

Draft: 10/14/07
Approved: 11/19/07

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
Regular Meeting of October 8, 2007
12050 Old Belding Road

Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Frank Force called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance followed

Board Members Present

Supervisor Frank Force, Clerk Jim Fues, and Treasurer Sabrina Freeman

Board Members Absent

Trustee Paul Knoerl-excused and Dennis Heffron arrived later

Approval of Agenda

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman supported to approve the agenda as amended. **All Ayes**

Officers Report

September 10, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman supported to approve the September 10, 2007 Regular meeting minutes as amended. **All Ayes**

September 27, 2007 Special Meeting Minutes

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman supported to approve the September 27, 2007 Special meeting minutes as written. **All Ayes**

Dennis Heffron arrived at 7:05

Budget Amendments

J. Fues moved and F. Force supported to approve the budget amendments transferring \$800 from account #101.215.826 to account #101.215.727 for \$200 and account #101.215.970 for \$600.

Roll Call: S. Freeman-yes, J. Fues-yes, F. Force-yes, D. Heffron-nay. 3-ayes 1-nay

Accounts Payable

J. Fues moved and D. Heffron supported to approve the accounts payable in amount of \$25,056.82 (Check # 31479 - 31511) **All Ayes**

Consent Agenda

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J. Fues moved and S. Freeman supported to approve the Consent Agenda. **All Ayes**

Public Comments

Dan Hula a Civil Engineer introduced himself and offered some information regarding some areas of assistance he may be able to offer Grattan Township. He currently has done some work for Grattan Township regarding the cemeteries and the two Community Development Block Grants.

Supervisor F. Force read a letter from Robert Grile (regarding Parnell Store) asking these two questions:

- 1) Who was authorized, by name, to issue civil infractions citations, when our tickets were issued? (Tickets were issued January 17, 2007 and May 17, 2007)
- 2) When performing these duties, when was this person officially authorized?

Supervisor F. Force will be responding to these questions in writing per request.

Department Reports

Fire Department

For the month of September, 2007 there were 4 fires, 10 medicals, 2 trainings, 2 meetings and 2 non fires totaling 20.

Trustee D. Heffron noted that he spoke with Dean Lonick owner of Michigan Wire and he wanted to express a thank you to the Grattan Fire Department for their assistance, with the recent fire at Michigan Wire.

Fire Administration Safety Committee

(See minutes dated September 26, 2007)

Zoning Officer Report

Supervisor F. Force submitted a current summary complaint document, with old and new complaints.

Safety Board of Appeals

No meeting

Sewer Report

The mechanical upgrade on pump station # 4 is completed. The new ordinance is completed and each lake has new maps that are color-coded indicating which parcels are available for hook up and ones that are not. The completed ordinance and maps will be offered at the November or December board meeting for approval.

Planning Commission

(See minutes dated October 3, 2007)

Zoning Board of Appeals

No Meeting

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Building Department Monthly Report for September 2007

The building department issued 4 building permits, 3 electrical permits, 4 mechanical permits and 2 plumbing permits.

Old Business

PDR Update

Trustee D. Heffron reported that a majority of the properties that are preserved in Grattan Township will soon have a 2' x 2' sign stating that land is preserved along with the number of acres and the number in which it was preserved. Costs of these signs were sponsored by the Wege Foundation and will be installed by the County.

Fertilizer Ordinance

Board discussed the "draft" Fertilizer Drainage Maps for the various lakes located in Grattan Township. Board agreed that the maps be approved the same time as the Fertilizer Ordinance is approved.

Trustee D. Heffron noted for clarification that the agriculture land currently engaged in active agricultural enterprises would not be under the ordinance regulations.

Trustee D. Heffron asked if the residents affected by this ordinance, would be notified. Supervisor F. Force said they would be. Trustee D. Heffron also stated that he would like an organization to come out and offer their services for soil sampling and testing and to update residents regarding the use of fertilizers.

Clerk J. Fues recommended that we ask the township boards that represent Rattigan Lake, Cowan Lake and Murray Lake to duplicate a similar ordinance to Grattan's Fertilizer Ordinance.

New Business

Excavation Ordinance

F. Force moved and J. Fues supported to approve the Zoning Ordinance Amendments to further regulate limited excavation vehicles and equipment in A-1, A-2 and R-R Districts.

**Roll Call: S. Freeman-yes, J. Fues-yes, F. Force-yes, D. Heffron-yes
4-ayes, 0-nays**

Budget Review

Board reviewed many items on the budget.

Board discussed the possibility of billing residents that have insurance to cover Fire Department calls. Board will collect more information from other townships regarding this topic.

Extended Warranty on Sewer Generator

Board agreed not to extend the warranty on the Generator.

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Reschedule November Board Meeting

J. Fues moved and D. Heffron supported to reschedule the November 2007 Board Meeting to November 19, 2007. **All Ayes**

Ordinance Amendment Approval

Mr. Kennedy commented that there is a state law that states that the Supervisor cannot give authority to anyone else to issue citations. He also noted there is exception if it is approved prior to issuing the citations. He recommended that the Township get clarification from another source regarding who is legally able to write citations. Board agreed to contact another Legal Firm or the Michigan Township Association for clarification on this subject and approve the Zoning Ordinance Amendment at the next board meeting.

Appointing Zoning Board of Appeals Members

F. Force moved and J. Fues supported to appoint Nancy Benner from an alternate to a regular member for a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals replacing Greg Clover. **Roll Call: J. Fues-yes, S. Freeman-yes, F. Force-yes, D. Heffron-yes, 4-eyes 0-nays**

F. Force moved and D. Heffron supported to appoint Brian Johnson to the Zoning Board of Appeals as a member, replacing Gloria Burns and finishing out her term. **Roll Call: S. Freeman-yes, F. Force-yes, D. Heffron-yes, J. Fues-yes, 4-eyes, 0-nays**

F. Force moved and D. Heffron supported to appoint John Jakeway to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate. **Roll Call: D. Heffron-yes, J. Fues-yes, F. Force-yes, S. Freeman-yes, 4-eyes, 0-nays**

Siegfried Crandall Audit

Clerk J. Fues updated board on the recommendations from Siegfried Crandall regarding the 2007 Auditor's report. He informed the board that a fair amount of cost is needed to update software to meet these recommendations. The question he is asking is their enough value to the township to do it.

J. Fues moved and D. Heffron supported to approve Supervisor Frank Force to approve/authorize by signature on the 3883 State document regarding the 2007 Auditor's report. **All Ayes**

Board Member Communications

Meeting Dates

October 22, 2007 Alternate Board Meeting
November 19, 2007 Next Regular Board Meeting

Applications for Openings on Township Committees

Supervisor F. Force informed the board there will be seventeen openings on township committees.

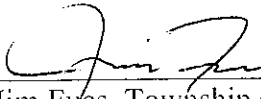
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Visitors attending the Meeting

Jack Brooks from Troop 228, Bill Poulias and Nick Poulias from Troop 328 attended the meeting.

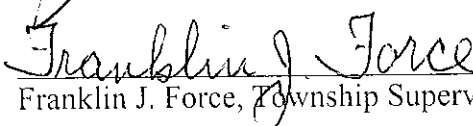
Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.



Jim Fues, Township Clerk

11-20-07
Date



Franklin J. Force, Township Supervisor

11-20-07
Date

Recording Secretary,
Monica Burt