

VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- October 7, 2008 (Tentative)

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: Warren Malkin, Michelle Wilsey, Donald McDonald, Dan Morris, Duane Ginther

Members absent: None. Other governmental representatives in attendance: Commissioner Terry Link.

Thirteen (13) citizens present.

Public Comment – Carol Juhl made a special request for a family reunion to be held at the Victor Township hall with permission for out of town guests to camp on the grounds for two nights. The event would be held the last weekend of July. She noted there would be no conflict with soccer. She also noted that arrangements would be made with the City of Laingsburg for dumping. Malkin noted that occasional, special event camping has previously been allowed for Boy Scouts and the dog tracking group. Wilsey would work with Ms. Juhl to complete a “special event” form for insurance and liability purposes.

Agenda

Wilsey moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve agenda with addition of Berridge proposal under new business.

Minutes and Treasurer Report

Minutes of the September 2, 2008 regular meeting were approved as printed. The treasurer’s report was accepted subject to audit and placed on file.

Approval of Bills

Bills: Wilsey noted a budget adjustment was needed for the “Parks and Recreation” account. Malkin noted that the allocation under parks and recreation was a mistake and should have been booked to capital outlay. It was for the installation of the new swingset, not maintenance. Wilsey would verify and make the correction.

McDonald moved, second by Morris and motion carried to pay bills in the amount of \$36,013.16, check numbers 10390-10406.

Reports

Planning: The need for a wetlands ordinance was discussed. A copy of the Meridian Township ordinance was distributed to planning commission members. Vern Stevens initiated the discussion but was not at the meeting. Wilsey asked if Vern Stevens could provide the board with a review/education session on the needs, impacts and deficiencies of other wetlands regulations. The planning commission also further discussed concerns related to the SUP for Perry Salyer. The City of Laingsburg provided a notice of “Intent to Plan.” Ginther would request the meeting schedule.

CAFR: Next meeting is October 14, 2008, 7 p.m., Station #1 (St. Johns).

Historical: Hanging of the Greens celebration is scheduled Sunday, November 30, 4-7 p.m. This is the annual gathering to decorate the Reed Church and Denison Schoolhouse for the holidays. Everyone is welcome to come out and help decorate. Refreshments served. Santa usually stops by for a visit and hay ride. Next regular meeting is scheduled October 15, 2008, 7:30 p.m., Victor Township Board Room.

Clinton County Economic Alliance: No report.

Clinton County Officials

County Commissioner Terry Link reported that the county approved the agreement with Granger to operate the rural recycling sites. The Board granted authority to pursue study of costs to upgrade the central dispatch facilities in the southern tier of the county. Wilsey requested that tower locations be considered in either Bath or Victor. Link reported that the Salyer SUP request was approved. Also, the County’s 2009 proposed budget includes costs to upgrade the server room for the Sheriff’s Department. Link reported that the Capital City Airport is moving to international status. Upcoming meetings include: Planning Commission public hearing, 10/9/08, 7 pm; County budget public hearing, 10/14/08, 7 p.m., and Clinton Memorial Hospital, 10/11/08, 8:30-12:00 noon, RESA building. Hewitt Vail asked if township board members planned to attend the county budget hearing. Wilsey noted that she planned to attend. Vail asked if the Assessor would attend. Malkin noted that he had a CAFR Board meeting the same night. Participation in the meetings was further discussed and Vail emphasized that he felt taxes were too high. Claude Vail asked Link if MMPA gave up the 33’ of right of way for the Rail Trail. Link did not know but would investigate.

Deputy Alward was not in attendance.

Items of Public Interest – Bob Parks, firefighter with Clinton Area Fire & Rescue, gave an informational presentation on the history and status of the fire department.

Correspondences (received and placed on file)

Sheriff's report of Victor Township (August).

Sheriff's report of jail and county (August).

Unfinished Business

Township Policies and Procedures Review /Update – MTA still working on update of model policies and procedures. Malkin noted that current policies should be implemented until changed.

Wetland Protection Ordinance – covered during Planning Commission report.

New Business

Hall Rental Rates – Wilsey discussed problems with defining/applying recreation rate users. Some private users have questioned the applicability of the rate. Wilsey agrees that it is difficult to clearly distinguish recreation users from some other private rentals. She asked the board and public to examine issue and provide feedback.

Township of Excellence – Malkin noted that MTA has this new program that he thought the township may want to look into.

Hall Rental Security Deposit 9_21_08 – Post-inspection of the rental on 9_21_08 noted several cleaning deficiencies. The client was contacted and was informed of the findings. She noted several deficiencies in the condition of the hall when they came in. She also noted that the toilet in the ladies room was not functioning properly. Wilsey noted that the restrooms are a common source of inconvenience for renters. She also noted that hall cleaning takes place on Tuesday and several community groups use the hall during the week. She suggested that the hall be cleaned later in the week if possible. She also would implement a pre-rental inspection process to verify the condition of the hall prior to rentals. In regard to the 9_21_08 rental, there did appear to be some problems with cleaning, but there also was inconvenience due to the restrooms not functioning properly. Therefore, Wilsey moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to refund the 9_21_08 hall rental security deposit in full.

County Ordinance PC-39-08 Language Amendment – the board received the proposed amendment but had several questions regarding the change. Link would follow-up with the Community Development Department for clarification and additional information.

Berridge Proposal – Berridge proposed sealing parking lot (2 coats over entire surface, 3 coats over entrance drives) at a total cost of \$2,900. This was significantly less than the quote offered earlier this year. Wilsey moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve sealing of township hall parking lot in total amount of \$2,900.

Extended Public Comment – Roger Carlisle asked the board to dismiss the fire run charge issued for an illegal burn on 4/22/08. He explained the facts as follows:

He obtained a recreational burn permit.

He was burning a small, recreational fire of leaves during daylight hours.

He was attending the fire.

A fire marshall came to his home in a personal vehicle and informed him that it was illegal (according to the State of Michigan) to burn leaves (unless they are incidental to a brush fire).

Mr. Carlisle immediately extinguished the fire with his own garden hose.

Wilsey moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to dismiss the fire run charge issued to Roger Carlisle on 4/22/08 with a warning based on the following facts:

He was burning with a permit.

Other than leaves he was acting in compliance with his permit.

Mr. Carlisle immediately complied as soon as he became aware of the violation

No CAFR equipment had to be used to extinguish the fire.

No labor, other than the fire marshall, had to be committed to handle the call or extinguish the fire.

Adam Stacey noted that he was a candidate for Clinton County Commissioner and commented on some priorities he would pursue as Commissioner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk