

# **Vergennes Township**

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 23, 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  
Mari Stone -Clerk  
Jean Hoffman -Treasurer  
Rick Gillett -Trustee  
Al Baird -Trustee

The agenda for the July 23, 2012 meeting was approved as presented. Motion made by Rick Gillett; seconded by Al Baird. **Motion Carried.** Stone commented that Perry Beachum is attending the meeting for Teresa Beachum. The minutes for the June 18, 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.**

## **Guest - Roger Reed, Lowell Area Fire Authority**

Roger Reed from the Lowell Fire Authority approached board asking them to adopt PA 2012. The township currently has the 2000 edition. The 2012 edition is just a more updated code. There aren't many new changes, it is just more specific. Board asked if it would be easier to amend ordinance to adopt code to whatever state code is currently. Reed responded that the state is slow to change the fire codes, so he would prefer if they didn't do that. Stone motioned to table this until the August meeting; seconded by Hoffman. **Motion Carried.**

## **Unfinished Business:**

### **1. Update on Bailey Dr. Michwave Tower**

Steve Langelier came to meeting representing Michwave. Currently, the tower is an illegal structure because there are no building and/or electrical permits. Board said they are not able to issue a special use permit that has been applied for after the fact, until the problems stated in the letter are resolved. Langelier said he could take the tower down, but predicted that the township would have about 25 unhappy residents. Board said that they would like the issue to be resolved and urged Langelier to work with the Building and Electrical Inspectors. Stone motioned to hold the public hearing in August and to work to come to a resolution at the August meeting; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion Carried**

## **New Business:**

### **1. J&H Oil Company - Request for Site Plan/ Special Exception Use Permit**

J&H updated board on progress of the gas station. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing and recommended site plan approval with several conditions. (See Williams & Works memo dated July 23, 2012) The company is not planning on building until the spring of 2013.

J&H will continue to work with the Health Department and Road Commission on a few issues. A restaurant hasn't been chosen yet. It will probably not be a Subway because there is one already in Lowell. The Board is concerned about neighbors, and they think the hours should be from 5AM to 11PM. Gillett motioned to approve the site plan and special exception use permit with the 6 conditions recommended by the Planning Commission, with the addition of hours of operation being 5AM to 11PM, and that the board be notified regarding the restaurant before the building permit is approved; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried.**

## **2. Perry Beachum - Request for Fireworks Permit at the Pink Arrow Game**

Perry Beachum requested the board approve a fireworks permit for the Pink Arrow Game. He submitted a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming Vergennes Township as an additional insured, along with the permit application from the Michigan Bureau of Fire Services. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the game, and it will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The fireworks display will be conducted after the game and will be approximately 6 to 8 minutes long. They will be launched about 300 yards away from the spectators in the west practice field. Gillett motioned to approve a fireworks permit for the Pink Arrow Game; seconded by Hoffman. **Motion Carried.**

### **Citizen's Comments:**

Jeanne Vandersloot noted that the Master Plan has been adopted. She wanted to get the boards opinion on whether or not the printed version of the maps should be big or small in the book. Board agreed that they liked the small maps.

Perry Beachum from Pink Arrow Pride commented that July 31, 2012 is the kickoff event at Gilda's club. All funds go to cancer patients in the Lowell community, and they are raised by volunteers. At this event you can also have a test done to see if you can be a bone marrow donor and you can also donate blood. This will be the first chance people can get to buy this year's Pink Arrow t-shirts.

Stone outlined a community project in which she and Wittenbach have been participating. They have been sitting on the steering committee of the Greater Lowell Vision project, which includes the Chamber, Municipalities and School District. The goal is for the community as a whole to work together on issues that affect everyone, and to figure out best ways to address them as they come up. All Board Members and City Commissioners are invited to come to a leadership workshop at Lowell Township on the evening of August 21<sup>st</sup>. The firm of Williams & Works was awarded the bid, with the funding coming from the Lowell Area Community Fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mari Stone, Clerk