

MINUTES OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD
July 21, 1997

The regular meeting of the Vergennes Township Board was called to order by Jim Cook at 7:00 p.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall.

Members Present:	Jim Cook	-	Supervisor
	Jean Hoffman	-	Treasurer
	Mari Stone	-	Clerk
	Sue Geiger-Hessler	-	Trustee

Members Absent:	Mark Weber	-	Trustee
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A motion was made by Hoffman seconded by Geiger-Hessler to approve the minutes of the June 16, 1997 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Hoffman and accepted as provided. A motion was made by Geiger-Hessler and seconded by Hoffman to approve the bills. Motion carried. Drafts 2363 through 2395 were issued.

Permit Activity. 6 single family permits 6/97. 26 single family permits year-to-date.

Old Business:

1. Update on Kazemier Mobile Home. On July 21, 1997, Kazemier submitted an application for a special use permit for the mobile home on his property. He also requested suggestions from Board re mobile home/possible land split. He stated he would "burn it down before he would remove it." According to the Ordinance, the mobile home or any additions to it is a non-conforming use. Water to the mobile home is connected from Kazemier's home which is an illegal use.

Cook made a motion to reject Kazemier's special use permit application to keep the mobile home on his property and in addition, said mobile home is to be removed not later than June 1, 1998. Motion seconded by Geiger-Hessler.

Passed:	AYE	4 (Stone, Cook, Hoffman, Geiger-Hessler)
	OPPOSED	0

2. Review of Special Exception Use Permits. Motion made by Stone that the Rexford Special Exception Use Permit on Burroughs be issued for temporary use of 27' motor home on property periodically but not continuously for family visits of no more than three consecutive weeks using existing hookups contingent upon

an investigation by Zoning Officer review and compliance of all conditions. Motion unanimously carried.

Boogaards Permit recently amended to allow the use to continue until one month after occupancy of their new home, but no longer than December 31, 1997.

3. Planning Commission recommendation - Planner for Family Business Ordinance.

Met with planners: Steve Langworthy and Fishbeck. Fishbeck offered the highest bid of \$3,000-\$5,000. Langworthy cost of \$1,000 (lowest bid) of \$500 written ordinance + \$80 @ hour approximately 6 hours. Langworthy's bid consisted of the most different options, pros/cons which would then allow the Commission to decide the actual needs of Vergennes Township as to what the ordinance will do and why it is good for the Township. Prospective planner would like to meet with the entire Township Board as well as the Planning Commission. A public hearing must be held. Process will take approximately 2-4 months.

Hoffman made a motion, seconded by Stone, to accept the bid of Steve Langworthy and hire him to assist the Township Planning Commission in the planning of a family business ordinance for Vergennes Township. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. Report from Road Advisory Board ("RAB"). RAB has had three meetings. The RAB visited all the roads in Vergennes Township. Jerry Byrne from the Road Commission was present at the third meeting. The preliminary priorities/recommendations to the Board are attached to these minutes. Jerry Byrne is working on a response from the Road Commission Maintenance Department as to what can be accomplished yet this year.

In receipt of a letter from the Road Commission detailing a work order for Downes Road which includes minor construction such as widening; installing ditches; tree removal; and a county specified turn-around at the end of the road. Proposed cost of \$60,000 with the Township's share being \$33,000. If work order approved and passed at this Township Board meeting, then the cost-sharing would apply.

The Road Commission would like to have an informal meeting with property owners. There may be some resistance to the reconfiguration of the center of the road and to the turn-around. Property owners can contest valuation/compensation, but not actual use of property for road. If necessary, eminent domain may be used.

2. Downes Residents Request/Consideration of Work Order. Residents in attendance want the road upgraded for safety reasons. They supported the proposed work order for Downes to be brought up to the common standard of county specifications for unpaved roads. When presented with a hypothetical question as to how the residents would feel about a one time special assessment for paving Downes, the response was unanimously negative.

Cook made a motion to accept the Road Commission's work order as written and proceed promptly with reconstruction of Downes. Motion was seconded by Stone.

3. Award of Contract to North Kent Transit. A motion was made by Hoffman, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, for Vergennes Township to enter into a contract with Hope Network/Kent County Community Development to be effective from July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998, with a total allocation of \$1,000. Motion carried.
4. ZBA Alternate. The Board passed on this item of discussion until the August 1997 Board meeting.
5. City of Lowell Request for Renewal of Consent Agreement Concerning Cable Television. This item of discussion was tabled until the August 1997 Board meeting.
6. Dog Kennel Approvals. Four kennel applications.

Baird	16 dogs	Border Collies/Shelties
Beenan	5 dogs	Rottweilers
Kirsch	13 dogs	Schnauzers
McQueen	6 dogs	Saluki and Afghans

A motion was made by Stone, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to approve all four dog kennel applications contingent on Zoning Board Officer's inspection and investigation of each kennel's compliance of Township Zoning Ordinance.

Citizens Comments:

A report was given by member of Vergennes Historical Commission. The commission met with Consultant, Mike Page, at no cost. The Commission requests that the Board allow expansion of their Commission from five members to seven. According to the Township Ordinance, there is no specific number. They would like the positions to be filled by those interested who have some expertise in the area. Tom Medendorp who is an architect was recommended. The Commission also requested to have the \$47,000 allotted to the Meisner House reconstruction and currently part of the Township's treasury be released to the Historical Commission enabling the Commission to write and pay bills directly. Treasurer Hoffman will attempt to work out a solution with the Township auditor. The Commission believed the entire \$47,000 would be expended during the next 6-8 weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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