

MINUTES OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD
June 15, 1998

As amended

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

Members Present:	Marsha Wilcox	-	Supervisor
	Jean Hoffman	-	Treasurer
	Mari Stone	-	Clerk
	Sue Geiger-Hessler	-	Trustee
	Mark Weber	-	Trustee

A motion was made by Wilcox to correct the minutes of the May 18, 1998 meeting (Bill Schreur Jr. - Request for Designated Open Space Easement) with the clarification that the request would be approved as decided by the Board in May contingent on the Board's receipt of his application for a designated open space easement for their files and a signed performance agreement, which was originally requested by Mr. Schreur. The motion was seconded by Stone. Discussion followed. Schreur, who was present, was reluctant to fill out an application or sign an agreement.

Roll Call Vote on the correction: Aye: Wilcox, Stone, Hoffman, Weber
 Nay: Geiger-Hessler

The minutes were also amended to add the name of the receptionist who resigned: Rena Jett. Filling in for her at present is Star Palasek.

A motion was made by Hoffman and seconded by Weber to approve as amended the minutes of the May 18, 1998 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Hoffman and accepted as read. A motion was made by Hoffman and seconded by Weber to approve the bills including the Williams & Works invoice for Comprehensive Plan project. Motion carried. Drafts 2762 to 2819 were issued.

Zoning Officer Report - Deb Rashid. Various items discussed upon which the Zoning Officer wants direction from the Board for next step action.

*Multiple letters sent to one resident regarding the removal of junk cars on his property. No response to date. Contacted several years ago with no response. Weber made a motion, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to send a warning letter (certified) to the resident at 10122 2-Mile indicating the Board needs a response within two weeks or he will be in violation of the ordinance and will be cited for a civil infraction. Further action contingent on the response of the resident. Motion carried.

*Another matter was discussed regarding resident with two homes on a single parcel. Motion made by Hoffman to give resident at 13534 Covered Bridge Rd. a July 6, 1998 deadline for

resident's action/response. Stone seconded and the motion carried. Board will act on this situation at its regular meeting in July.

*Recurring problem on Beckwith of motor home parked longer than three weeks on property. Board determined to contact homeowner by letter that he is in violation of the ordinance and attach a copy of last year's minutes explanation/solution.

*Dilapidated and currently vacant mobile home on Montcalm which is on non-conforming lot. The Health Department and Building Inspector have inspected the mobile home, both denying further occupation. Board directed the Zoning Officer pursue removal of the trailer.

Permit Activity. Single family permits: 4 for month of May and 30 year to date.

Unfinished Business:

1. **Update on Conservation Easement Ordinance.** No update at this time. Planning Commission is to look at changes in ordinance. Discussion will be resumed at the regular Board meeting in July.

New Business:

1. **Designation of FOIA Coordinator.** By law, FOIA Coordinator must be designated. Hoffman made a motion to appoint Clerk, Mari Stone, as the FOIA Coordinator. Seconded by Weber. Motion carried.
2. **Acceptance of Planning Commission Recommendation Regarding Foreman Farms PUD Request.** Planning Commission recommended denial of Planned Unit Development and change to site condominium. Stone made a motion to accept Planning Commission's recommendation; seconded by Weber. Motion carried.

Citizens Comments:

Weber complimented the Board and Gay Nauta on a "job well done" regarding the tribute celebration for Jim Cook and Gil Wise. Jim Reagan and Barry Bittrick, candidates for 3rd District County Commissioner, were present to introduced themselves to the Board and citizens and asked for support in the election. Last day to register for primary: 7/6/98.

Jack Amelar read a letter regarding the National Weather Service's special thanks to amateur ham operators and liaison officers in the area who were involved in the "derecho" event (5/31/98 straight line wind storm in excess of 100 mph in Western Michigan). Amelar also offered his thanks to the Zoning Board of Appeals' approval of a variance in 1993 which enabled the installation of antenna tower for ham operators.

Richard Dwyer commented that he felt his interest in the Construction Board of Appeals was overlooked during the May meeting. He did say that he had not submitted an application as was requested by the notice in the Ledger.

Several persons in attendance requested that their names be included on an informal mailing list generated by the recent tribute for Cook and Wise.

Al Baird asked about Ray Miller's property and his request for a variance. Hoffman explained that Miller spoke with Supervisor Cook last year and was given a building permit on "good faith" agreement that he would tear down the old home. He does not have enough road frontage for two homes on the one parcel. No bond was requested and there has been no Board action to date.

It was questioned as to whether or not Four Mile ever had a traffic study done by Kent County Road Commission. The Road Advisory Board gave a priority list to the Board last year, which was given to the Kent County Road Commission. Baird thought Four Mile was one of the top priorities on that list. He wondered why there has been no work order received for Four Mile Road to date. Discussion and decision by Board to be researched from old minutes.

Wilcox reported that the erosion of the river bank at Fallasburg Park has been addressed with the Road Commission. Shrubbery will be planted and mowing will stop some distance back from the bank.

The matter of Larry Marvel's driveway was discussed. It was noted that the matter was to be addressed by a meeting between Marvel and Schreur Sr. where the amount of feet for the setback would be marked. Schreur requested a deadline for removal. The Board to talk to the Zoning Officer and determine the status of this matter.

Geiger-Hessler commented on the deterioration of the RR crossing at McPherson Rd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
