

**GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**Special Meeting of July 20, 2009**

**1. Call to Order**

Township Supervisor Frank Force called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

D. Timmons read the roll call. Members present: Supervisor F. Force, Treasurer Sabrina Freeman and D. Heffron. Members absent: Trustee J. Fues (excused) and P. Knoerl (excused).

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

D. Heffron moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve the agenda as printed. All ayes. The motion carried.

**4. Unfinished Business**

**A. Amendment to the Channel and Canal Section 5.13 of the Dock Ordinance**

F. Force asked for Board member opinions on the proposed ordinance amendments. S. Freeman asked for clarification of the wording of section 5.13. F. Force said the proposed amendment would include additional language at the end of section 5.13. S. Freeman was concerned about the rush to amend the ordinance. D. Heffron was in favor of having residents determine what type dock would best serve the type of boat they use. D. Heffron asked John Proos, Safety Board of Appeals member, for his thoughts on the proposed amendments. J. Proos said he was in favor of the amendments. He cautioned that navigation could be a challenge in some narrow channels and canals. He agreed with D. Heffron that allowing residents to use T or L shaped docks could prevent docks from extending too far out into channels and canals. J. Proos said 2 boats per residence should be allowed on a channel or canal. F. Force said it would be appropriate to approve sections 5.13, 5.3 and 5.7 at this time, but would like more information regarding sections 5.6 and 4.4 before those amendments are considered.

D. Heffron asked if the Safety Board of Appeals has reviewed the proposed amendments. F. Force said they have only seen P. Knoerl's proposed amendment to section 5.13, not all the current amendments. Board members discussed the matter. J. Proos said the proposed amendments should be reviewed by the Safety Board of Appeals before the Township Board considers the amendments. F. Force said that the matter is before the Board in an effort to help Mr. Boman. Mr. Boman agreed that would be okay to approve sections 5. 13, 5.3 and 5.7 at this time.

F. Force read a letter from Scott Marks in support of the proposed amendments out loud. F. Force read a letter from Gregg Converse, Zoning Administrator, out loud. He did not support T or L shaped docks at the end of channels or canals.

S. Freeman said the amendments to sections 5.13, 5.3 and 5.7 have nothing to do with dock shape and would not help Mr. Bowman. She was not comfortable with rushing a decision on the proposed amendments.

D. Heffron said he agreed. He would like to have the amendments reviewed by the Safety Board of Appeals first.

D. Heffron moved and S. Freeman seconded to send all the amendments, (Township Attorney Jim Brown's July 20, 2009 proposed) to the dock and boat ordinance to the Safety Board of Appeals for review and to be sent back to the Township Board with recommendations. All ayes. The motion carried.

J. Proos said the Township should provide Zoning Administrator Gregg Converse with methods for measuring docks.

B. Sewer Projects

F. Force said he did not have enough time (one week) to obtain additional quotes on these items.

1. Driveway at PS # 16, Ratigan Lake

F. Force said trucks must drive through the neighboring resident's yard to access this pump station. He said this issue has been on the sewer upgrade list. D. Heffron and S. Freeman were in support of this proposal. It was noted that funds for this proposed project would come from the sewer repair and replacement fund.

F. Force moved and D. Heffron seconded to install a driveway at pump station 16, Ratigan Lake for a total cost not to exceed \$1200.00. Roll call vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

D. Heffron moved and S. Freeman seconded to award the contract for a driveway at pump station #16, Ratigan Lake to Lillie Excavating for a total cost not to exceed \$1200.00. Roll call vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

2. Power Supply Extension at PS # 3, BPI

F. Force explained the difficulty accessing pump station 3 on the existing approximately ¼ mile "2 track" road. He said there is no turn around at the end of the road and it is very difficult to get a generator to that pump station in the winter. The proposal would have a power supply installed

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on Woodland Park Drive. D. Heffron asked if it is possible to upgrade the road instead. D. Heffron agreed to check this out before the next regular Board meeting.

3. Rebuild Irrigation Pump at Grattan/Vergennes

Board members discussed this proposal and agreed to get a quote for checking the motor at this pump while other repairs are being made. F. Force will bring the quote to the next regular Board meeting.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, F. Force declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. The next regular meeting is August 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

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Jim Fues, Township Clerk

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Date

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Franklin J. Force, Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Diane Timmons  
Recording Secretary