

**Vergennes Township**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October, 19, 2009

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  
                                  Al Baird         - Trustee  
                                  Vern Nauta      - Trustee  
                                  Jean Hoffman   - Treasurer

The agenda for the October 19, 2009 meeting was approved with the addition of Nauta's resignation letter by Nauta, seconded by Hoffman. **Motion carried.** The minutes of the September 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting were accepted as offered, as were the Special Meeting minutes of August 17<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup>. The Treasurer's report and bills were read and approved with a motion by Hoffman; seconded by Baird. **Motion carried.**

**Unfinished Business:**

1. **Lighting Ordinance 2009-2** – The board reviewed the latest version of the proposed ordinance which Jeanne Vandersloot had revised based on Board discussion at the October 7, 2009 Special Meeting. Nauta motioned to adopt Ordinance 2009-2, Lighting Ordinance; seconded by Hoffman. A roll call vote was taken. Nauta, Stone, Hoffman and Wittenbach voted in favor of the ordinance with Baird in dissent. **Motion Carried.**

**New Business:**

1. **Vacant Lot Accessory Building Ordinance 2009-3** - The planning commission had recommended adoption of the proposed ordinance amendment which would allow a minor accessory building on a vacant lot owned by an adjacent property owner living in a condominium development. Wittenbach suggested that in order to have continuity the board should amend the ordinance to allow 2 minor accessory buildings on a vacant lot. Wittenbach motioned to adopt Ordinance 2009-3, with a change from 1 to 2 minor accessory buildings allowed on a vacant lot; seconded by Nauta. A roll call vote was taken with all members of the board in favor of the ordinance change. **Motion Carried.**
2. **Harding SEUP** – The Harding's received letters of support from all of their neighboring property owners for placement of an accessory building on a vacant parcel adjacent to their home. Baird motioned to schedule a public hearing at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried.**
3. **Nauta/Heffron SEUP application – Free standing farm building on lot w/o home** – The Board asked Nauta if he still owned the property to which he responded that he was indeed still the owner of the property. Stone motioned to excuse Nauta from discussing and voting on this issue; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion carried.** New owner Denny Heffron clarified where the building was going to be placed. Hoffman motioned to schedule a public hearing at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting; seconded by Baird. **Motion carried.**
4. **Snow Plow bids** – The Board received 2 bids for snow plowing this year – Zach's Clean Cut and Scenic Expressions. The bid from Zach's was higher than the township paid last year. The Board reviewed both bids; Scenic was substantially less, and allows for on-call snow removal of the upper deck and stairs. Stone motioned for the Township to use Scenic Expressions this year for snowplowing; seconded by Hoffman. **Motion Carried.**

5. **Richmond PA 116** – Baird motioned to approve Richmond’s PA 116 application; seconded by Stone. **Motion carried.**
6. **Library Board Nomination** – Chuck Myers had requested support for another term on the KDL Board. The board felt that Myers has well represented the township. Stone motioned to nominate Chuck Myers for another term to the Kent District Library; seconded by Wittenbach. **Motion Carried.**
7. **Nauta’s Resignation Letter** – Stone read Nauta’s letter of resignation to the Board. Nauta has retired from farming, and he and his wife, Gay, recently sold their farm. Wittenbach motioned to accept Nauta’s resignation effective December 31, 2009; seconded by Stone. **Motion Carried.** The Board thanked Nauta for his nine years of service to the township, and wished he and his family all the best in the next phase of their lives.

**Citizens comments:**

Stone informed the Board that the Road Commission Banquet was going to be held on November 3 and was wondering if anyone from the Board wanted to go. Wittenbach and Baird both said they would like to go. She also told the Board that registration for the MTA conference is open, and was wondering if anyone wanted to go. Stone and Wittenbach expressed interest in attending the MTA conference.

Jeanne Vandersloot asked what course of action should be taken with Patrick Howard should he fail to comply with the Township’s second letter regarding the abandoned mobile home/vehicles on his property. Wittenbach motioned to issue a ticket to Patrick Howard should he have failed to comply with the Township on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October; seconded by Hoffman. **Motion carried.** Vandersloot also mentioned that the property at the end of Ike near the soccer fields is being surveyed and the surveying company is inquiring about splits that would involve property in both Vergennes and Keene. The Board stated that the owner should inquire about the potential splits, not the surveying company.

Stone asked the Board if it was interested in researching fluorescent light bulb and battery collection and disposal. The Board said yes, and Stone said she will look into it further.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Clerk