

Vergennes Township
Regular Board Meeting
August 17, 2015
Approved as Amended

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Tim Wittenbach, Supervisor.

Roll Call – Present were Stone, Wittenbach, Hoffman, and Rasch. Gillette was absent.

Approval of the Agenda – Wittenbach added discussion of Fire Authority to the agenda. Stone added discussion of dilapidated building on Lally Street to agenda. Motion to approve agenda with additions made by Wittenbach, supported by Hoffman. Motion carried.

The minutes from the July 20, 2015 meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report was read and bills were approved for payment with a motion by Rasch, supported by Hoffman. Motion Carried.

Public Hearing – Murray Lake Marina – Request to amend special use permit

David Steinbrecher is proposing a 6000 square foot building for showroom and sales. The only change to the request was to increase the retention pond size slightly and add lighting to the outside of the building.

The public hearing was opened at 7:07 pm. There was no public comment. The hearing was closed at 7:07pm.

Unfinished Business

Murray Lake Marina – Amend special use permit

Discussion among Board members included concern about crushed concrete and how dusty it could be. It was only going to be in boat drop off area. Asphalt would be in front of store. Stone made a motion to approve the preliminary site plan based on approval by Dave Austin of Williams and Works. Hoffman supports. **Motion carried.**

Emergency Dispatch Services – Tabled from July meeting

Per Wittenbach, there is no need to act further. He discussed plan for future funding.

New Business

Lowell Township Revised Watermain Specifications

Stohrs converters are now required on all new hydrants. Stone motioned to include it in the current copy of the watermain specifications. Wittenbach supports. Motion carries.

Roth Farm Fireworks Permit

Stone motions to approve permit for October 24, 2015 contingent on receipt of liability insurance. Hoffman supports. Motion carries.

Eagle Scout Project, Fox Corner Cemetery Headstones – Don Aversano

Life Scout Don Aversano handed out project outlines to the Board members and went over project details. After some discussion, Stone motioned that the Township would donate up to \$400 toward the cost of supplies to clean the headstones in Fox Corner Cemetery. Hoffman supports. Motion carries.

Township Hall Expansion proposal

A preliminary plan was received to expand the current Township hall out to the North. There was some discussion among staff members on changes that could be made to the proposal. The current office space could be used as voting space, instead of upstairs. The septic system would probably need some upgrade if the expansion project went through. It was suggested to see if Kent County Purchasing would be able to help with any part of the project in getting bids for services/materials. It may be prudent to have a representative come and talk to the staff about their services and how it could benefit the Township in the future.

Fire Authority Discussion

Wittenbach gave updates from the Supervisor's meeting. Airpacks are expected to ship October 16, 2015. Discussion about payment for them. Also, *the LAFA Board has proposed that the Fire Chief Job be divided into two positions*, one administrative, one in the field. The Fire Authority Agreement may not allow this. Motion by Stone to have Township Attorney review the agreement to see if this arrangement is allowed. Also, have him look at possible amendments to the Agreement if it should be reopened. Rasch supports.

Dilapidated House on Lally Street

This house has been in disrepair for some time now. The Township Building Official has talked with family members about their plans to repair the existing structure. Because of ongoing complaints by the neighbors about safety, Stone motioned to commit to doing whatever it takes to get the house taken care of; including a lien on the property, if needed. Wittenbach supports. Motion carries.

Addition to discussion about Fox Corner Cemetery. Wittenbach has received one bid for replacing the fence. Another company was looking at it this week. The Board would like to move forward on the job before winter. A decision can be made at the next Board meeting or Wittenbach can use the lowest bid and get the job started.

Citizen Comments

Bob Rogers, representing the Lowell Fire Department, suggested to Don Aversano that if his project was one day, it was possible he could get the fire department to bring over a tank of water. He also volunteered to supply the buckets needed for the job. They will work out the details between them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting is September 21, 2015.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk