



**Regular Meeting of the Vergennes Township Board
October 16, 2023
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Wittenbach at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge.

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

Approval of the Agenda – Gillett motioned to approve the agenda. Mork supported. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the Consent Agenda–

- **Minutes** – September 18, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Township Board
- **Invoices and Payroll**
- **Treasurer's Report**

Gillett motioned to accept the consent agenda with the updated invoice items. Rasch supported. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment- Mariah Nieto, owner of Crossfit Gym, believes Crossfit gyms fall under the industrial zoning allowed as an essential healthcare service and is a good fit in an industrial setting due to the heavy weights used, noise, space and design needs that Crossfit requires.

Unfinished Business –none

New Business –

1. **Resolution #2023-08 - Local Control Resolution-** Mork motioned to approve Resolution #2023-08. Gillett supported. **Rollcall - Wittenbach, yes; Ford, yes; Mork, yes; Gillett, yes; Rasch, yes. Motion carried.**
2. **Surge Protective Device for the Hall Building** - Gillett motioned to approve Van Haren Electric to install the Hall surge protector. Rasch supported. All members voted yes. **Motion carried.**
3. **Resolution #2023-09 - Early Voting Site Resolution** - Gillett motioned to approve Resolution #2023-09. Mork seconded. **Roll Call - Ford, yes; Rasch, yes; Gillett, yes; Wittenbach, yes; Mork, yes. Motion carried.**

4. **Auditor Bids - Bids received from Vredeveld Haeffner LLC, Gabridge & Co., and Siegfried Crandall-** By common consent, the Board postponed making a decision until the November Board meeting to allow the Board to study the bids more thoroughly.

Updates-Elections, Fire Authority Board, LARA, Building Department- reports submitted
Zoning and Planning- report submitted; Zoning Administrator Carrigan explained details of 925 O. E. Bieri. This property is in industrial zoning and was recently approved for contractor suites. By Township zoning definition, commercial and recreation facilities are not allowed in industrial zoning. For clarification, the zoning laws allow only the things that are defined as permitted for those zoning classifications. Carrigan stated that a Crossfit gym does not meet the requirements of industrial zoning. Any disagreements may be appealed to the Zoning Board of Appeals. There would also be an issue with the septic system in O. E. Bieri. The septic system is unique, has a pump system, and not designed for commercial usage.

Public Comment-

Noah Moore – expressed support for crossfit in industrial zoning

Janine Mork – explained that parameters of business don't fit the Zoning Ordinance requirements.

PJ Nieto - apologized for not being aware of the zoning rules.

Tara Lukaart - Crossfit would add to the community, not just a fitness club.

Aaron Bailey - encouraged the Board put health over Zoning.

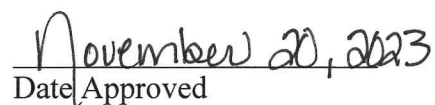
Dave Thompson - clarification as to why this could not go to the ZBA meeting next week.

Maria Chichester - Crossfit is defined by the White House as Healthcare.

Wittenbach adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting - November 20, 2023


Shantell Ford, Clerk


Date Approved