

**RICHLAND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2008**

Supervisor Bussema called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Those present: Supervisor Alan Bussema
Clerk Jackie Light
Treasurer Wanda Hinklin
Trustee Teresa Stafford

Those absent: Trustee Joseph Kaywood

Also present were Attorney Kenneth Sparks, Park Director Maiers, Fire Chief Luedecking and other firefighters.

CONSENT AGENDA

Stafford/Hinklin moved approval of minutes of the December 10 meeting, December financial statement as mailed, and paying of January bills as they come due. **MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORTS

Bussema/Light moved to accept all reports received. **MOTION CARRIED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AMENDED LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER

The Board approved the transfer of a Class C liquor license for Mission Pointe of Richland at the November meeting. There was, however, an error in the address of the business. The State forwarded an amended resolution to the Township.

Stafford/Hinklin moved that the resolution approving the transfer of the Class C Entertainment Permit to Mission Pointe of Richland L.L.C. be approved. It is the consensus of this legislative body that the application is recommended for issuance by the State of Michigan.

AYES: Hinklin, Bussema, Light and Stafford

NAYS: None

OFFICE ASSISTANT JOB DESCRIPTION

Bussema amended the job description for the Office Assistant as discussed at the December meeting. Stafford/Light moved the approval of the Office Assistant job description. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

STEP #3 APPROVAL FOR GILMORE FARMS

Allen Edwin Homes would like to move ahead with the construction in Gilmore Farms. Much of the infrastructure is in, but not fully complete. The roads have not been surfaced, lot monuments are not in place, and all the utilities have not been installed. The Township can enter into an agreement with the developer and accept a performance bond to guarantee the completion of the requirements. Stafford questioned why the Board should rush the process and give approval before much of the work is complete. Attorney Sparks said that the Ordinance allows for the payment of a bond if the developer wishes to do so. Hinklin/Bussema moved approval of Step 3 for Gilmore Farms, contingent upon an agreement setting forth a time frame for completion of each of the requirements for infrastructure. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPOINTMENT OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS

Stafford/Light moved the appointment of Walt Calhoun, Jerry Cameruci, and John VanderBerg as members of the Zoning Board of Appeals for three-year terms ending January 1, 2011. All three are current members of the Board. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MEMBER TIME

Light said that Sewer Authority Director Rich Pierson may need a Special Meeting soon to act on a condemnation proceeding. He is attempting to negotiate with property owners on North 30th Street for easements to extend the sewer line to the Gilmore Farms property. Attorney Sparks cautioned that the Township would want to carefully follow all the steps of the proceeding, the first of which is to make a "good faith" offer to each owner. Sparks and Pierson will discuss the matter further before bringing it to the Board.

Hinklin raised the issue of a Zoning Compliance Permit requirement. This is particularly important in the case of agricultural buildings, which do not require a building permit. There should be some instrument by which the Township is informed of the size of such buildings, and for review to see that those buildings meet setback requirements. Sparks said that would be an issue to be addressed by the Planning Commission and Hinklin said she would present it to them at the January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:40 P.M.