

Vergennes Township – 10381 Bailey Dr. Lowell, MI 49331

Regular Meeting of the Township Board

January 18, 2021

Minutes

The meeting conducted remotely over Zoom and called to order by Tim Wittenbach at 7:05 p.m. Pledge followed.

Roll Call –Gillett, Mork, Wittenbach, and Ford present. Rasch, absent.

Approval of the Agenda – Wittenbach motioned to accept the agenda as presented. Gillett seconded the motion. All members present voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the December 21, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Township Board Minutes – Gillett motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mork supported. All members present voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the December 28, 2020 Special Meeting of the Township Board Minutes –Gillett motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mork supported. All members present voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Rasch arrived

Treasurer’s Report & Approval of Invoices – Janine Mork, Treasurer, presented her report. Wittenbach motioned to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills. Gillett supported the motion. All present members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment: None

Old Business –

1. **New Township Hall Building Update** – Waiting on consumers to move the electric pole.

New Business –

1. **Loan Proposals for Construction and Remodel at 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE** – Discussion centered around the bank proposals and comparative interest rates and percentage down. The Board agreed to discuss in more depth at the budget meeting.
2. **697 Lincoln Lake SE** – Site Plan – Williams and Works report. Most everything follows township ordinances. The report gave a list of suggested requirements as conditions for township approval. Fire chief suggested a Knox box outside. Building permit has been issued for phase 1. Phase 2 permit will be issued when approved. Gillet motioned to approve with the condition that all five points of the Williams and Works report are met

and the Knox box is installed. Ford supported the motion. All present members voted yes.
Motion carried.

- 3. Fire Authority Board** – Budget and Ordinance Approval – Chief Shannon Witherell presented a Cost and Recovery to cover clean up materials, manpower of hazard material, for materials and supplies that are destroyed or ruined beyond normal wear and tear. This billing would be specific for companies or those not living in the township and paying for the services, not a burden for taxpayers. Suggestion was made to send it to the township lawyer for review. Gillett motioned to set a public hearing at the February meeting. Rasch supported. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.** Budget discussion included changing the part time shifts of 9am-1pm M-F to 8am-4pm M-F. They would still be part time positions, not filled by one person. Another increase was for physicals required yearly for firefighters. The increase is for two reasons, 1. The price of physicals increased 2. There are 8 new hires adding to the total number of physicals needed. The total overall budget increase is around 65,000. Bottom line, the township would be looking at a \$24,000 increase.

Building Department Report submitted

Election Update – Audit was completed. There will be a Primary election in August for primary and General Election in November to fill the open State Senate seat.

Fire Authority Board Update – No change in board offices. Lowell Area Fire Department promoted several members to fill the officer ranks. LAFD has several new applicants and anticipates having a full roster. Two documents were presented, the ordinance and the budget.

Zoning Report – Jeanne Vandersloot presented her written report.

Jeanne submitted her resignation for retirement.

Public Comment - none

The Board set a special budget workshop for Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Gillett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Ford supported. All members agreed yes. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting – February 15, 2021.