

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, Reimink, Hutchins, Looman, Yonkers.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to accept the agenda dated 9/13/05 with the addition of 11i – Gauntlett Building Permit and 11j – Ryder ZBA denial. Motion carried.

Correspondence

John Tilton, 2060 Lake Michigan Dr	08/03/05	121 st Road End concerns
Barb Rolinski & Marilyn Tucker, 1842 Morning Glory	08/08/05	Anti-funnelling support
Arthur Lewry, 2137 Lakeshore Dr	08/17/05	Blight concern on Kramer property
Jim Birkes, Plan Comm Secretary	08/24/05	Mineral mining ordinance follow up
Jim Birkes, Plan Comm Secretary	08/24/05	Land Division information request
John Lindahl, 6002 Cedar St	08/25/05	Hutchins Lake Management Plan
John Lohrstorfer, Twp. Attorney		121 st Avenue road end

Public Comments:

Diana Decker, 128C Elizabeth, requested clarification on Mr. Tilton's letter.

Jane VanDenBerg, 1910 Lakeshore Dr, inquired about the "junk" on the property north of the Ganges Methodist Church and asked if there was any commercially zoned property on Lakeshore Dr.

Hutchins moved, Reimink seconded, to approve the regular meeting minutes of 08/09/05 as presented. Motion carried.

Reimink reported the balances as of 08/31/05 as follows:

General Fund	\$388,559.49
Road Fund	412,615.70
Ambulance Fund	50,623.06
Fire Fund Checking	216,581.39
First Responders Checking	51,827.33
Building Admin.	50,577.53
 TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	 \$1,170,784.50

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

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to approve payment of the bills dated 09/13/05 as presented by the Clerk from the following funds: General Fund - \$18,491.76; Fire Fund - \$750.20; First Responder Fund - \$356.38; Building Admin. Fund - \$3,380.34; Ambulance Fund - \$815.40; Road Fund - \$10,000.00. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fire Chief Compton was absent. Hutchins provided an update on the RIT team.

Ken Zecklin, Safety Officer, was absent but provided a report of 18 runs for the month.

Dick Hutchins reported the Ambulance Committee met on 09/08/05. The Committee is requesting that when the ambulance in Fennville is replaced it be with a larger one.

The Assessor, Doug Darling, submitted a written report stating the W. E. Smith Tax Tribunal appeal has been dropped as of 09/07/05 and the office hours on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays each month seem to work well.

Paul Shamblin, Zoning Administrator, was present and submitted a written report to the Board regarding current violations and zoning issues.

Al Ellingsen, Building Official, was present and submitted a written report regarding permits issued, land splits completed and a Notice of Violation sent to John Miller, regarding the dangerous building at 2239 70th St.

Ken Sargent, Cemetery Sexton, was absent. Yonkers reported Gary Holton, the Assistant Sexton is emptying the barrels at the cemeteries and also Aaron Plummer reported a damaged headstone at Plummer Cemetery.

Ed Reimink, Planning Commission Chair, reported Barry Gooding was elected as Vice-Chair and a public hearing will be scheduled in the future for the non-conforming building section of the Zoning Ordinance.

Terry Looman, Transfer Station representative, reported Ganges continues to be the top user of the recycling dumpster and there may be some increases due to the higher fuel prices. Hutchins reported there could be recycling at the Fennville Schools soon with the money raised to be used for scholarships/grants.

Marge Shelden, Library representative, presented a written and oral report on current circulation figures and reported Jessica Volkers is the new Youth Services and Library Assistant with many new programs coming. Also, a book sale will be held on 10/08/05 during the Goose Festival.

Dave Babbitt, County Commissioner, provided an update on the tire pile cleanup grant received by the County and the budget process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Michigan Gas Utilities Tax Tribunal should be settled within the next month. A written update was reviewed by the Board.

Hebert moved, Reimink seconded, to authorize Scott a. Chernich and the law firm of Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C., to negotiate a settlement with IPCS for no less than 70% of the taxable amount for the tax years 2003 and 2004. Motion carried.

Hebert confirmed the W. E. Smith tax tribunal case has been dropped.

NEW BUSINESS

Hebert moved, Looman seconded, to deny the request of Chris Gorgas, Lighthouse Realty Co., Inc., to relax the 4:1 depth to width ratio mandated on lot splits under the Land Division ordinance for parcel # 0307-016-007-00. Motion carried.

Yonkers moved, Looman seconded, to approve the draft Personnel Manual as presented with amendments pending approval from the Township's attorney. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a Freedom of Information Act policy, Purchasing and Bid policy and Electronic Recordings of Township Meetings policy and are in agreement to forward them on to the attorney for review as presented. Hebert will contact the attorney regarding working with the Board on the suggested amendments to the Blight Elimination Ordinance, possibly at the October meeting.

Hebert and Compton will prepare a letter to be sent to individuals living on private roads or with driveways that are not passable by Fire Department standards for notification.

W. Dexter Gauntlett, 2289 Lakeshore Dr., asked the Board to reconsider his application for a building permit to move a second home onto his property. Paul Shamblin, Zoning Administrator, and Al Ellingsen discussed the reason the application was denied. No action was taken as the Board has no jurisdiction.

Donald & Mary Alice Ryder, appealed to the Board by letter to overturn a ZBA decision to deny their request for a variance to the private road ordinance amendment. Their concern was lack of notification of the hearing. Mr. Shamblin, Zoning Administrator, mailed the notice to the address on the application. No action was taken as the Board has no jurisdiction.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Lindahl, 6002 Cedar St, asked the Board if they have received a Hutchins Lake Management Plan.

Marge Shelden, 2059 Lakeshore Dr, suggested that job descriptions be included in the Personnel Manual.

Dawn Soltysiak, 6322 113th Ave, thanked the Board for working on Township policies.

Ed Reimink, 6438 119th Ave, asked if the 3rd dust control application had been completed.

Linda Wilcox, 6274 122nd Ave, asked for the minimum driveway requirements.

Looman moved, Reimink seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

