

Vergennes Township
Regular Meeting Township Board

November 21, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Tim Wittenbach at 7:00 pm

Roll Call - Rasch, Hoffman, Wittenbach, and Gillett were all present, and had been sworn in for their new terms ending in 2020 prior to the meeting. It was noted that there is a vacancy in the Clerk's office, as Stone had moved out of the township and was not eligible to take the oath of office.

Agenda - Wittenbach motioned to add discussion of Stone's role to the agenda. Gillett supported and the **Motion carried.**

The minutes were accepted as presented except for a need to correct the date. The Treasurer's report was read. Hoffman motioned to approve of the invoices listed with the exception of a payment for Field Review work for Rashid. Gillett supported and the **Motion carried.**

New Business-

1. Murray Lake Goose Roundup Project -
Cynthia Covell, a Murray Lake resident, was present to explain the project, and ask the Board for support. This will be a 5 year process of reduction of the geese by removal, and is planned to begin in the spring/summer of 2017. Grattan township has agreed to support the project. The residents on the Vergennes side of the lake need their township to support as well. Motion by Gillett to approve and support the project. Rasch seconded, and the **Motion carried.**
2. Harvest Meadows Phase 1
Moving on in the project to work with township engineer.
3. Verizon Cell Tower Application
Tower will be a 197 ft pole on Beckwith. Gillett motioned to set the public hearing to discuss this for the next meeting, December 19th. Hoffman supported and the **Motion carried.**
4. Blair Cement Ramp Update
Through the attorneys, Jim Blair has offered \$1500 to settle the matter and permanently leave the ramp and stairs. There was discussion regarding the handicap exemption Blair is claiming, and whether this should be extended to future owner(s). Also at issue is the lack of permits and inspections. The board noted the incline of the ramp seems to be quite steep, and questioned its safety. The 6 foot width could allow for vehicles other

than ATV's. The Board agreed that Blair be required to remove the ramp when he no longer owns the property, that it is for ATV/UTV use only, and that it can't be used for any other vehicular access to the river. A fee of \$5000 or equal to township legal costs is more in the range of an acceptable fee. Vandersloot will convey these terms to the township attorney.

5. Request to Review the Zoning Ordinance

A petition has been received by residents concerned about an accessory building near the intersection of Parnell and Bennett. It was built using the current standards in the zoning ordinance, but the residents believe it is too large, too close to the road, and unsightly. The Board will ask the Planning Commission to review the pertaining ordinance sections at their next meeting in February 2017.

6. Set Date for Budget Workshop

Date set for Wednesday, January 11th, 2017 at 10 am.

7. Review of Needed Appointments/Terms of Office

Will make appointments at the December meeting.

8. Consideration of 2017 Meeting Schedule

There were no comments. Dates will be approved at the December meeting.

9. Clerk Vacancy

Wittenbach motioned to direct Mari Stone to act as Clerk until a new Clerk can be appointed. Gillett supported, and the **Motion carried**.

There were no citizen's comments.

Adjournment was at 7:45 pm. Next meeting is set for December 19th, 2016.

Mari Stone, Acting Clerk