

Ovid Township Board
October 8, 2012

Regular Meeting

The Ovid Township Board met at the Township Hall on Monday, October 8, 2012. The following members were present: Sue Miller, Supervisor; Larry Omo, Trustee; Nancy Price, Treasurer; Judy Sabaitis, Clerk. Ron Sampsel, Trustee was absent. Also in attendance were 6 guests.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Sue Miller led board members and guests in the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion by Larry Omo seconded by Nancy Price, that the agenda be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Larry Omo seconded by Sue Miller, that the September 10, 2012 public hearing minutes be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Sue Miller seconded by Larry Omo, that the September 10, 2012 regular board meeting minutes be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

The Treasurer's report was presented including payment of bills. Board members discussed jobs completed by the Road Commission and discussed the possibility of additional billing. Board members indicated that they believed there may be additional billing to come from the Road Commission for services. There was a brief board discussion for clarification regarding the balance sheet. Sue Miller stated that she would place the treasurer's report on file.

Sue Miller moved into the Public Comment portion of the meeting and asked if anyone wanted to address the board.

Rick Gates, an Ovid Township resident, 637 Pearl Beach Road, responded that he would like to address the board regarding the property at 639 Pearl Beach Drive, owned by Brad Rockey. Mr. Gates stated that he had an issue with the "albatross" built behind his house that does not meet zoning requirements. He further stated that he attended the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding this property and no one present could answer the question of how Brad Rockey was able to get the property in such a split that is not allowed by Ovid Township zoning. Mr. Gates also stated that the Township Supervisor should be at those types of meetings to be able to answer questions. Sue Miller explained to Mr. Gates that the property was an exempt split taken from an adjacent parcel and has no relation to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Miller further stated that it was her understanding that the ZBA had ruled on the issue Mr. Rockey was having in regard to zoning ordinance. Rick responded by stating that he does not believe the split was a legal split and the building that has resulted is "not harmonious" with the rest of the area.

Larry Omo interjected that he was at the ZBA meeting as well, as a board member, and recalls Mr. Gates attendance, then questioned why he didn't speak up at the time if he had an issue with Mr. Rockey's plans. Mr. Gates responded by stating that a 24' high building does not work on

that property to which Larry Omo again inquired why Mr. Gats did not speak up at the ZBA meeting and further pointed out that Mr. Gates didn't mention any issues with the building not being harmonious at that time. Rick Gates ended his statement with a request that the members of the Board go look at the Brad Rocky building in person.

Sue Miller moved the meeting onto old business and stated that there would be no winter newsletter due to lack of pertinent information. After brief discussion among Board members regarding the pending 2013 budget, landscaping and zoning updates, Sue Miller stated that there would be a newsletter in the summer.

Sue Miller opened discussion with Board members regarding the landscaping in Lockwood Cemetery. She stated that George Baker added white stone in the landscaped area and Larry Omo briefly described the process. Larry Omo further stated that George Baker has donated a lot of his personal time to the project, keeping expenses lower. Board members discussed the expenses involved in the landscaping the Lockwood Cemetery, the fact that it is known by two names; Lockwood and Union, and the 2013 and 2014 budget for cemetery expenses. Sue Miller asked Larry Omo to discuss the cemetery landscaping project and progress with George Baker and report back at the next Ovid Township Board Meeting.

Sue Miller moved the meeting discussion to New Business. The first item on the agenda was a request to split a lot in a platted subdivision in Fiesta Shores. Sue stated that the request was made to split vacant lot 107 in half. It is a 60' lot. The current owner would like to sell 30' to the owners on adjacent lot 108. Two lots would become 90' lots with this split. Nancy Price asked if they intended to build on the vacant lot. Sue Miller stated that she had not received the information and Russ Jennings stated that they would build on the vacant lot. After brief discussion among Board members, Larry Omo made a motion to approve the split of lot 107, supported by Sue Miller. MOTION CARRIED.

Sue Miller began another topic of new business regarding the completion of form F-65 and stated that it is much more complicated than last year. Ms. Miller informed board members that auditors Abraham & Gaffney are able to complete the form for a cost of \$350. Nancy Price illustrated how complex the F-65 form was and motioned to approve hiring the auditors, supported by Judy Sabaitis. MOTION CARRIED.

Sue Miller opened the meeting back up for public comment. Don Vrablic asked to comment regarding Rick Gates comments from the earlier public comment opportunity. Mr. Vrablic stated that he believed this to be a non issue when Mr. Gates attended the ZBA meeting and addressed his concerns with height and the ZBA included a height stipulation within the variance. Larry Omo stated that Rick Gates seemed fine with the situation the evening of the ZBA meeting and seemed to fully understand what Mr. Rocky was requesting and what had been approved. Russ Jennings agreed that Mr. Gates was aware of the variance that was approved by the ZBA and the stipulations included.

Reports:

Zoning – Russ Jennings reported 7 zoning permits were issued and 2 violations and stated that he was in the process of reviewing old permits.

Assessing – Sue Miller discussed a 2012 special assessment of \$33,171.12. She also stated that she is unsure regarding tax rolls due to election and exemption filing dates.

DPW – Paul Winbigler stated that they are trying to resolve issues between Northmore and Southmore estates. Additionally, Bayview has issue with commercial tanks – all tanks need replaced as they are tied into the Lake George system. Mr. Winbigler also stated that Brad Rockey has asked for permission to use the same tap for his pole barn that he is using for his residence – this statement resulted in a brief discussion regarding taps for dual buildings. Sue Miller stated that there will be three openings on the DPW which led to discussion regarding the various boards, their appointments and their responsibilities.

County Commissioner – Don Vrablic distributed the commissioner report and discussed the group Rails to Trails who want to take the abandoned railroad system from Sturgis to Coldwater and turn them into trails. Mr. Vrablic stated that the County Commissioner has no position regarding this subject. Sue Miller questioned the easement of property. Don Vrablic stated that one of three things can happen; the property is deeded back to the owners, Rails to Trails takes it over or it becomes land bank property.

Mr. Vrablic stated that the County needs to find cuts of 500K – 750K from the proposed budget. He stated there is a $\frac{3}{4}$ mil proposal for the Sheriff's Department on the ballot in the November election.

Don Vrablic stated that it is “shake your mailbox” month. Residents are encouraged to shake their mailbox to ensure it will withstand the heavy snow that snowplows might throw into it during the winter months.

The Veterans memorial dedication is scheduled for November 8, 2012. Mr. Vrablic also stated that the recent tire collection was so successful that they may schedule another one.

Don Vrablic briefly stated that he was running for re-election as County Commissioner and would appreciate the consideration of those attending when voting.

Cemetery Sexton – Sue Miller stated that George Baker was not present.

Correspondence reviewed and reported by Judy Sabaitis included 3 DEQ for large quantity water withdraws.

Motion made by Larry Omo seconded by Nancy Price to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted:

Judy Sabaitis, Ovid Township Clerk
Minutes prepared by Robbi Omo