

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2006

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

Members Present: Tim Wittenbach - Supervisor
 Mari Stone - Clerk
 Jean Hoffman - Treasurer
 Al Baird - Trustee

Member Absent: Vern Nauta - Trustee

Minutes of the January 16, 2006 Regular Board Meeting stand approved as presented. Motion by Baird, second by Hoffman, to approve bills as read. **Motion approved.**

Public Hearing: Steinbrecher Request – SEUP for Rental Storage. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:05. There was no public comment. The hearing was closed at 7:06.

Unfinished Business:

1. Review of the Arrowhead Golf Course Request – Liquor by the Glass. Josh Brewer of Arrowhead was present for the discussion. Stone had spoken to a local LCC staff member, who strongly recommended having a public hearing before Board makes a decision. Based on population, two liquor licenses are available in the township, but only one is currently being used. This public hearing and subsequent decision by the Board would apply to both licenses in the Township, not just Arrowhead Golf Course. There will be a public hearing April 17 to determine if residents want this in Township.

New Business:

1. Discussion regarding the Lowell Area Historical Association. Judy Straub gave an overview of what the Lowell Area Historical Association has been doing. They would like the Township to give \$5,000 for operational support, not only for the next year but as a line item in the budget for future funding. Hoffman suggested an endorsement letter for future grant writing – Straub said that would be appreciated as well. The issue was tabled to discuss at the Board's next budget meeting.
2. Discussion regarding Steinbrecher SEUP for Rental Storage. Motion by Baird, Second by Stone to grant a Special Use Permit for Rental Storage for the property at 3500 Alden Nash NE. **Motion carried.**
3. Discussion regarding Road Commission 2006 Work Order. Stone motioned to approve a minor construction work order for Alden Nash south of Bailey, and Downes east of Alden Nash. Wittenbach seconded, and the **Motion carried.**
4. Discussion regarding 2006-2007 Lawn Care Bids. There were 4 bids placed. Clean Cut Lawn Care was the lowest. Hoffman motioned to give the contract to Clean Cut Lawn Care for 1 year, Baird seconded and the **Motion carried.**

5. Discussion regarding 853 Montcalm. The Board reviewed correspondence from Attorney Doezema, who has suggested suing the owner for removal. Baird voiced concerns as to whether the Township has enough evidence against the owner to proceed with Summons & Complaint. A Civil Infraction citation is also an option. Doezema has a large file in his possession dating back to 1997. Wittenbach will call Doezema and discuss options. The board agreed to proceed with Summons & Complaint if Wittenbach is satisfied we have a good case based on information from Doezema. Motion to move forward as such by Wittenbach, seconded by Hoffman. Motion carried.
6. Discussion regarding DuRay property. DuRay is considering on-site sewer system. Tim has talked to at least one company that provides the systems. There are several ways of handling it; the development can take care of all administrative duties, the Township can choose to do it or the company providing the system can handle it. It is all regulated by the Public Service Commission. Jerry Hale spoke on behalf of DuRay. He will contact Rob Munger 2/14 to see about postponing Boundary Commission Hearing currently set for 2/23. Tim Wittenbach is unavailable that day and so is our attorney, Sue Conway. They are proposing approximately 300 homes on 177 acres. Could have a site plan as early as March. Planning Commission needs to get involved if talk of expanding system comes up. Bill Scheuer voiced concern over size of lots and number of homes in such a small area.

Citizens Comments:

Bill Scheuer was unhappy with DNR decision for a no wake zone. He believed they came into the meeting with their mind set, even though everyone in attendance was for a no wake zone. Stone would like to ask Doezema if we can enact our own ordinance without DNR involvement, as in 1994. Wittenbach will follow up.

Peggy Covert of N. Washington Street asked for township backing/attendance at the city of Lowell's public hearing on 2/21 regarding the removal of LLP storage. Stone felt that it would not be productive if Vergennes were to get officially involved. Should the city proposal succeed, the entire facility on Washington will be moved to the Newell Manufacturing site on Chatham. Discussion about how to keep area protected if it is developed.

Board set a budget meeting for March 1 at 1 P.M. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mari Stone, Clerk