

Approved Minutes – Reading Township Board
February 12, 2007, Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with James Galloway, Roger Wheeler, Ron Parker, Randy Wigent and Judy Wheeler present. Also present were Kathy Mikolajczyk, Gary Lovett, Mike Parney and Harold Farris.

The minutes of the January 8, 2007 Regular meeting was approved as presented.

There were no comments from guests.

Mike Parney will be representing the Road Commission for Reading Township. There was some discussion of roads and possible road projects for the coming year. The Township Board would like to deal with contracts for Gravel Road Stabilization and Gravel Road Patching at the March meeting.

Zoning Administrator, Harold Farris handed out his monthly report along with a summary of all of the permits issued in 2006.

A proposed revision to the Reading Township Zoning Ordinance, “Lake Residential District Amendments” was discussed along with a letter from Township Attorney, Kevin Shirk who is suggesting that the issue of requiring sub-sized lots to be joined should be addressed in Section 5.4 of the zoning ordinance. Action on this was tabled so that the board could review the letter from Kevin Shirk.

There was a discussion of possible zoning violations and the importance of enforcing the Township’s existing zoning ordinance.

There will be a public hearing on Monday, February 19, 2007 where the Planning Commissions will hear comments on the following proposed revisions to the Township Zoning Ordinance.

1. The amendment of Section 4.2 Residential Zoning District and Section 4.6 Schedule of Regulations to decrease the minimum lot size from one acre to 20,000 sq. ft. with a minimum width of 100 feet and to update the list of permitted uses and conditional uses.
2. The addition of Section 4.9, Medium Density Residential District, and to amend Section 4.6 Schedule of Regulations. This district is intended to allow multi- family dwellings up to eight units per acre and also to allow two family dwellings and senior housing as well as other uses. Development standards are also established for this district.
3. The addition of Section 4.10 Manufactured Housing Community District, which establishes regulations to allow for manufactured housing communities.
4. Amendments to change the notification requirements for public hearings held by the Planning Commission, Township Board and Board of Appeals to not less than 15 days before the public hearing. This notification amendment is mandated by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. The amendments would add or amend the following Sections: 1.1; 6.5; 9.1; 9.3.H; 9.5. E; 9.5.G; 11.2; & 11.5 of the Reading Township Zoning Ordinance.

A Fire Department report was reviewed.

The Fire Department’s audit could not be completed because the legal organization of the department was apparently not well enough defined. The City, the Township and the Firemen will need to develop a plan, or plans of organization.

It was decided to adopt “poverty exemption guidelines” for the Board of Review at the March meeting.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler, supported by Randy Wigent to pay bills and make payments for the month of February for a total amount of \$7,989.52. This motion carried 5-0.

The Township is beginning to develop a budget for 2007/2008.

A salary and pay rate schedule will be presented to the Board for adoption at the March meeting. It was suggested that increases in pay be presented for the board of review members and for election inspectors.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler supported by Randy Wigent to hold the 2007/2008 budget hearing as part of the April 9, 2007 regular meeting.

There was discussion of a new copier for the township hall. A proposal will be brought to the board at the March meeting.

There was a motion by Randy Wigent supported by Judy Wheeler to adjourn. This motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Roger Wheeler,
Reading Township Clerk

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