

DENMARK TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2008

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Kathy Higgins, Steve Kramer, Jim Keller, Gary Dixon, Joe Moore

ABSENT: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Gilchrist

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order @ 7:05 PM by Chair Higgins

AGENDA APPROVAL: Keller added Hastings Bridge Repair and Comp Plan Update. Higgins added Community Ed Advisory Committee, Computer purchase for Town Hall and Clerk's performance review. **Motion Keller/2nd Kramer to approve agenda as amended.**
Motion Carried Unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion Keller/2nd Moore to approve consent agenda which includes 03/03/2008 Board Meeting Minutes and 03/11/2008 Board Of Canvass Minutes, claims #8826-8854, payroll ending 04/01/2008 and financial reports. Motion Carried Unanimously.

HEARING DECISION/ZONING ACTIONS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident request to move the agenda item of elections toward the beginning of the agenda. Charlie Grote questioned why boats were parked in front, rather than the back of Rase Automotive, based on the conditions set forth in their Conditional Use Permit. Requested info to residents in Newsletter on dogs running at large. Requested Board look into options for funding the blacktopping of all gravel roads in the Township. Sheriff's Deputy submitted activity report to the Town. He stated that due to a number of recent thefts of items in cars, that people should lock both their cars and garages. Cal Bruer addressed the Board on what the process is on replacing the building that burnt down on his property. Mr. Bruer was directed to apply for a variance. Attorney and Town will work with Mr. Bruer.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Moving Town Election To November: Election Judges spoke to the Board in support of placing the question of whether or not to move the Town Election to November, on the November 2008 ballot. A November general election historically has a better voter turn out. Eliminating an annual March election would be cost efficient. The Town annual meeting would still be in March. Board consensus is to proceed with resolution to place the question on the November 2008 ballot, to the public.

Election of Chair: Moore/2nd Dixon to nominate Higgins as Chair. Kramer/2nd Higgins to nominate Keller as Chair. Keller declined nomination, Motion withdrawn. **Motion Moore/2nd Dixon to elect Higgins as Chair.** Ayes-Moore, Dixon, Kramer, Keller. Higgins abstained. Motion Carried.

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Election of Vice-Chair: Kramer/2nd Moore to nominate Keller as Vice-Chair. No other nominations. **Motion Kramer/2nd Moore to elect Keller as Vice-Chair. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Organizational Items: Newspaper of Record is currently Hastings Star Gazette. Official Posting Place is currently Town Hall Building Bulletin Board. Official Banking Institution is currently Wells Fargo. Gopher Bounty is currently \$2.50 per gopher. Supervisor Salary is currently \$70 per meeting and \$300 per month for Chair. **Motion Keller/2nd Dixon to keep all items the same as they currently are. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Gravel/Haul Rates: Dixon has received 2 hauling rates, but has not yet received 2 rates for gravel. **Motion Moore/2nd Kramer to table the gravel rates approval until the Special Meeting (Portfolio) on April 23, 2008 @ 6:30 PM. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Dustcoating Rates: Dustcoating, Inc. submitted a price of \$.70 per applied gallon of magnesium chloride. Ferrellgas submitted a price of \$.80 per gallon. **Motion Dixon/2nd Moore to approve Dustcoating, Inc. to apply dustcoating for Denmark at a price of \$.70 per gallon. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Resident requested Board to apply dustcoating on gravel roads entirely or at least on higher traffic gravel roads. Current practice is to dustcoat portions of the gravel near homes and driveways. Dixon will review current practices to discuss at May Board Meeting.

Roads Maintenance Contract: Current roads contractor Gordy Herman is requesting an increase of \$5.00 per hour on his contract, because of fuel increases. The contract is currently \$65 per hour and expires in April, 2009. Board consensus is that due to the consistent increase of fuel costs, this is a reasonable request. **Motion Moore/2nd Dixon to grant a \$5.00 per hour increase due to increased fuel costs, for the remainder of the current roads maintenance contract which expires in April, 2009. Motion Carried Unanimously.** Board directed Attorney to draft the 05/01/2006-04/30/2009 contract amendment.

Ditch/Town Hall Mowing Contracts: Mowing contracts expired on 03/31/2008. Requests for mowing have been advertised, with submittal deadline on 04/24/2008. Board requested that Attorney review the mowing contracts. Any comments on the contracts from the Board should be directed to the Attorney.

Surface Water Management Plan: TKDA submitted a proposal for work needed to complete Denmark Township's Local Surface Water Management Plan as part of the Township's Comp Plan Update. The Plan is a requirement from the Met Council as part of the Comp Plan. Planner's cost estimate is \$4000 to \$4500. **Motion Keller/2nd Moore to accept TKDA's proposal to complete the Surface Water Management Plan per their 03/13/2008 memo. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

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Playground In The Summer (PITS): Hastings Community Education is requesting that Denmark Township participate in the 2008 Playgrounds In The Park (PITS) program. The cost will be \$1350 for a 2 day a week program (Mondays and Fridays), June 16-August 8 from 9:30 am – 3:30 PM. **Motion Moore/2nd Kramer to approve participation in the 2008 PITS program. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Community Ed Advisory Council: Peg Powers has completed her term, representing Denmark Township on the Community Education Advisory Council. Thanks go out to Peg for her service. Joe Moore will represent Denmark Township on the Community Ed Advisory Council.

Supervisor Portfolio Meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2008 at 6:30 PM.

Road Tour (on site inspection of the roads) is scheduled for April 14, 2008 at 5:00 PM.

Comp Plan Update: Comp Plan draft should be ready for a May public Hearing in front of Planning Commission. Board action to occur @ June Board Meeting.

Hastings Bridge Repair: Shuttle busses plan not yet set. Coalition is in process of developing by-laws. Attorney and Higgins are reviewing draft. Dixon will attend May meeting in Higgins absence. Board will need to decide if they will join coalition as members. Membership fee would be around \$100-\$150.

Computer purchase: Board approved purchase of new computer for the Town Hall in 2007. Computer has not been purchased yet. Clerk is requesting Board to authorize purchase this year. Board approved 2008 computer/printer purchase and increased amount to \$3000.

Transfer Of Funds: The Driveway Inspection Fund is carrying a balance of -\$115 and the Driveway Bond Fund is carrying a balance of \$3000. These balances have been on the books for over 8 years. **Motion Keller/2nd Moore to use the Driveway Bond Fund of \$3000 to offset the Driveway Inspection fund of -\$115 and to transfer the balance of \$2885 to the Road and Bridge Fund, and to authorize Attorney to draft the resolution and to have the Chair sign. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

WMO Update: WMO plan has been sent out for review and comment. Rules adoption by Township will be on the Planning Commission Agenda for a Public Hearing on 04/21/2008. Board action to occur on 05/05/2008.

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Legal Updates:

St. Croix Ridge- Letter Of Credit for \$23,737.50 has been renewed to 03/21/2009. Attorney has sent Jeff Riegel a list of outstanding items that need to be done with a timeline. Board consensus that Jeff Riegel be responsible for outstanding issues. Attorney will continue to review issues.

Rase Automotive: Inspectron has inspected the site. Roy will create a log for both unlicensed and impounded vehicles. Ron is including the boats in front as part of a vehicle count, Board agreed. There is no evidence of painting being done on site. Whether mounted or not, the CUP allows 40 tires on site. Rase Auto is inquiring if buying the property next door would that fulfill the well requirements, as that is where the water is now supplied from. Board consensus is that a well is required on business site. Wasmund will prepare written report to Board after follow up inspection visit.

Board took 20 minute break at 9:17 PM.
9:37 PM Chair Higgins reconvened meeting.

Clerk/Treasurer's Annual Performance Review: Board reviewed Clerk/Treasurer's performance. **Motion Kramer/2nd Moore to increase the Clerk/Treasurer's salary 4%, raising the monthly salary from \$2100 to \$2184. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

Motion Kramer/2nd Higgins to adjourn. All in Favor. Motion Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM.

Becky Herman
Denmark Township Clerk/Treasurer