

Vergennes Township

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2007

Tim Wittenbach called the regular meeting of the Vergennes Township meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Vergennes Township Hall.

Members Present: Tim Wittenbach - Supervisor
Mari Stone - Clerk
Al Baird - Trustee

Members Absent: Jean Hoffman - Treasurer
Vern Nauta - Trustee

The agenda for the March 19, 2007 meeting was approved with changes by Wittenbach; seconded by Stone. **Motion approved.** The minutes for the February 19, 2007 meeting were approved. There was no Treasurers Report due to the treasurer being absent. The bills were approved as presented by Baird; seconded by Wittenbach.

Public Hearing – 2007-2008 Budget Hearing – The budget hearing was opened and closed at 7:05 with no public comment.

Unfinished Business:

1. Alcoholic Beverages Ordinance Discussion – Since the alcohol ballot proposal passed in November, Arrowhead Golf Course can go to the state for an amendment to their current license. New license applicants still need to come to the township for approval first. The current Beer and Wine Ordinance will be reviewed for necessary changes.

New Business:

1. Adoption of 2007-2008 Budget – Motion to adopt the 07-08 Budget as presented by Stone, seconded by Baird. **Motion approved.**
2. 06-07 Budget Amendments – A motion was made to amend the Fire Department budget from \$29,150 to \$32,087; the line item for Sewer Projects from \$30,000 to \$31,040.70; and the line item for Consulting Fees from \$8,000 to \$15,209.17. The motion was seconded by Baird. **Motion approved.** The Board is waiting to hear from the township's attorney to know if the present Fire Agreement would allow the township to contribute to the addition to the fire station for ambulance services space. We will also ask him the same questions about additional charges for fuel and general maintenance as requested by the city at past Fire Board meetings.
3. Forestland Holdings – Discussion Regarding Conditional Approvals – Jeanne VanderSloot spoke for Mr. DeVries, who could not attend. The maintenance agreement was approved by the township attorney. The DEQ has finished with what they needed to do. Vandersloot commented that the engineer suggested tipping the road to the east and

not have a crown. It was noted that the escrow account is at a zero balance and needs to be refilled. There was a motion by Stone to accept the maintenance agreement approved by Jim Doezema, accept Dave Austin's suggestion to tip the road to the east without a crown, and give preliminary road construction approval contingent on the receipt of the changed plans showing the road tipped to the east, and receipt of a \$4000 escrow deposit; The motion was seconded by Baird. **Motion approved.**

4. Wege Land Donation Discussion – Peter Wege recently offered approximately 100 acres of land to the community for recreational purposes. Dan Edwards of LARA was present to discuss the proposed project. He told the Board that LARA does not want to delay progress being made because of this new offer to the community. He also said that the trail has already been given permission go through this land. Athletic fields, a YMCA pool and other parks are suggestions for uses of this land. There will be a meeting March 29, 2007 at 7:00 PM of community group leaders to discuss the next steps.
5. Steinbrecher – Mr. Steinbrecher owns the marina on the corner of Murray Lake and Lally. He stores boats there and would like to buy more of the former Kropf property on Alden Nash and move his operation. He said there would be about 150 boats stored outside during the winter. He would also have a repair shop in the old shop building on the property. The property is behind Murray Lake School and the boats would be hard to see from the road. A public hearing will be scheduled in the future. The master plan is currently being updated and it was suggested Mr. Steinbrecher wait until it is approved. The board stated that they are willing to work with Mr. Steinbrecher.
6. Windmill Discussion – The issue of having a windmill in the township is not really covered by the Zoning Ordinance. Usually windmills are tall and used to generate electricity. The board will look into have Jay Kilpatrick write an ordinance to cover windmills.

Building Official Mark Fleet would like to have a backup person for when he is sick, on vacation or there is extra work to do. He suggested his brother, Scott, for the job. The board will ask Mark for more information on what he is proposing.

Citizens Comments - Steven Unger lives on River Place. He is upset by his neighbors because they have a racetrack for ATV's and mini-bikes. He says that they are loud and disruptive to his family. The board advised him to contact the community police for conflict resolution.

Vandersloot told the Board that it has cost \$714 for parcel mapping to date for the grant project for township GIS mapping. A comparison for the cost of REGIS versus doing this in-house will be made. Jeanne will also get more information from Addorio Technologies.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mari Stone, Township Clerk