

MINUTES OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD
November 17, 1997

The regular meeting of the Vergennes Township Board was called to order by Jim Cook at 7:05 p.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall.

Members Present:	Jim Cook	-	Supervisor
	Jean Hoffman	-	Treasurer
	Mari Stone	-	Clerk
	Sue Geiger-Hessler	-	Trustee
	Mark Weber	-	Trustee

A motion was made by Geiger-Hessler and seconded by Hoffman to approve the minutes of the October 20, 1997 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Hoffman and accepted as read. A motion was made by Weber and seconded by Hoffman to approve the bills. Drafts 2499 to 2534 were issued. Motion carried.

Permit Activity. Three single family permits October 1997. Forty-two single family permits year-to-date.

Zoning Officer Report - Deb Rashid. Since the October meeting when the Board approved the issuance of a civil infraction ticket to Larry Marvel, Forest River Drive, Cook designated Rashid, as Zoning Officer, to issue civil infraction tickets. A ticket was posted on the home of Mr. Marvel on November 14. A letter with a copy of the ordinance was mailed (return receipt requested) to Marvel, and the civil infraction ticket was sent to the court who will in turn also notify Mr. Marvel of the civil infraction ticket.

Old Business:

1. Rexford Request. Rexfords have requested an extension of the time allowed for the travel trailer to remain occupied on their property. Documentation in the ordinance: Travel trailers are not allowed in areas zoned residential; only for temporary dwelling purposes for no more than fourteen days. A variance and an executed temporary dwelling agreement is necessary. Rexford was originally allowed a variance for no more than three consecutive weeks; that variance to be reviewed annually. The residents have changed the terms from infrequent use to nearly constant use during certain times of the year. They are in violation of the zoning ordinance. Hoffman made a motion to have the Zoning Officer prepare a letter (to be reviewed by Supervisor Cook) and mail it to the Rexfords informing them that they are in violation of the zoning ordinance and it was the consensus of the Board to not extend

the allotted time period for which the travel trailer may

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reside occupied on their property. Stone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. City of Lowell Request for Renewal of Consent Agreement concerning Cable Television. No word to date from the City of Lowell. Motion made by Stone and seconded by Weber to table discussion until next month's Board meeting. Motion approved.

New Business:

1. Resolution to approve Christmas Decoration and Lighting of Covered Bridge. Ms. Wood from Historical Society made request. The Society will advertise the drive thru--no stopping--pass out souvenirs; accept donations; at no cost to the Township. Stone made a motion, seconded by Geiger-Hessler, to approve and adopt Resolution 3-97 concerning Christmas lights on the covered bridge in Vergennes Township on December 13, 1997 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Motion carried.
2. Holiday Hours for the Office. The Township offices will be closed December 24, 25 and 26, 1997 and January 1 and 2, 1998. The office will be open December 29 and 31, 1997. The information regarding the hours will be posted.
3. Consideration of Bids for New Copier. Problems with old copier which was purchased four years ago. It was just learned that the copier which was thought to be new when purchased was actually a reconditioned copier and not new. Bids have been received from Richardsons (Toshiba: 1500 sheet drawer, 25 copies per minute, duplexer; old copier [\$800], extended warranty, quiet, instant on/off) and Nordyks (Canon: 2 drawers, 500 sheets-larger drawer costs \$1800 more, 20 copies per minute, duplexer, old copier [\$500]). Motion by Cook to approve the bid from Richardsons for the Toshiba copier and seconded by Hoffman was withdrawn. Weber requested delving further into determining the exact needs of the Township in order to purchase the most machine to cover the actual needs of the Township at the least amount of money. It is understood that a copier is needed, but Weber would like more quotes before making a final decision. New copier purchase tabled until next month.
4. Discussion Concerning MTA Resolution Supporting Options for Road Funding. John Rice of the Kent County Road Commission sent a fax outlining County's official stance regarding the MTA Resolution. They are against the resolution citing liability issues. At the moment, the County uses population, mileage and vehicle registration to determine a Township's share of dollars for new roads

taking into consideration even distribution and need. There are three options

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available to Townships: (1) take over control of the roads; (2) do not take jurisdiction of the roads, but may provide input regarding expenditures from account; must submit an annual three year plan or dollars are lost; or (3) choose to remain with the same program in place at present.

It was the consensus of the Board to ask for engineering study on more than one road each year.

A vote by Vergennes Township on the MTA Resolution only means the Township supports the resolution which supports looking into options for road funding. Weber made a motion to adopt MTA Resolution 5357 (Vergennes Township Resolution 4-97) which supports options for road funding. Geiger-Hessler seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes	Cook
		Stone
		Hoffman
		Weber
		Geiger-Hessler

Citizens Comments:

Richard Dwyer, 46 Rivertop Dr., inquired whether any other company besides Lowell Cable is allowed to supply cable to the area. Lowell Cable does not have an exclusive arrangement. Any carrier can come into the area and provide cable. TCI delivers cable to the Murray Lake area.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully

Submitted,

Mari C. Stone, Clerk

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