

Vergennes Township

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 19, 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
Rick Gillett -Trustee
Al Baird -Trustee

Members Absent: Jean Hoffman -Treasurer

The agenda for the March 19, 2012 meeting was approved with a switch in order between 2011-12 Budget Amendments and Adoption of the 2012-13 Budget. Motion made by Rick Gillett; seconded by Al Baird. **Motion Carried.** The minutes for the February 20, 2012 meeting were approved as presented. January 12, 2012 special meeting minutes were approved as presented with the correction of a typo. Treasurer's report and bills were read and approved with a motion made by Al Baird; seconded by Rick Gillett. **Motion Carried.**

Guest- Pat Allchin, Lowell Area Historical Museum Annual Report

Pat Allchin informed the board of the successful year the Lowell Area Historical Museum. This year was the Historical Museums 10 year anniversary. One of the biggest changes has been the new walking tour brochure. Soon the Historical Museum will be opening a new exhibit called the Season of Inspiration. This is an exhibit about some of the reasons Lowell is so unique. The Historical Museum is continuing to expand. This next year they are planning to get all of the old Lowell newspaper editions available on the internet.

Public Hearing 2012-13 Budget

The public hearing opened at 7:15. There were no comments from the citizens. The public hearing closed one minute later.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business

New Business:

1. 2011-2012 Budget Amendments

Stone presented the board with proposal of what things she thought should be amended. Wittenbach commented that the revenues were 8 percent more that what they projected, but they never exceeded the budget.

ELECTIONS:

Salaries	\$1581.50 – from \$600.00 to \$2181.50
Misc.	\$1295.10 - from \$200.00 to \$1495.10
Equip & Supplies	\$172.53 - from \$100.00 to \$272.53

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Equipment Purchases.	\$6035.05 – from \$0 to \$6035.05
Shared Operational	\$3567.65 – from 67000.00 to \$70567.65

INSPECTIONS ADMIN

Clerical	\$255.50 – from \$2000.00 to \$2255.50
Building Inspector	\$681.47 – from \$8000.00 to \$8681.47

TOWNSHIP HALL

Land Purchase	\$17630.37 – from \$29000.00 to \$46630.37
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Gillett motioned to adopt amendments as listed to the 2011-12 budget; seconded by Baird.

Motion Carried

2. Adoption of the 2012-13 Budget

Board discussed the adoption of the 2012-13 budget. Stone reviewed some items that had needed more study at the time of the budget formation meeting. She had estimated the three elections during 2012 will run about \$7,700. Based on a draft Fire Authority budget, Stone suggested that \$84,100 should be budgeted for the Shared Operational account. Assessor Debbie Rashid is working on a project that may create additional income, and would like to see the money go toward some assessing department needs. The Board had no problems with this, and will address it should the project move forward. Gillett motioned to adopt the 2012-13 budget (attached) to include \$7,700 for Elections and \$84,100 in Shared Operational for a total of \$90,800 for the Fire Department; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried**

3. Cemetery and Hall Lawn Care Maintenance

Board discussed the maintenance of Cemetery and Hall lawn care. Township received the same bids from the companies that have previously maintained it. One new company called but they never gave township their bid. Stone motioned to use Rake and Clean Cut Lawn care again for the cemetery and hall lawn care maintenance; seconded by Gillett. **Motion Carried**

4. Request from Alan Teelander of Faded Footsteps - Headstone Replacements

Alan Teelander from Sons of the Union veterans came to the board asking for permission to order new headstones for two Civil War veterans that need replacing in Vergennes Township. A federal program will provide the Sons of the Union with a free headstone. Teelander said that he

would like to use pea gravel for the foundation instead of cement, as required in federal government cemeteries. The Sons of the Union will dedicate and honor the soldiers when the headstones are replaced. Gillett motioned to honor the request of the Sons of the Union Veterans to order and replace the headstones, and to allow them to use regulation pea gravel for the foundation; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion Carried**

5. Approval for Collection and Disbursement of Taxes for KDL

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

6. Opportunity for Public Comment - CDBG Fund Programming

Board gave the citizens an opportunity for public comments regarding the community development funding. There were no public comments.

Citizen's Comments:

Ryan Peel told the board that he is thinking about building a new tower. This tower would be located on 3251 Fallasburg Rd. The tower would be 89 feet tall. It would cover areas that are currently not receiving the internet connection. Peel wanted to know if he could have the board accept the application and review it by the April board meeting. The Board informed Peel that he would need to apply for a special use permit, and the application would need to be noticed in the Lowell Ledger by the following week. Peel was given a deadline of Friday, March 23rd, in order for the request to be ready for the April board meeting.

Stone informed the board that the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lowell, Lowell Township, Vergennes Township and the Lowell School District are working together to try a new unified approach to community projects by conducting a process for a Greater Lowell Community Vision and Implementation Plan. The funding would come from the Lowell Area Community Fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
