

Vergennes Township – 10381 Bailey Dr. Lowell, MI 49331

Regular Meeting of the Township Board

July 15, 2019

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Tim Wittenbach at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Hoffman, Wittenbach, Gillett, Mork and Rasch were all present, none were absent.

Gillett made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Rasch seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Gillett motioned to approve the June 17, 2019 minutes as presented. Hoffman seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's report was presented and read, and the bills were presented. Mork motioned to accept the Treasurer's report and approve the bills. Gillett seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Public comment – Sandy Graham, Interim Manager for Kent District Library Englehardt branch, introduced the Manager in Training, Tricia Kannegieter – Hetrick.

Old Business –

- 1. New Township Hall Building Update** – Discussion on Vergennes Township's Building Inspector's recommendations and comments and ways to potentially cut costs on the addition. Discussion on the need for lawn care services at new building. Wittenbach motioned to have Scenic Expressions finish the season mowing at 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE with an every-other week schedule. Gillett seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**
- 2. Website design presented** - Hoffman motioned to move forward with the preliminary design for website. Gillett seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

New Business –

- 1. Harvest Meadows** – Discussion on Phase I Letter of Credit renewal and Phase II Letter of Credit information. Gillette motioned to approve Phase II Letter of Credit to allow

building permits to be issued and Wittenbach seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

2. **Building permit application form approval** – Gillette motioned to accept the “Zoning Compliance Application for “Murray Lake Accessory Buildings on Parcels Without a Dwelling” form with a change to the *Affidavit* area- “agricultural use building” to “accessory building”. Rasch seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**
3. **Chair discussion** - Wittenbach reported that Kathleen Girwarnauth asked if chairs from 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE building could be donated to ‘Partners In Evangelism International’, for use in Guyana South America. There was board discussion. Gillette motioned to donate chairs from 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE to Partners in Evangelism International. Hoffman seconded the motion. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**
4. **FIRE BOARD MEETING DISCUSSION** – Wittenbach reported from the Fire Authority meeting. There is an upcoming video interview with three different consultant companies to discuss the Fire Department staffing needs and what is best needed to service Lowell City, Lowell Township and Vergennes Township residents. With the Fire Department’s increasing needs and the discussion of a major change to the original authority contract that will bring a substantial cost increase to each municipality and ultimately the tax payers, the Vergennes Township Board would like the Lowell Area Fire Authority Board to hire a consulting company to conduct an unbiased, comprehensive evaluation of the staffing needs, coverage area and all general needs and services for the entire community that the Lowell Area Fire Department serves. There was discussion that a comprehensive evaluation was never done when the authority was created. We believe that with this major change to the original authority contract, the time is now to have this evaluation done to ensure our resident’s needs are met in the best possible manner.

Zoning update – Zoning administrator updated board.

Public comments – Two public comments were heard from Sandy Graham and Jeff Hoffman.

Wittenbach adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

The next regular meeting is August 19, 2019.