

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD

MINUTES

December 16, 2019 – 7 pm

*Please be aware that the agenda is set the Wednesday prior to meetings, and is subject to change.
Additional items may be added at the meeting if time allows and the Board approves.*

Wittenbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call- Wittenbach, Hoffman, Gillett, Mork and Rasch were in attendance. None were absent.

Gillett motioned to Approve the Agenda as presented. Hoffman seconded. All yes. Motion carried.

Mork motioned to accept the Minutes of the November 4, 2019 Special Meeting as presented. Gillett seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Gillett motioned to accept the Minutes of the November 16, 2019 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Rasch seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Gillett motioned to accept the Minutes of the December 12, 2019 Special Meeting as presented. Mork seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mork read the Treasurer's Report. The Board reviewed the invoices. Gillett motioned to approve the invoices as presented. Mork seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment- None

Old Business:

1. New Township Hall Building update- Hoffman spoke to architect, Tim Spitzley and he is working on preliminary construction prints and will have a draft near the first of the year.

New Business:

1. Township property sale update- There were three bidders and the selected winner was notified. Letters were sent to all three bidders thanking them for their interest. The township attorney will begin working on the documents for completed the sale.
2. Appointments: Wittenbach motioned to reappoint Stephanie Peel and Nate Post to the Planning Commission. Bill Makuski and Peter Gustafson to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Bill Rapson to the Construction Board of Appeals. Gillett seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.
3. Approval needed for Collection of Summer Taxes for LAS, GRCC & KISD- Mork motioned to continue to collect taxes for LAS, GRCC & KISD. Rasch seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.
4. Township Insurance discussion- This discussion was tabled to January's budget meeting.
5. Board Meeting dates 2020 Calendar- Wittenbach motioned to approve the Meeting Calendar for 2020. Hoffman seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

YES: Gillette, Hoffman, Wittenbach, Rasch, Mork

NO: None

6. Rattigan Lake Drain – Resolution needed to authorize Drain Commissioner to expend money for maintenance and repair of the Rattigan Lake Drain estimated cost of repair : \$11710) and if needed, levy a special assessment for the payment of costs incurred in repairs **RESOLUTION 2019-05** Kent County Drain Commissioner Ken Yonker presented the Board with information about the Rattigan Lake Drain. He presented the map and showed where they believe there is an obstruction

of vegetation and invasive grass species which has helped to cause the water level to increase four feet, and not recede. This drain affects four townships and the breakdown is that 30% of the cost will be divided amongst the four townships (Vergennes Township total will be \$750) and the balance will be split amongst the property owners affected by the drain. This drain assessment could be spread out over a couple of years. The resolution is needed – per law, the Drain Commissioner is authorized to spend up to \$5000 per mile for maintenance and repairs to the drain. The quote for this work is \$11,710 and the Township's affected are required to make a decision regarding the overspending through a resolution. Gillett Motioned to approve the **Resolution 2019-05** that approves the Kent County Drain Commissioner to have maintenance performed upon the Rattigan Lake Drain that exceeds the authorized total of \$5,000 per mile by \$6710 dollars. The estimate is \$11,710 for the work to be performed and to the extent that the drain fund for the Drain contains insufficient funds for the payment of cost incurred for the maintenance or repair of the Drain, then the Drain Commissioner is authorized to levy a special assessment, as allowed by law. Rasch seconded.

A Roll Call vote was taken.

YES: Mork, Wittenbach, Rasch, Hoffman, Gillett

NO: None

7. Change of tenancy – property 555 Lincoln Lake Ave- Planning Commission recommending approval. Hoffman motioned to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation to change of tenancy of the 555 Lincoln Lake Ave building to DS Masonry LLC.
8. Wittenbach motioned to approve three new applications as presented
 - RV Stay Application Form
 - Fencing Application Form
 - Grading Application Form

Gillette seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment- There was discussion about RV's stored on vacant property and ordinance language. The Board discussed clarifying R3 district's Special Uses language for Bed & Breakfasts, and creating ordinance language for Short Term Rentals. Wittenbach motioned to send these items to the Planning Commission. Gillett seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Wittenbach asked Ken Yonkers about coming back and having a meeting to better understand drain commission authority and answer water questions in regards to Murray Lake, Alden Nash, private land, and dumping water from one parcel onto another during the building process. It is understood to be illegal trespassing for water to be moved to another parcel without proper easements in place. Yonkers agreed to come back to have these discussions.

Adjournment - Next Regular Meeting – January 20, 2020