

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2001

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
 Al Baird - Trustee

Members Absent: Vern Nauta - Trustee

Discussion regarding May 21, 2001 minutes. Motion by Wittenbach to strike Item No. 4/Open Space & Other Committee Issues, Hoffman seconded. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Baird, to strike Item 5/2001 Minor Road Construction Projects. Both Motions approved. The minutes of the May 21, 2001 regular meeting stood approved as amended. Treasurer's Report accepted as read. Motion by Baird, seconded by Hoffman, to approve bills as read. Motion approved.

Guest Speaker – Jack Horton – Kent County Commissioner. Horton came to meeting to touch base with Vergennes Township and relate to the Board Kent County Commission discussions on various issues. Commissioners as a group are concerned about urban sprawl. State and County virtually have no authority in this area; townships hold control. Commission recognizes growth will occur and wish to work together with the townships by (1) purchase of development rights (75% state funded/25% locally funded); and (2) County-wide program (annual contribution by county – matched by local unit) approx. 12.5% each; and (3) townships complete their own planning, not the county, but work with Grand Valley Metro Council. Plan cannot work and will not be implemented unless Commission sees evidence of townships in favor of such a plan.

Unfinished Business:

1. Engineering Firm Selection Update. Special meeting set up for discussion on this item – July 9, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. – before regular July Planning Commission meeting. Motion by Stone, seconded by Wittenbach, to discuss township engineering representation at a special meeting to be held July 9, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. Consideration of Amway Credit Union Offer of Membership. Amway Credit Union, which is a non-profit entity, amended their charter to include employee groups in Lowell, Ada and Cascade area. No cost to employee and no cost/commitment for employer. Not restricted to just employee but available to family members also. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Baird, to sign commitment authorizing Vergennes Township employees' participation in Amway Credit Union after checking legality of same with Township attorney. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Planning Commission vacancy. Wittenbach nominated Susan Geiger-Hessler and made a motion for her to serve on the Planning Commission filling the vacancy; motion

seconded by Baird. Motion was not approved. Susan Geiger-Hessler nomination to be reconsidered at regular Township meeting, July 16, 2001, when all Board members present.

3. Discussion regarding Billy Hall and burial at Fallasburg Cemetery. Motion by Stone, seconded by Baird, to allow the cremains of Billy Hall to be buried at Fallasburg Cemetery in the Hall family plot; notification from the Township stating same will be written and kept on record at the nursing home of Billy Hall. Motion approved.
4. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Stone, that in the future the Board will not approve any work order from the Kent County Road Commission for work on roads within the township which does not specify the exact location and scope of work to be done in a precise and detailed manner. Approved unanimously.
5. Discussion re: Jay Kilpatrick/Planning Commission/Reopen Master Plan estimate of cost for rewriting commercial zoning text (\$1,500-0\$1,800), and rewrite of commercial ordinance (\$450-\$650). Need arisen from request by Cook regarding property at corner of Lincoln Lake and Vergennes. Hoffman made a motion, seconded by Stone, to approve Planning Commission use of Jay Kilpatrick in rewriting commercial zoning text of the Master Plan. Approved unanimously. Kilpatrick to discuss reopening the Master Plan with the Board at 6:00 p.m. during the special Board Meeting on July 9, 2001.
6. Justin Michael presented the annual report from the Road Advisory Board to the Township Board regarding their recommendations for a priority list of roads to be paved/graveled within Vergennes Township. The Board will discuss and make decision regarding Township roads during the next year at the regular Board meeting to be held August 20, 2001.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mari Stone, Clerk