

Approved Minutes – Reading Township Board  
March 9, 2009, Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with James Galloway, Roger Wheeler, Ron Parker, Randy Wigent and Kimberly Blythe present. Also present were Suzanne Alexander, Morris Lewis, Janet Lewis, Roger Messenger, Beverly Messenger, Hank Risk, Dorothy Risk, Kathy Mikolajczyk, Gretchen Oberdick, Gary Lovett and Harold Farris.

The minutes of the February 9, 2009 Regular meeting were approved as presented and then the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Election Commission meeting were approved as presented.

Beverly Messenger asked about having natural gas run to Totem Village. It was suggested that she contact Michigan Gas Utilities. There were no other comments from guests.

A motion was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by Randy Wigent to amend the 2008/2009 General Fund Budget by decreasing the proposed Zoning Permit Receipts by \$200 from \$600 to \$400, decreasing the proposed Interest Receipts by \$200 from \$2,500 to \$2,300, increase the proposed Fire Run Charge Receipts by \$400 from \$2,000 to \$2,400, increasing the proposed Transfer Station Expense by \$3,000 from \$12,000 to \$15,000, decreasing the proposed Contingencies by \$3,000 from \$15,000 to \$12,000 This motion carried 5-0.

A budget hearing was held. Copies of the proposed 2009/2010 general fund budget, transfer station budget and the township cemetery fund budget were provided to everyone in attendance. The opportunity to provide comments and/or make suggestions on any of the budgets was offered. This opportunity was extended to include the entire meeting time. There were not any comments or suggestions on any of the budgets.

There was an explanation of the proposed general fund budget for 2009/2010 and a number of the items that have been allowed for in that budget. These were a contract with Domestic Harmony, a proposed Fire Department's budget and allowance for contracts with the Road Commission.

Other items allowed for were to provide for some more repairs and upgrades to the township hall building such roof replacement and improvements to the parking lot and driveway.

There were still no comments or other suggestions concerning the proposed budget and the budget hearing was then considered closed.

A motion to adopt the 2009/2010 General Fund Budget as presented was made by James Galloway and supported by Ron Parker. This showed proposed receipts of \$199,750 and proposed expenditures of \$330,800. This motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by James Galloway and supported by Kym Blythe to adopt the 2009/2010 Township Cemetery Fund Budget as presented. This has proposed receipts and proposed expenditures of \$12,000. This motion carried 5-0.

A motion to adopt the 2009/2010 Transfer Station Fund Budget as presented was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by Randy Wigent. This has proposed receipts and proposed expenditures of \$48,000. This motion carried 5-0.

A motion to establish the Township Tax Levy for 2009 at the same one mill however reduced as required under MCL 211.34d was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by James Galloway. This motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Roger Wheeler and supported by Kym Blythe to collect the one-percent administrative fee on the 2009 taxes to help offset the costs of tax administration and collection. This motion carried 5-0.

There was a motion by James Galloway supported by Ron Parker to not impose a late penalty charge on 2008 winter taxes that are paid before the end of February 2010. This motion carried 5-0.

There was a discussion of a proposed contract with Domestic Harmony for \$250 for the 2009/2010 year. There was a motion by Roger Wheeler supported by James Galloway to approve this contract for \$250. This motion carried 5-0.

There will be a special meeting of the Fire Board on Wednesday, March 18, 2008 at 6:00 PM to review the bids on the new tanker. The regular meeting of the Fire Board will be held on April 1, 2009.

Zoning Administrator, Harold Farris provided his monthly report and made a request to attend a series of Zoning Administrator's classes. There was a motion by Ron Parker supported by Randy Wigent to pay the expenses involved in attending these workshops. This motion carried 5-0.

Planning Commission Chairman, Gary Lovett provided an update on the Planning Commission activities and provided drafts of an ordinance to revise section 16 (Board of Appeals) of the Reading Township Zoning Ordinance. Also provided were proposed ordinances covering Nuisance Abatement, Junk or Dismantled Vehicles and Blight Elimination.

There was a motion by Roger Wheeler supported by Randy Wigent to pay bills and make payments for the month of April for a total amount of \$14,065.01. This motion carried 5-0.

A discussion of a Salary and Pay Rate schedule for the 2009/2010 included a request to increase the Election Inspector's pay and to increase the Zoning Administrator's salary.

Supervisor Galloway will contact J.J. Hodshire at the Sheriff's office to arrange a program for the April meeting of the Hillsdale County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association.

There was a motion by Randy Wigent supported by Ron Parker to adjourn. This motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Roger Wheeler,  
Reading Township Clerk

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