

Supervisor Hebert called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. at the Ganges Township Hall, 1904 64th St. Board members present by roll call attendance: Looman, Hebert, Reimink, Hutchins, Yonkers.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the agenda dated 03/13/07 with addition of item 10B – Sign removal at 121st and item 11D – Glenn Store Liquor License. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Steve Van Wieren, I-2000	02/28/07 (email)	Status of Fire Station wireless tower
Neil VanLeeuwen, 6751 119 th Ave.	02/23/07	Employee/Independent Contractor concerns

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to release the email correspondence from the Township Attorney dated 2/13/07 regarding employee/independent contractor information to Neil VanLeeuwen. Motion carried.

Kathy Stanton, 6691 120 th Ave.	03/13/07 (email)	Opposition to proposed Master Plan
Elaine Troehler, 1624 68 th St.	03/13/07	Opposition to proposed Master Plan

Public Comments

Bob Simonds, 2318 lakeshore Dr, referred to a recent news article regarding the entrance fees at West Side County Park and requested administrative supervision for Pier Cove Beach this summer. Commissioner Jessup stated he is attempting to work with the County Commission for additional No Parking signs and increased officer patrols.

Elaine Troehler, 1624 68th St., requested discussion of her letter when the Board reviewed the proposed Master Plan.

Susan Smith, 6247 122nd Ave., voiced concerns over spot zoning and disagreement with the proposed Master Plan.

Looman moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the regular meeting minutes of 2/13/07 as presented. Motion carried with Yonkers abstaining due to absence.

Reimink reported the balances as of 2/28/07 as follows:

General Fund	\$457,460.79
Road Fund	198,230.81
Ambulance Fund	105,421.95
Fire Fund	252,461.17
First Responders	8,317.31
Building Admin.	39,772.56
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,061,664.59

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

Reimink moved, Looman seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 03/13/07 as presented by the Clerk, from the following funds: General Fund - \$36,325.81; Fire Fund - \$7,834.17; First Responder Fund - \$828.39; Building Fund - \$576.52; Ambulance Fund - \$1,084.57. Motion carried.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the invoice from MCY Systems for \$223.86 for a Brother Network printer/fax/scanner. Motion carried with Yonkers abstaining due to business conflict.

Yonkers moved, Hebert seconded, to approve the attendance of Planning Commissioners at the “Implementing Form Base Codes” workshop at a cost of \$149.00/person. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Doug Compton was absent.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Official, submitted a written report of 6 calls for February.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Board received 2 bids for the roof replacement with the lower one of approximately \$25,600.00 being accepted. The Township’s share of the cost will be 1/6. The larger ambulance unit is working well and this is the last year of the AMR contract – April 2007 – March 2008.

Al Ellingsen, Building Official, submitted a written report of 2 permits issued, 15 inspections and no land divisions.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to approve Ellingsen's attendance at the April 2-5 seminar in Lansing for required educational credits at an approximate cost of \$165.00. Motion carried.

Ken Sargent, Cemetery Sexton, was absent. Assistant Holton reported one burial at Taylor which required significant snow removal. The tree at Loomis should be removed now that the weather is improving.

Barry Gooding, Planning Commission Chair, reported a public hearing was held on the Master Plan on 2/27/07 with the Commission approving the Plan and passing it on to the Board for final approval. A special meeting is scheduled for 3/20/07 and a public hearing will be held on 3/27/07 for a PUD application from Jim Keag.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, reported the Committee discussed Saturday hours but are opposed to opening additional days due to cost and previous lack of use. The hours will remain Sundays only.

Marge Sheldon, Library representative, provided circulation figures which reported Ganges in the lead again. A new library director has been hired, Mary Hill from Allendale. She has worked with the Lakeland Coop so is familiar with many of the procedures.

County Commissioner Tom Jessup provided an update of the recent meetings and issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Yonkers moved, Hebert seconded, to adopt the Ganges Township Public Access Ordinance #27 as presented with the addition of an exception to the hours for smelt dipping. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman – Yes; Yonkers – Yes; Reimink – Yes; Hutchins – Yes, Hebert – Yes (5/0).

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to request the Allegan County Road Commission remove the sign they installed at the 121st public road end regarding ingress and egress as soon as possible. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Vinterra Winery was absent so there was no presentation.

The email from Kathy Stanton was read aloud since the Board did not have copies. The Board was also given time to read Elaine Troehler's letter. Both were received just prior to the meeting.

Reimink moved, Hebert seconded, to adopt the Master Plan dated 03/05/07, approved by the Planning Commission 02/27/07, as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Reimink – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Looman – Yes; Yonkers – Yes; Hebert – Yes (5/0).

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to adopt Ordinance #28, an amendment to the Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance for agricultural labor camps and migrant housing as presented, approved by the Ganges Planning Commission on 12/20/06 and approved by the Allegan County Planning Commission on 2/12/07. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Hebert – Yes; Yonkers – Yes; Looman – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Reimink – Yes (5/0).

Hebert moved, Yonkers seconded, to adopt Ordinance #29, an amendment to the Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance to comport with the Zoning Enabling Act as presented, approved by the Ganges Planning Commission on 12/20/06 and approved by the Allegan County Planning Commission on 2/12/07. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Yonkers – Yes; Looman – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Reimink – Yes; Hebert – Yes (5/0).

Yonkers moved, Reimink seconded, to adopt Ordinance #30, an amendment to the Ganges Township Zoning Ordinance to enlarge the allowed equipment and cabinet area for telecommunications towers as presented, approved by the Ganges Planning Commission on 12/20/06 and approved by the Allegan County Planning Commission on 2/12/07. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows: Looman – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Reimink – Yes; Hutchins – Yes; Yonkers – Yes (5/0).

Looman moved, Reimink seconded, to write a letter to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission in support of the purchasers of the Glenn Store that they be allowed to have the same liquor license(s) as the current owners (SDD/SDM). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marge Sheldon, 2059 Lakeshore Dr., asked the status of the 121st Ave. case. Hebert responded there is a court date on 4/13/07.

Dawn Soltysiak, 6322 113th Ave., voiced her disappointment with the Board's adoption of the Master Plan.

Linda Rizzolo, 1193 Blue Star Highway, submitted a proposal for a "Lighted Holiday Blue Star" to be installed on the Fire Station tower

Ganges Township Board

FINAL APPROVED

Minutes of 03/13/07

and lit during the holiday season. Another alternative is to move the old fire tower closer to Blue Star Highway for better visibility.

Looman moved, Reimink seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Yonkers, Ganges Township Clerk