

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD
Budget Meeting of December 21, 2009

1. Call to Order

Township Supervisor Frank Force called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Roll Call

D. Timmons read the roll call. Members present: Supervisor F. Force, Treasurer Sabrina Freeman, Clerk J. Fues, Trustee D. Heffron and Trustee P. Knoerl.
Members absent: none.

3. Approval of the Agenda

J. Fues moved and S. Freeman seconded to approve the agenda as written. All ayes. The motion carried.

4. New Business

All Budget Items

Board members discussed how to use Kent County block grant money. J. Fues said over the next 3 years the Township will receive a maximum of \$5000 annually for each project. In the past any unused funds were rolled over, but now each year any unused funds will be lost. Currently the Township funds Senior Meals and North Kent transit with the block grant money with approximately \$2000 of unused funds. Board members agreed to continue funding Senior Meals and North Kent transit as they currently are being funded and add another project. The Township will use the remaining \$2000 in block grant money and contribute \$3000 for the new project. Board members discussed several potential projects, a driveway between Fire Department and Township hall, a driveway at the new cemetery, power for dry wells for Fire Department and road improvements. There was discussion about what types of projects qualify for the grant money. It was agreed to determine each year how to use grant money for a new project. J. Fues will submit block grant requests to the County.

Board members discussed funding for the Grattan/Vergennes irrigation system improvement, sludge removal and capital improvements to Grattan and Grattan/Vergennes systems. It was noted that sewer customers have said they would prefer a special assessment over a rate increase. D. Heffron said both systems should have under drains. F. Force said he was not sure the DEQ will allow under drains, but will ask that questions at his meeting with the DEQ today. Board members discussed the removal of sludge and agreed to ask Infrastructure Alternatives for an estimate of how much sludge will need to be removed.

Draft: 12/24/09

Approved: 01/11/10

Board members continued to review budget items line by line. At the next meeting they will continue the budget review beginning with the Fire Department budget.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, F. Force declared the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Jim Fues, Township Clerk

Date

Franklin J. Force, Township Supervisor

Date

Diane Timmons
Recording Secretary