

# *Vergennes Township*

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2013

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  
Rick Gillett -Trustee

Members Absent: Al Baird -Trustee  
Jean Hoffman -Treasurer

The agenda for the March 18, 2013 meeting was approved with the deletion of Budget Amendments. Motion made by Tim Wittenbach; seconded by Rick Gillett. **Motion Carried.** The minutes for the February 18, 2013 meeting were approved as presented. Treasurer's report and bills were read and approved as presented. Motion made by Tim Wittenbach; seconded by Rick Gillett. **Motion Carried.**

## **Public Hearing - 2013-2014 Budget**

The public hearing opened at 7:05pm. Board noted that salaries and hourly rates have been raised for the first time since 2005. There are no new paving projects or elections this year, but some gravel roads will receive maintenance. The public hearing closed at 7:10pm.

## **Public Hearing - Bill & Brenda Schreur, Bed & Breakfast SEUP 786 Flat River Dr.**

The public hearing opened at 7:10pm. Gary Dietzel was concerned about damage to the river frontage on the Flat River. Bill Schreur assured him that there would be no damage to the river frontage there would just be a safety rail put on the old paddle wheel. Craig Conklin had some objections to the Bed and Breakfast. He was worried about the loss of peace and quiet and the dust and dirt that would come from more traffic on the road. Jim Sowle who is on the airport board had no objections because the runway zone would stay the same. Eric Nelson was concerned about airport conflicts. He was worried about the guests at the bed and breakfast being able to sleep through the noise of the airport. Pete Gustafson was in support of the application. He thinks it would be beneficial especially because of the new trails. He also stated that the bed and breakfast is for non-commercial use. The use would be like a homeowner coming in and out. He didn't understand why people would say anything about the noise and traffic. The public hearing closed at 7:20.

## **Unfinished Business:**

### **1. Farmers Market Discussion, Ronald Steffens**

Ronald Steffens updated the board on his plan for creating a farmers market. He contacted the road commission and they said that he would need an entrance and exit. Steffens, by the end of the month, should have a lease agreement with the owner of the land. He also created an application for the stands which makes sure that the food is locally grown. Steffens informed the board that he would open on Friday and Saturdays only at first, and then if there was enough demand the farmers market would stay open during the week. Board informed Steffens that he would need to apply for a permit for the structure he wants to build and the township would need to change the ordinance for the farmers market which could take several months. Steffens said that he had wanted to start in May or June, but August is too late in the year to start the farmers market. Steffens said he was going to think about it and maybe try to open the farmers market in May or June of 2014.

## **New Business:**

### **1. Adoption of 2013-14 Budget**

There was no more discussion about the budget. Gillett motioned to approve the 2013-14 budget as presented; seconded by Wittenbach. A Roll call vote was taken. Stone, Gillette, and Wittenbach, yes. Baird and Hoffman, absent. **Motion Carried.**

### **2. Bill & Brenda Schreur, Bed and Breakfast SEUP - 786 Flat River Drive.**

Bill Schreur updated the board on his plans for the Bed and Breakfast. He submitted photos of the parking area. The rural recreational facility permit and bed and breakfast permits should be considered separately. The rural recreational facility permit is designating recreational activities and a facility, but Schreur is not planning to have a facility, he wants to have activities like hay rides, and cross country skiing. Stone asked if he needed the recreational use permit right now. Schreur answered by saying that in order to charge people for use of the property he would need the permit. He does not want it to be commercial; he just wants to have a few picnic tables and fire pits.

Gillett motioned to approve a special use permit for a bed and breakfast operation at 786 Flat River Dr.; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried.**

Stone motioned to approve a special use permit for the property east of 786 Flat River Dr. for a rural recreational facility permit; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion Carried.**

### **3. Barb Roth, Core Farms - Proposal for neighborhood local market**

Barb Roth came to the board to discuss a proposed local market at the former location of an office in a barn located at 3550 Alden Nash NE. She does not have a name for the market yet.

After some discussion, Stone motioned to hold a public hearing at the regular board meeting in April; seconded by Gillett. **Motion Carried.**

#### **4. Approval for Collection and Disbursement of Taxes for KDL**

Stone motioned to approve the collection and disbursement of taxes for KDL; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion Carried.**

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

Pete Gustafson said that he appreciated the work the board does and to keep up the good work.

Board discussed the Michwave issue. They have not heard anything since the letter in December was sent. Gillett said that they need to get the issue resolved. Jeanne Vandersloot said that she would re-contact Jim Doezema about the Michwave issue.

The board also discussed the Henschke property. They have a recorded lean and judgment on the property. The township needs to be reimbursed for the \$2500 for the attorney fee. Also, the board discussed that the truck trailer needs to be taken down. Wittenbach motioned to go forward with the lean for \$2500 to reimburse the township, and to get the trailer off of the property; seconded by Gillett. **Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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