

## **Regular Meeting Minutes July 19, 1999**

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
	Sue Geiger-Hessler	-	Trustee
	Mark Weber	-	Trustee

A motion was made by Hoffman, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to approve the minutes of the June 21, 1999 regular meeting after substitution of "Geiger-Hessler" for the word "it" as the person mentioning the need for repairs and clean up at Fallasburg Cemetery; and clarification that "neighbor" was present (as minutes reflect) complaining about Devonwood lighting problem. Treasurer's Report was given by Hoffman and accepted as read. A motion was made by Hoffman and seconded by Geiger-Hessler to approve the bills including the Williams & Works invoice for comprehensive plan. Motion carried. Drafts 3367 through 3409 were issued.

### **Public Hearing - Jordan Meadows, Request for Final Approval.**

Open: 7:06 p.m.

Jordan Meadows Subdivision basically completed. Both Planning Commission and the Township Board hold public hearings regarding final approval of PUD. Owner may not have been aware of that practice. A letter from a neighbor who is not in favor of the PUD has been received as well as a telephone call from Jerry Grooters who is also not in favor of the PUD. Vergennes Township ordinance allows this PUD development.

Closed: 7:10 p.m.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- 1. Mike Harding-Jordan Meadows PUD, Request for Final Approval.** Jim Doezema, Township Attorney, sent letter to Board requesting insertion of a few points in the Master Plan and suggested the Board grant request for final approval pending completion of Doezema's requests noted in his letter. Ray Zandstra indicated these requests have been completed. Discussion regarding disposition of building located at Parcel 1; either removed or purchased by resident of Parcel 1. Discussion regarding taxes on common ground element within the PUD; pro-rated among residents and/or permanent parcel number of its own. The assessor was contacted during the meeting, and said that the common ground element of the PUD will not be taxed, but rather each owner of a parcel in the PUD will have a portion of the value of the common ground reflected in their purchase price, and the assessment will reflect that. Motion by Stone, seconded by Weber, to grant final approval to Mike Harding, Jordan Meadows PUD. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Recreation District Agreement Update.** Main issue of contention regarding percentage of liability for each participant in the Recreation District Agreement has been modified. School has agreed that if a deficit should occur regarding community pool maintenance, et al, Lowell Area Schools will pick up 85% of total costs while each of the other participants to the Agreement (Lowell Township, Vergennes Township & City of Lowell) each pays 5% of the remaining 15% shortfall. The Recreational Authority District will oversee one project, i.e. the community pool,

at this time. Any other projects such as baseball fields, bike trails, soccer fields, etc. would need to be added by a vote of consensus by the four involved parties to the Recreation District Agreement. All other items essentially remain the same in the Recreation District Agreement. Discussion followed regarding a survey of Vergennes Township residents to better discern their wishes before the Vergennes Township Board makes its final decision regarding entering the Recreation District Agreement for the construction of a community pool. The survey would cost approximately \$600.00 to print and send, and would be sent to individuals from the registered voter list. A special Board meeting will be held July 26, 1999 before Master Plan Meeting to assemble questions for the "postcard" survey regarding the community pool.

**New Business:**

**1. Planning Commission Recommendations:**

**Ordinance 99-5, Amendment Regarding Daycare Facilities in R-1**

Small change from the language recently adopted for RA to indicate daycare facility must be 100' from any residence in existence at time of construction/creation of facility. Motion by Weber, seconded by Hoffman, to adopt Ordinance 99-5 regarding daycare facilities in R-1. Approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes:	Wittenbach Stone Hoffman Geiger-Hessler Weber	No:	None
-----------------	------	---	-----	------

**Ordinance 99-6, Amendment Regarding Front Line/Lot Definition**

Amendment to ordinance to incorporate additional language to improve and clarify the Front Line/Lot Definition. Motion made by Stone, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to adopt Ordinance 99-6 regarding front line/lot definition. Approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes:	Wittenbach Stone Hoffman Geiger-Hessler Weber	No:	None
-----------------	------	---	-----	------

**Ordinance 99-7, Amendment Regarding Driveway Setback**

Planning Commission determined some setback is needed, but allow some leeway on unusual shaped lots; lots less than 75', etc. Amendment states 10' to 15' depending on each district within the Township, but never less than 3'. Board noted that each individual applying for building permit should be informed of the setback on their site plan. Hoffman indicated concern regarding enforcement of driveway setbacks on each parcel. Motion by Weber, seconded by Stone, to adopt Ordinance 99-7 regarding driveway setback.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes:	Wittenbach Stone Geiger-Hessler Weber	No:	Hoffman
-----------------	------	--	-----	---------

**Lincoln Lake Autos - Special Exception Use Application**

Special Exception to add wrecker business to this auto repair business. Owner indicated

to the Planning Commission that the wrecker business will not change the daily use of his original business. Concerns noted as to storage of wrecked cars; impounded cars ticketed by sheriff; number of wrecked cars allowed on premises at same time; time limit for towed vehicles (5 days and/or until insurance adjuster completes investigation). Owner not in attendance to address these issues. Motion by Geiger-Hessler, second by Weber, to table the Special Exception Use Application for Lincoln Lake Autos and send issue back to the Planning Commission for a more specific recommendation taking into consideration the concerns noted by the Board. Motion approved.

2. **KCRC Annual Meeting with Township and Request for Information Form.** Vergennes Township scheduled for August 19, 1999, 2:30 p.m. Stone to request August 12, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. Road Advisory Board to convene to review Vergennes Township roads and prioritize. Will be further discussed at Special Board meeting on Monday, July 26, 1999.
3. **North Kent Transit Service Annual Contract.** This is a formality which the Board signs annually. Dial-a-Ride Service; used mostly for rehabilitation. Hope Network, Kent County and Townships allocate funds to pay for the service. Residents pay small charge per use. Vergennes Township allocated \$2,000 (same as last year) paid for by community development dollars. Motion made by Stone, seconded by Hoffman, to approve contract between Hope Network, Kent County Community Development, and Vergennes Township. Motion carried.
4. **YMCA Corporate Challenge Race, Fallasburg Park - September 18, 1999.** Race to be run same as last year; letter sent to residents informing them of the event. Board needs to approve plans, and send letter to Kent County Road Commission who will then issue permit for the race. Race organizers have race liability insurance for the day. Resident requested Board contact race officials as last year no lane was left open for residents' travel as agreement indicated. Last year from approximately 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. the entire road through Fallasburg was blocked off. Residents treated badly by race volunteers. Board will telephone or write YMCA Corporate Challenge Race officials to request that officials stick to the agreement leaving one lane open at all times. Motion by Stone, seconded by Weber, to approve plan for 1999 YMCA Corporate Challenge Race at Fallasburg Park on September 18, 1999. Motion carried.
5. **Historical Commission Resignation.** Motion by Geiger-Hessler, seconded by Weber, to accept resignation of Dave Thompson from the Historical Commission. Motion approved. Discussion regarding advertising vacancy on Commission; checking Township files for applications. Geiger-Hessler made a motion, seconded by Stone, to appoint Colleen Lenihan to fill vacancy on Historical Commission. Motion approved.

#### **Citizens' Comments:**

Hoffman noted that the computer modem for her county connection has died. Two bids at present: IT Source and Sigfried Crandall. Same approximate price from both sources. Need upgrades for computer network as well as a solution for the county connection. Upgrades budgeted for, but not county connection. Something will have to be done, but not sure what exactly. Will keep Board informed.

Wittenbach apologized and noted it may be a conflict of interest for him to appropriate the old Township Hall flag pole. Pole is still available.

Ken Ewing requested the Board join with other Townships asking the MTA to intercede with State of Michigan and attempt to obtain state-wide spraying for gypsy moths. Weber suggested contacting State Representative.

Mary Kay Nelson and other neighbors along a section of Grindle Drive situated between two limited sight/blind curves discussed dangerous problem with extremely narrow portions of

Grindle Drive (34' wide at Valleywood entrance narrowing from 22' to 16' with high banks on each side of road. Approximately 6.5 tenths of a mile section. Necessary for drivers to drive in their lawns to pass traffic. Only one speed limit sign (45 mph) located on Grindle Drive at entrance to Valleywood. With construction of Valleywood Development, twenty-two homes have increased the traffic to nearly 300 cars a day. Want the Board to bring to the attention of the Kent County Road Commission; curves wider, road wider, engineering study by county. Board to discuss options with Kent County Road Commission at annual meeting with the Township on Thursday, August 12, 1999.

Resident noted that Vergennes and Lincoln Lake Road is dangerous intersection and needs stoplight or 4-way stop. Weber indicated that County will do nothing unless the body/car counts are within the predetermined amounts.

Justin Michael noted that the Road Advisory Board will convene before the August 12, 1999 Township/Kent County Road Commission annual meeting to prioritize Township roads in most need of repair/work.

Stone made a motion, seconded by Weber, to direct Jim Doezema to work on recommended changes concerning the Municipal Civil Infractions Ordinance.

Suggestions for community pool survey: Minimal questions; keep simple; time limit for reply; supply return postage; use registered voter list for mailing list.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---