

# **VERGENNES TOWNSHIP**

## Regular Meeting Minutes February 19, 2001

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
	Al Baird	-	Trustee
	Vern Nauta	-	Trustee

The minutes of the January 15, 2001 regular meeting and the January 29, 2001 special meeting were accepted as read. Treasurer's Report accepted as read, noting that Kent County Money Max fund is being replenished by the Gypsy Moth millage collections. Baird asked about Fire and Rescue expenses – Stone noted that there were several high overtime incidents in December and January. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Nauta, to approve bills as read. Motion approved.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

1. Road Commission 2001 Gravel Projects Work Order – A work order from the Road Commission was presented for approval in the amount of \$35,000.00 for the minor construction projects approved by the board in September of 2000. Wittenbach commented that the amount may need to be changed later when the projects are more clearly defined. Hoffman motioned to approve the work order, Stone seconded, and the motion carried.
2. Resolution of Intent Regarding Sewer Connection for New Elementary School – At the suggestion of Attorney Doezema, #3 of the resolution prepared by Grattan was eliminated. The paragraph had language voiding all other resolutions on the same subject. Stone motioned to adopt Resolution 1-2001 regarding sewer connection of proposed Lowell elementary school, Nauta seconded, and the motion carried.
3. Discussion Regarding Proposed Budget for QVF Computer Equipment Upgrade – Stone explained that the State Qualified Voter File equipment needed upgrading due to a new version of software the state will be moving to. The current equipment is better than some of the other workstations in use and will be used elsewhere in the office. Motion by Nauta, seconded by Hoffman, to amend the New Equipment line item in the budget to accommodate the purchase of the new QVF equipment. Motion carried.
4. Township Historic Designation Form Approval – The Historic Districts Commission had worked on this form to be used by any property which wishes to receive official historic designation from the township. Chairperson Wood was present to answer questions, and made the following points: 1.) Each property makes an individual application; 2.) Historic Commission receives applications, looks them over and recommends approvals to the Board; 3.) The purpose of this designation is to protect historic properties. The form is to be used only by properties willing to abide by the ordinance. Stone motioned to adopt the Petition for Official Historic Designation, Baird seconded, and the motion carried.

5. Zoning Administrator Request for Ordinance Amendment – VanderSloot would like to see the list of permitted uses in the Industrial District expanded to accommodate most common uses, thereby eliminating as many Special Exception Uses as possible. Baird noted that it is impossible to cover all possible uses, and felt that the Board should continue to give final approvals. Nauta suggested that the Commercial District language should also be reviewed and amended. Stone suggested adding language to eliminate the Special Exception Use status for businesses that developed under the original Industrial District standards, thereby treating them equally with new incoming businesses. Motion by Stone, seconded by Baird, to direct PC to work on ordinance revisions to the Industrial and Commercial Districts, and to look at granting a waiver to existing Special Exception Use Permits in the Industrial District. Motion carried.
6. Community Development Program Agreement – There was some discussion regarding the requirements of program income and rental use. Stone will contact Tom Tilma to clarify. Hoffman motioned to authorize Wittenbach and Stone to enter into an agreement on behalf of Vergennes Township with the Community Development Department of Kent County. Nauta seconded, and the motion carried.
7. Road Commission Request to Extend Special Use Permit for Gravel Pits – The Road Commission will not be finished with the gravel extraction by the one-year deadline cited in their permit. They are requesting an extension until October 31, 2001, with no other changes to the agreement. Motion to extend the Special Exception Use Permit for Kent County Road Commission until October 31, 2001 by Wittenbach, seconded by Nauta. Motion carried.
8. Gypsy Moth Spray Agreement – Motion by Stone, seconded by Nauta, to enter into an agreement with Mid-Michigan Helicopters Inc. to spray for gypsy moth in certain areas of the township. Motion carried.

### **Citizens' Comments**

Craig Wood asked about poverty exemptions, and what they entail. Brian Roth asked about Vergennes Street and what is planned for road work there.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mari Stone, Clerk