

MINUTES OF VERGENNES Township BOARD
February 17, 1997

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

Members Present:	Jim Cook	-	Supervisor
	Jean Hoffman	-	Treasurer
	Mari Stone	-	Clerk
	Mark Weber	-	Trustee
	Sue Geiger-Hessler	-	Trustee

After noting correction regarding percentage of dollars for which the Township is responsible (from 50% to 55%) and the percentage the county is responsible (45%) of total \$600,000 expenditure per mile for paving of a road, a motion was made by Weber seconded by Hoffman to approve the minutes of the January 20, 1997 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given and accepted as presented. A motion by Geiger-Hessler with Weber supporting passed regarding approval of the bills. Invoices 2160 through 2198 were issued.

Building Report. Three single family building permits in Township and one garage permit issued in January 1996.

Old Business:

1. North Kent Transit Request. In January, the Township allocated its annual Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") funds, and decided against providing funds to the county-wide transit system because less than \$100 of a possible \$1,000 was used. But after speaking to transit officials, it was decided to rollover \$500 from last year's \$1,000 allocation in order to prevent the system from having a hole in the service area. The money allocated is the remainder from last year's allocation and no new funds will be used from this year's funds. Any funds remaining after the current fiscal year and the \$500 rollover will be placed back in the Townships CDBG account. A motion by Stone to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to enter into an agreement for service in the 1997-98 fiscal year with the County of Kent, through its Community Development Department, and Hope Network, Inc., which operates North Kent Transit, on behalf of Vergennes Township by rolling over \$500 from last year's (1996) funds, seconded by Cook, was approved.

New Business:

1. ITM Request. ITM's request was recommended to the Board by the planning commission following an informal hearing in January and a Public Hearing in February that, with two contingencies, the project should be accepted.

ITM is to construct a 100,000 square foot warehouse with 75,000 square feet being used for storage, and 25,000 square feet providing light manufacturing space.. One of the items the Township is concerned about is semi-truck traffic between the old and new complexes. Implementing improvements to a private road along the west property line to provide Consumer's Power access to a new substation and to ease traffic on Lincoln Lake will solve this concern.

The warehouse will be served by wells and a septic system. A third and future phase by ITM, which includes offices, will depend on sewage improvements to the surrounding area.

Stone made a motion to grant approval of ITM's site plan as presented for the Phase II warehouse, with contingencies as recommended by the planning commission at their February 3, 1997 meeting. Contingencies include that the maximum number of employees shall not exceed 30 people over three shifts, and additionally, that ITM consult Consumers Power on the development of the West access road to ensure that township construction specifications are met. Seconded by Weber. Motion carried.

2. Lawn Maintenance Contract. Two bids were received to mow Bailey, Krum, Fox, and Fallasburg cemeteries and provide at the appropriate time a spring clean-up of the lawns. One bid was from Luscious Landscapes for the same dollars as last year. The second bid did not provide proof of workmen's compensation or references as requested. A motion made by Geiger-Hessler to accept Luscious Landscapes' bid of \$3,400 to mow Bailey, Krum, Fox, and Fallasburg cemeteries and provide at the appropriate time a spring clean-up of the lawns was seconded by Hoffman. Motion approved.
3. Annual Program Agreement with CDBG. In order to receive all Community Development Block Grant Program 1997-98 funds, and to provide adequate documentation to the CDBG the following motion must appear in the Township minutes. A motion was made by Stone, to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to enter into the 1997-98 Annual CDBG Program Agreement on behalf of Vergennes Township, and seconded by Weber. Motion approved.
4. Discussion on new Land Division Act of 1996 Amending Subdivision Control Act. Amendments to the thirty year old Subdivision Control Act of 1967 signed by Governor Engler (thirty days after the Act is adopted [March 31, 1997]) it goes into effect) encompass land division possibly enabling splits of a somewhat greater quantity within a shorter period of time. It is believed that if the Township passes their own ordinance, it will give developers guidelines to follow now rather than putting decisions solely in the hands of the state's amendments. The Planning Commission has used the amendments to the old subdivision act as a skeleton for their own proposed ordinance, which will be discussed at a March 3, 1997 public hearing.
5. Suggestion to form a Township Road Committee. The Township Board agreed to set up a citizens' road committee consisting of a group of unbiased (those not needing road work performed) five to six residents who would only gather information, discuss the possibility of having special assessments on the property to pay for road projects which the Township is not in the position to provide funding, a system for prioritizing road work projects, and make recommendations to the Board. The final decision on which roads would receive work would remain with the Township Board. A motion was made by Geiger-Hessler to have the clerk advertise, take applications and report to the Township Board regarding interested residents volunteering for the Committee. The motion was seconded by Hoffman.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mari Stone, Clerk