

Vergennes Township

Regular Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2012

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

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

The agenda for the February 20, 2012 meeting was approved as presented with a motion made by Tim Wittenbach; seconded by Rick Gillett. **Motion Carried.** The minutes for the January 16, 2012 meeting were approved as presented. Treasurer's report and bills were read and approved with a motion made by Jean Hoffman; seconded by Al Baird. **Motion Carried.**

Unfinished Business:

1. Community Development Grant Funds

Board discussed the funds allocated for North Kent Transit Service and Senior Neighbors of Lowell. The board was informed that the amount allotted North Kent Transit Service gets capped each year, and the cap this year will be the same amount as last - \$3577. It is the same with Senior Neighbors. If there are funds left over in our account, after 3 years they are dispersed throughout Kent County. Stone motioned to pay \$3577 to North Kent Transit Service and \$4481 to Senior Neighbors of Lowell; seconded by Gillett. **Motion Carried**

2. Lowell 50- Special Event Request

Jeff Zvirzdinis came to board asking for permission to close one lane of Covered Bridge Road during his Lowell 50 race in March. He had shortened the area of the road that would need to be closed to the area between the driveway to the Section C pavilion and the bridge. The other lane would be open to traffic. The board needs to approve the event request before Zvirzdinis goes on to ask the county. Board was concerned with residents who live in the area being able to get through. Zvirzdinis said he would stop by the residences to talk to all the people living in that area, and he would post a sign by Fallasburg Park Dr. and Covered Bridge Road, and another at McPherson and Covered Bridge to notify drivers of the closed lane so that they could possibly take an alternate route. Stone motioned to approve the closing of one lane on Covered Bridge Road for the Lowell 50 on March 31st, with notification to the residents that live in the area and signs as outlined above to notify drivers; seconded by Gillett. **Motion Carried**

New Business:

1. Discussion - Master Plan Update

Board discussed updating the master plan. The last time the master plan had been updated was in 2007. Vandersloot created a summary of everything that needed to be done. Williams and Works gave the township a bid of how much they would charge to update the master plan. Board decided that they would have a joint meeting with the planning commission. Gillett motioned to accept the bid from Williams and Works and to proceed with updating the master plan; seconded by Hoffman. **Motion Carried**

2. Discussion - Cemetery Driveway Project

Board discussed the status of the cemetery driveway. The driveway is getting torn up which is causing some people to get stuck. Kenny Wittenbach did an estimate of what it would cost to fix it. The driveway wouldn't be fixed until May. Hoffman motioned to approve cemetery estimate so that the driveway could be fixed and to add the amount to the 2012-13 budget; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried**

3. Discussion- Vredenburg Property Offer

Baird got a letter back from Leah Vredenburg outlining the offer to sell approximately 20 additional acres of property. The Board decided at this point not to buy additional property.

Citizen's Comments:

Parts of the unfinished house on the Henscke property are being removed. No demolition permit has been requested, and it is only assumed the Henschke's are tearing it down. Board said that Attorney Doezema needs to talk to Henschke's attorney to make sure that the demolition is complete – this includes capping the well, and removal of the septic system. If Henscke's don't finish demolishing it, then the township will demolish it and bill for the expenses. Henscke's have until March 31st to finish the demolition before the township takes care of it.

Jeff DeVito approached the board informing them that he wants to put a tower up on his property so that he can get internet access. There is a "dead spot" in his neighborhood where many people cannot get internet access. DeVito is working with Ryan Peel to try to get internet to the area. He wants to put in a 64 foot tower that would go 15 feet above the trees. DeVito asked the township for their suggestion on how he should proceed. Board said that he should proceed through the wireless ordinance procedure and start to fill out the paperwork for a special use permit. The board said that the request would be taken up at the next meeting.

Vandersloot discussed the Paula Livingston property. She was wondering if the board wanted to record a statement saying that it needs a setback, variance, and new well before a new house is built on it. Board said that recording something on a deed will not prevent the problem from happening against.

Stone informed the board that the budget public hearing and annual report from the Lowell Area Historical Museum will be on the March agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, _____