

DRAFT

Vergennes Township- 10381 Bailey Dr. Lowell, MI 49331

Regular Meeting of the Township Board

July 16, 2018

MINUTES

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

Roll Call- Gillette, Hoffman, Wittenbach, and Rasch and Mork were all present. None absent

The agenda was approved by Gillett. Mork seconded. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

The June 18, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes were approved by Hoffman and seconded by Rasch. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

The treasurer's report was read. Gillett motioned to pay the bills as presented, Mork seconded. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment-

Blair Lachman introduced himself. He is running for Kent County Circuit Court Judge and wanted to introduce himself to the board and public.

Public Hearing- Accessory Dwelling Application

- *Public Hearing opened at 7:07 p.m.*

David Vickery filed an application to place an accessory dwelling on property that is owned by his LLC and occupied by his daughter who runs a horse farm on the Mr. Vickery and his wife will reside in this dwelling for about 100 days out of the year for the duration of 3 to 6 years. Then, his plan is to remove the dwelling.

 - Penny Rosema- 511 Alden Nash spoke during public comment. She questioned if the property was sold- would a new owner be able to place more accessory dwellings in front of the house or just the one that is being approved? The special use permit stays with the property, but the terms of that permit stay the same. The new owners would only be able to add an accessory dwelling of the same terms and would only be allowed one unit
- *Public Hearing closed at 7:11 p.m.*

Old Business-

1. **Accessory Dwelling Application discussion for approval**

There was board discussion. Gillett motioned to approve the application for an accessory dwelling at 11900 Vergennes St. Lowell, MI 49331. Wittenbach Seconded. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

2. **New Township Hall Building update- Funding discussion, site plan layout discussion, elevation drawing discussion, interior furnishings information**

Roosien provided a site plan and it has been tweaked. Clerk Hoffman will gather preliminary costs for the site work and asphalt work comparisons. Treasurer Mork is working to gather funding options for the new township building. Fifth Third has provided information. Interest rates are predicted to go up 2 or 3 more times this year. Hoffman

has contacted Enworks for a preliminary quote on office furniture for the new building and has a potential lead on used furnishings.

New Business-

1. Pre-owned office furniture discussion- for new building

There is an opportunity for the township to buy pre-owned office furniture that is in great condition and less than five years old. The township has expressed interest in it and will meet with a representative from Modern Office interiors to determine if the furniture can work in the new building office layout. If the cost is right, a special meeting will be called to make a decision on the purchase. The Clerk and the Treasurer will meet with the owner. The Board was in agreement.

2. Board of Safety of Appeals appointment requested- Township Ordinance 2013-0721

The Murray Lake Dock and Boat Ordinance mirrored what Grattan Township had and was adopted in 2003. A Board of Safety Appeals has never been needed or requested. There may be a need for this Board in the future. Gillett motioned to adopt the planning commission as the Board of Safety Appeals. Hoffman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment-

Jeff and Chelly Martin- 1794 Ike LN- Spoke during public comment. They purchased the adjacent lot at 1794 Ike Ln next to their home and would like to make this a buildable lot. They have questions about upgrading the private road to make the lot buildable.

John Forseburg- 850 Montcalm Ave NE spoke during public comment and Keegan Riordan- 852 Montcalm Ave NE spoke during public comment -A letter was sent to the township about a neighbor who lives on Beiri Dr NE who target practices with large caliber guns anywhere from 15 - 20 minutes, up to an hour at a time. The Township's Noise Ordinance was discussed. The shooting is disturbing and very loud to these neighbors.. The Kent County Sheriff's Department has been called out three times to this location. The Vergennes Township zoning administrator has contacted the Sheriff's Department to determine if a ticket has been issued to the neighbor on Bieri Drive or what, if any, action has taken place. The Township is awaiting this information to best determine how to proceed.

Sandi Miles spoke during public comment regarding the township enforcement officer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:18 pm. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2018 @ 7 pm