

ROLLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING

May 7, 2012
7:00 PM

Supervisor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Members present were Supervisor Jenkins, Clerk Gust, Treasurer Willett, and Trustees McGrath and Wilson.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss ordinances with attorney Schaedler, and to discuss the Building Department.

Legislation was passed March 22, 2012 regulating the usage of road ends in Michigan. A public road end is allowed one seasonal public dock, but boat lifts, anchorage devices, and the mooring of boats overnight is prohibited. A dock will require a permit from the local governing agency. The Sheriff Marine Division is the agency that must enforce this law.

Attorney Schaedler recommends some changes to the Outdoor Gathering Ordinance in order to be in compliance with state standards. Procedures must be in place to guarantee there is no discrimination. Adopting these recommendations will enable enforcement of the ordinance. The board would like to increase the number of persons allowed at a gathering without a permit to 100.

The process for handling dangerous buildings is strictly set out in the building code. Our ordinance is patterned after this code. Dangerous buildings ordinance and building code appears to apply only to residential construction, not commercial. The MTA says it can be applied to commercial, but would require a condemnation order.

The Noxious Weeds Ordinance was changed to conform to the language of state statute. Noxious has replaced the term harmful and poisonous. It is not possible to be less stringent than state statute. Schaedler states that this ordinance must be enforced as a civil infraction.

The adoption of a Civil Infractions Ordinance will only change the enforcement action of some ordinances. Ordinances that are eligible to become Civil Infractions are governing ordinances, (also called police power ordinances), blight, and township zoning ordinances. The issue of civil infractions for governing ordinances will be on the agenda for Wednesday. Schaedler was dismissed.

There have been questions regarding checks found in the building inspector's office while he was on vacation. He claims he did not put them there and he has two witnesses that can verify that the checks were not there when he left on vacation. Jenkins has talked to other townships that have employed him in the past. The substitute building official has indicated that he did not see any checks in the desk. Jenkins hasn't specific knowledge to further investigate this issue. It has been recommended that the township hire a special investigator to determine if there is a problem with the department or if there is foul play. The board did not authorize the supervisor to hire an investigator at this time.

Meeting declared adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Sharon M. Gust
Rollin Township Clerk