

# **VERGENNES TOWNSHIP**

## Regular Meeting Minutes

August 16, 1999

The regular meeting of the Vergennes Township Board was called to order by Tim Wittenbach at 7:00 p.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall.

|                  |                    |   |            |
|------------------|--------------------|---|------------|
| Members Present: | Tim Wittenbach     | - | Supervisor |
|                  | Jean Hoffman       | - | Treasurer  |
|                  | Mari Stone         | - | Clerk      |
|                  | Sue Geiger-Hessler | - | Trustee    |

Absent: Mark Weber

A motion was made by Hoffman, seconded by Wittenbach, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 19, 1999 and also the minutes of the Special Meeting held July 26, 1999. Motion carried. Treasurer's Report was given by Hoffman and accepted as read. A motion was made by Hoffman, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to approve the bills including the Williams & Works invoice for comprehensive plan. Motion approved. Drafts 3410 through 3441 were issued.

Permit Activity: There have been 35 permits issued for single family homes year to date.

### **Unfinished Business:**

1. Road Commission Meeting Review - 2000 Projects and Expenditures. Board members met with Kent County Road Commission for annual review on Thursday, August 12, 1999. Wittenbach noted that Board indicated a need for a program to systematically improve the gravel roads in Vergennes Township. Also asked the Director of Maintenance for the Road Commission to conduct an engineering study of Grindle Drive, adding that it had been first on the list at the meeting. He indicated it was a very involved and expensive project, and would likely need extensive tree removal. Road Commission to hold an informational meeting with residents along Grindle. Most likely will not happen until next spring. Vergennes Township projects this year were Four Mile Road and McPherson Road, and hopefully Grindle will be the Township's project for next year.

It was noted that the Road Commission requires a permit for a private street entrance that comes off of a public road, and that their definition of a private street is serving more than one home.

2. Pool Authority Survey Update. Draft Survey discussed and amended. Board to review final version of survey. Geiger-Hessler made a motion to appropriate an amount of money not to exceed \$1,500.00 to typeset, print and mail survey to all registered voters of Vergennes Township along with return postage. Seconded by Stone. Motion carried. Motion by Geiger-Hessler, seconded by Hoffman, to approve draft of survey as amended and after rechecking that the dollar figures are correct. Motion approved.

3. Lincoln Lake Autos - Update. Planning Commission continuing to work on this issue. Need to receive a definition of "general towing" from the owner of Lincoln Lake Autos.

**New Business:**

1. Approval of 1999 Millage rate of .9244 for Vergennes Township. A motion was made by Stone, seconded by Hoffman, to approve the 1999 millage rate of .9244 for Vergennes Township. Motion approved.
2. Information Technology Consultants - Network & County Connection Issues. Kent Deaver, Information Technology Consultant with Sigfreid, Crandall, Vos and Lewis, at meeting to inform Board on costs and issues concerning replacing network server and county connection package, and advise on best course for township. Old server is not upgradable; current county connection problem is due to lack of availability of parts. Total proposed to be ordered from Compaq Computer Corporation (hardware) is \$4,572.00, and from CPR/MicroAge (software) \$2,837.00 This is a purchase through the Expanded Government Program, and is the best price available. Installation, to be done by Sigfreid, Crandall etc. will take less than 10 hours at \$85.00 per hour or prepaid blocks of time at a cost of \$75.00. Stone made a motion to purchase equipment as described (itemized order attached) with desktop county connection to be installed after September 14, 1999. Geiger-Hessler seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
3. Affordable Towing Special Use Permit Request. Affordable Towing needs special use permit approved by Board in order for State of Michigan to issue dealer's license. Dealer's license needed so that Affordable Towing may buy and sell whole cars for profit-no parts. This use is not within Industrial District use parameters. Discussion regarding issues of drip pans, screening, and number of automobiles (maximum 40-50) under which initial special use permit granted. Motion by Geiger-Hessler, seconded by Stone, to grant special use permit with language as written by planner Kilpatrick and listed additions as recommended by Planning Commission:
  1. Vehicles sold limited to those acquired through the county auction of abandoned vehicles or bartered by the applicant in exchange for towing services or a nominal sum of money.
  2. Used vehicles may only be sold by auction or by appointment.
  3. Hours when vehicles may be sold are between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays, Saturday by appointment.
  4. All vehicles stored for display must be inside the screened storage area.
  5. No stacking of cars, and no more than 50 vehicles may be stored in the outdoor lot at any one time.
  6. Dealer's license to be on file with Vergennes Township.
  7. The Special Exception Use would terminate if the used car dealership license is allowed to lapse or expire.
  8. Annual review of special use permit by Township.

Motion approved unanimously.

4. PPC Electric Site Plan Approval. Planning Commission has recommended preliminary approval subject to conditions as noted in their August 2, 1999 meeting minutes. The applicant had made noted changes. Motion made by Geiger-Hessler to approve the PPC Electric Site Plan under the conditions cited by the Planning Commission. Seconded by Hoffman. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Ordinance Adoption - Wireless Communication Facilities. Motion made by Geiger-Hessler, seconded by Stone, to adopt Ordinance 99-8 regarding wireless communication facilities as written but amended as to inclusion of the names and addresses of owners of towers.

Roll Call Vote:       Yes:   Stone, Wittenbach, Hoffman, Geiger-Hessler  
                          No:    -0-

Motion carried.

6. Road Improvement Policy Discussion.        Moved to next month's meeting agenda.
7. Resolution - Solid Waste Management Plan. Motion made by Hoffman, seconded by Geiger-Hessler to adopt Resolution No. 5-99, Solid Waste Management Plan. Motion carried.
8. Resolution - Civil Infractions, Authority to Issue. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Stone, to adopt Resolution 4-99, granting authority to issue civil infractions to Zoning Administrator. Motion approved unanimously.

#### **Citizens Comments:**

Laurie Riley in attendance requesting Board to begin a study of zoning rules in R3 districts regarding animal special use permits. At this time, no special use permits can be applied for in R3 districts. Hoffman made motion, seconded by Stone, to send issue for further study to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Stone, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to table discussion until next month's meeting regarding Bieri Industrial Park and the issue of unclassified uses being allowed by way of a special exception use for businesses not already on the list of approved businesses for the industrial park.

Discussion regarding a resident who paid for application for a variance in 1998 to allow erection of an accessory building in front yard of his property. No decision was made at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, which was called for several other items of business, and resident did not follow up with the ZBA on his request. Ordinance change earlier this year made it possible for the resident to build as desired. Resident inquired as to a refund. Discussion. Motion by Geiger-Hessler, seconded by Stone, to refund resident his money after checking as to cost of notice in paper and mailing costs, and deducting for such. Motion carried.

Board accepted the resignation of Ron Rittersdorf from the Historical Commission. Historical

Commission now has six members. It was noted that the ordinance calls for 3-7 members.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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