

Vergennes Township

Regular Board Meeting
November 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Wittenbach.

Roll Call – Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach, Rasch, and Gillett were present. None absent.

Approval of the Agenda – Wittenbach requested two additions to the agenda; An Eagle Scout project presentation and discussion about the Town Hall expansion. Wittenbach motioned to accept the agenda with requested additions. Gillett supported. **Motion carried.** The minutes of the October 19, 2015 minutes were approved as presented. The Treasurer’s report was read. The bills were approved as noted with the addition of payment for the air pacs for Lowell Area Fire Department when that bill is received with a motion by Stone, support by Gillett. **Motion carried.**

Guest – Lowell Area Fire and Rescue Authority – Grass Rig Demonstration

Board members inspected the Grass Rig on display in the Township parking lot prior to the meeting.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

1. Consideration of Grass Rig Purchase

LAFRA experienced an unusually high number of grass fires this past spring. Other Townships with this type of equipment were better able to fight fires. Demo model is available for \$16,000. A new unit can be purchased for \$27,000 and it would have the specific features wanted. The Board agreed that a rig should be added to the Fire Department equipment list and budgeted for in the future.

2. Review of needed Appointments/Terms of Office

Lowell Community Fund, Construction Board of Appeals, Airport Board, Planning Commission, Fire Authority Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals all need re-appointments or new members appointed in December. If there are any suggestions, let Mari Stone, Clerk, know.

3. Consideration of 2016 Meeting Schedule

The 2016 calendar was reviewed by Board Members. Election dates, Planning Commission dates and Holidays were discussed. The Township Board meetings are held the third Monday of the Month. There does not appear to be any conflicts at this time.

4. Set Date for Budget Workshop

January 13, 2016 is date set for budget meeting.

5. Discussion – Building Department Policy RE: Change of Use in Structures

Mark Fleet, Building Official is working up a policy to handle situations in the Township where there is a change of use for a building, such as an agricultural building being changed to accessory dwelling or commercial use. He plans to have final draft ready for December 21 Board meeting.

6. Matt Majinska – Eagle Scout Project Troop 102

Matt presented his Eagle Scout project to the Board. He is planning to replace the fencing at Krum Cemetery on Vergennes Street. He is proposing a 126' long vinyl 2-rail fence along the front of the cemetery, leaving a 11-1/2 foot opening at the driveway. He has an estimate from Lowes Home Improvement of around \$1100, prior to any discount he may receive. He is asking the Township to contribute to the cost of the materials. Gillett made a motion to support the project in the amount of \$400. Rasch seconds it.

Motion carried.

7. Discussion about Township Hall Addition

Triangle Construction contacted Tim regarding their proposal for the addition. They met with some of the Board on November 4 to discuss the Township needs. In order to move forward with the proposal, they are requesting \$4,000 to have their architect draw up plans for our review. Wittenbach will contact them and have them proceed based on a \$4,000 budget. Plans should be available for the December meeting.

Stone commented that the Vergennes fire runs this last Quarter are substantially lower than the other two members. The Fire Authority payment formula uses these statistics and it was noted that any negotiations in the formula should reflect our lower use.

There was a Building Department report showing year-to-date totals for permits issued in the Township. There were 16 new house permits issued out of a total of 63 permits year to date.

Citizen Comments – none

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting is December 21, 2015.

Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk