

## **VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- November 2, 2006 (Accepted)**

### **Call to Order and Pledge**

The regular monthly business meeting of the Victor Township Board was held at the Township Hall, 6843 Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848. Supervisor Warren Malkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge to the flag was given.

### **Roll Call of Members**

Members present: Michelle Wilsey, Warren Malkin, Donald McDonald, Duane Ginther.

Members absent: Dan Morris. Other governmental representatives in attendance: Clinton County Commissioner Claude Vail. Eighteen (18) citizens present.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Agenda**

Ginther moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve agenda with correction of Planning Meeting date from November 22 to November 29.

### **Minutes and Treasurer Report**

Minutes of the October 3, 2006 board meeting were accepted as printed. The Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit.

### **Approval of Bills**

McDonald moved, second by Ginther and motion carried to approve bills in the amount of \$45,718.05.

### **Reports**

Planning: Continued work on revised zoning map. Ginther and Malkin attended Clinton County Personnel and Finance Committee Meeting to address the Smith variance request. The request was referred back to the County Planning Commission for review at their November 9, 2006 meeting. Next meeting of the Victor Township Planning Commission is November 29, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Victor Township Hall.

Fire/CAF&R: CAF&R investigation and auditing continues. Findings will be reported as soon as they become available. Next meeting is November 14, 2006, 4:00 p.m., Station #3 Victor Township.

Historical Society: The Denison Schoolhouse renovation (main level) is nearly complete. The schoolhouse will be open to the public for the first time at the holiday "Hanging of the Greens" Festival at Reed Church and Denison Schoolhouse scheduled Sunday, November 26, 2006 from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. The community is invited to come and help decorate these local landmarks for the holidays. Santa will visit the schoolhouse at 3:30 p.m. Refreshments, children's activities, and hayrides will be available. Join the fun! Next historical society meeting will be rescheduled from November 8 to November 9, 2006, 7:30 p.m., Victor Township Hall. A holiday festival market is also scheduled Sunday, November 26 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Victor Township Hall. Interested vendors may contact Janice at (517)651-2323 for information.

LBA: Next meeting November 8, 2006, 8:00 A.M. at Jordano's.

Laingsburg Area Recreation Committee: Construction of the playground in the lower bowl of McClintock Park is underway.

Clinton County Economic Development Task Force: Jerry Ambrose from the City of Lansing presented a report on the emerging regional effort. A Steering Committee to help design and implement the Clinton County Economic Development initiative is being formed.

Victor Township Citizen Road Committee: A public hearing on the road plan developed by the citizen road committee was held October 4, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Victor Township Hall. The road plan and additional information on road projects in Victor Township is posted on [www.fixourroads.com](http://www.fixourroads.com).

### **Clinton County Officials**

Commissioner Claude Vail reported that the Board of Commissioners recommended that the Smith request for rezoning be reviewed. He discussed concerns related to the significant budget overruns of the Department of Human Services and reviewed efforts to organize a Safe County Initiative to more proactively address effects of drugs in the area.

## **ROUND LAKE WEED ERADICATION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING**

The regular meeting recessed at 7:15 p.m. for a public hearing on the special assessment roll for the Round Lake Weed Eradication Special Assessment. Supervisor Malkin noted that the purpose of the

hearing was to make a final determination on the special assessment roll. The major issue was how the assessment was to be distributed, particularly whether there was going to be differences in the assessment between riparian and non-riparian parcels. He asked if there were any public comments. Malkin noted that a letter from Greg Hunt was received protesting the special assessment on that grounds that it would cause financial hardship. There were no other public comments at that time. Board Member Wilsey commented that following the initial resident petition for the improvement and previous public hearings the one item that a large majority of residents agreed on, in her opinion, is that the work needs to be done. There also seemed to be some agreement that front lot owners would benefit more from the weed control than back lot owners so they should pay more. However, there seemed to be no clear consensus as to what that difference should be. McDonald put together a summary of four options for structuring the special assessment for consideration by the residents and Board. They included:

	Year 1, Riparian Assessment	Year 1, Non- Riparian Assessment	Years 2-5, Riparian Assessment	Years 2-5, Non- Riparian Assessment
1) Equal payments (i.e., all owners in the special assessment district pay the same per parcel)	\$192.31	\$192.31	\$80.22	\$80.22
2) 75/25 payment ratio (i.e., back lot owners pay 25% of what front lot owners pay per parcel)	\$244.74	\$61.22	\$102.09	\$25.50
3) 50/50 payment ratio (i.e., back lot owners pay 50% of what front lot owners pay per parcel)	\$224.36	\$112.18	\$93.59	\$46.80
4) 75/25 cost ratio (i.e., 75% of project <i>costs</i> assessed to front lot owners and 25% of <i>costs</i> assessed to back lot owners)	\$201.98	\$168.27	\$84.23	\$70.20

The residents in attendance discussed the various options. No clear consensus emerged as to the best approach. Malkin felt that an equal distribution was the most appropriate because differences in property values are taken into consideration in the regular property taxes and lake front owners pay more. This special assessment was just to clean up the lake which benefits everyone in the district. McDonald felt that the residents had met and voted on a 75/25 split so that is what the board should do. Wilsey commented that residents reported only 15 people had actually attended that meeting and the “vote” among the fifteen was 8-7. That did not seem to represent a clear consensus. Dan Eggleston from the Round Lake community noted that he agreed there was no consensus on the proper approach. Round Lake resident Jeff Woodend confirmed his preference for option 2. The Hearing on the Round Lake Special Assessment Roll closed at 7:40 p.m.

Motion by Malkin, second by Wilsey, to adopt the Resolution Approving the Special Assessment Roll for Round Lake providing for equal distribution of the assessment equally (option 1) among all parcels benefitted. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted yes: Malkin. The following voted no: McDonald, Wilsey, Ginther. The following were absent: Morris. The motion failed. Motion by Ginther, second by Wilsey, to adopt the Resolution Approving the Special Assessment Roll for Round Lake providing for 75 Riparian/25 Non-Riparian split of the costs (option 4) among all the parcels benefitted. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted yes: Ginther, Wilsey. The following voted no: Malkin,

McDonald. The following were absent: Morris. The motion failed. Motion by Wilsey, second by Malkin, to adopt the Resolution Approving the Special Assessment Roll for Round Lake providing for equal distribution of the assessment equally (option 1) among all parcels benefited. Upon a roll call vote, the following voted yes: Malkin, Wilsey, Ginther. The following voted no: McDonald. The following were absent: Morris. The motion carried and the Resolution adopted.

Items of Public Interest

The General Election is Tuesday, November 7, 2006. All Victor Township voters vote at the Victor Township Hall. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Correspondences (received and placed on file)

Sheriff's report of Victor Township (September).

Sheriff's report of jail and County (September).

Capital Area Transportation Authority (October 20 was Clean Commute Options day)

Drain Commissioner (Township Assessment was \$11,451.49).

Vredveld Hefner LLC (request to be considered for audit services).

Community Development Department (Notice of proposed amendment to Section 501 – Accessory Buildings, Structures & Uses).

Clinton County Health Summit (requesting notification of any health problems in Victor Township).

Unfinished Business

Vision for the Township and Goals – no report.

Alleyway Ordinance – no report.

Cemeteries: Volunteers needed to continue restoration work.

Township Policies and Procedures Review – comprehensive review needed.

New Business – None.

Extended Public Comment

Clinton County Officers Association Meeting scheduled Wednesday, November 8, 7:00 p.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk