonkers – yes; Looman – yes; Hebert – yes (5/0).

Hebert will follow up with the Road Commission to clarify the wedging and culvert conditions prior to acceptance and for this year's gravel program recommendations. He will also contact Southwest Dust Control for an estimate on salt brine and calcium chloride applications for the summer.

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to adopt the Poverty Exemption Guidelines, dated 3/14/06, with the listed items renumbered, as recommended by the Board of Review. Motion carried.

Hebert will forward the letter from Jeffrey Jocks, attorney, regarding 121st Avenue to the attorney for interpretation and suggestion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michael O'Connor, 6635 118th Ave., suggested the Board enforce the setback violation on the M89 storage building and make the owner aware. Ordinances should be enforced.

Theresa Wiley, 6633 121st Ave., asked when 121st Avenue would be paved and why the Ten Year Road Plan was not being followed. Yonkers stated the "Ten Year Road Plan" was never adopted by the Board in 1998, it was only agreed to be used as a guide along with other information available over time. It was created and proposed by a volunteer committee and there was/is no obligation to follow it.

Don Karas Sr., 1672 70th St., asked why the guard rail/barrier on Blue Star at the deep ravine near 1974 68th St. was removed and not replaced. He feels it is a dangerous area.

Ed Reimink, 6438 119th Ave., asked if Blue Star Hwy will be a Class A road when it's resurfaced by the Road Commission.

Looman moved, Hebert seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Yonkers, Ganges Township Clerk