

## VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- June 2, 2009 (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: County Commissioner Adam Stacey. Deputy Sheriff Doug Alward. Nineteen (19) citizens present.

### Public Comment-

Fire run bill – Matthew Buck protested fire run on April 18, 2009 to his property at 9354 Lancaster, Laingsburg, MI 48848. He asserted that it was a bon fire that was called in by a neighbor. He acknowledged that he did not have a permit. He argued that he was not aware that he needed one. The fireman responding to the call inspected the scene and issued a permit on site. Mr. Buck felt that no fire run charge should be assessed. Board member McDonald explained that the options the firefighter had were to issue a permit and allow the fire to continue legally or to extinguish the fire. The fact that the firefighter issued a permit to allow the bon fire to continue did not change the fact that a fire run was made. If there is no permit, then there is no opportunity for the department to avoid the run. Buck disputed the amount of \$800 was fair given the resources deployed. The board explained that township tax payers pay the direct cost of the fire run plus the indirect cost resulting from that run being counted in the formula used to distribute the operating costs of the fire department. The more runs in the township, the greater the share of the costs we all pay. The permit system is designed to reduce the number of unnecessary runs, thereby reducing the demands on the firefighter resources and reducing the township's share of the costs to operate the department.

John Czarnecki, CCEA – Discussed Clinton County Economic Alliance 2008 Accomplishments. CCEA has focused on creating a positive business climate for the county. Czarnecki highlighted CCEA's role in assisting MMPA and MAHLE with their expansions. MAHLE has been challenged by the economic downturn of the economy and auto industry in particular. They still have to meet commitment to create new employment. He also described assistance provided to Red Line Automotive for start-up of a new facility on US-27. In addition to work with individual companies, CCEA offered a number of business development workshops and education opportunities. CCEA serves as a point of first contact for entrepreneurs and business start-ups. They can provide a range of information on resources, financing options, state and federal incentive programs, etc. CCEA also works with site location assistance for companies. They work regionally to refer inquiries that do not fit in Clinton County in order to support employment development in the region. Current efforts focus on marketing Clinton County assets more aggressively. For example, a marketing letter is going out to national cheese producer firms, ag related producers (biofoam Canadian producer) to encourage them to look at opportunities to do business in Clinton County. They are also offering a workshop on getting qualified for and bidding on defense contracts. A general board meeting is scheduled next Monday, June 8, 2009, RESA offices, St. Johns, 7:30 a.m. Congressman Rogers will be attending. CCEA meets quarterly and welcomes citizen input. CCEA telephone number 517-669-1345. Call before making any investment so they can help you. Malkin suggested changing the statement of one of the goals from "...increase the County's SEV..." to "create new SEV in Clinton County".

Harold Buck Kuisel – Introduced himself and announced that he is running as a candidate for representative in the 85<sup>th</sup> district.

Soccer field scheduling – Kelly Chadwick, a resident and AYSO coach and soccer player parent, informed the board that a proposal for centralized scheduling of the Victor Township soccer fields is in development. The desire is to create a scheduling process instituted by the township that is recognized by all users of the fields. The purpose is to avoid scheduling conflicts and to create a system that benefits all users. Malkin noted that the fields should be scheduled as designed. Chadwick agreed but noted that the west field needed to be repaired in order to be used properly. Holes and dips need to be repaired and the field leveled. Chadwick's will donate the dirt but need smaller equipment in order to work on the field.

Luttig Letter – Curt Luttig read a letter from his wife Leslie and himself to the board questioning the application of dust control products on Pratt Road over the last two years. Leslie received conflicting explanations/answers as to why a portion of Pratt received brine and another received chloride, the effectiveness of chloride v. brine, and traffic levels on Pratt. The 2008 and 2009 contracts have been for chloride applied from Chandler to Linton and brine from Linton to Shepardsville. The board noted that regardless of confusion

between Malkin and Luttig, chloride is more effective than brine, chloride is more expensive than brine and therefore used more sparingly. However, the difference between stopping at Linton rather than St. Clair is minor. Wilsey moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to get a revised contract from the Road Commission for application of chloride on Pratt Road from Chandler to St. Clair.

Agenda – Morris moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve the agenda as printed.

Minutes and Treasurer Report – Ginther moved, second by Morris and motion carried to approve minutes of May 6, 2009 as printed. Morris moved second by Ginther and motion carried to approve special meeting minutes of May 20, 2009 as printed. Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit.

Approval of Bills -

McDonald moved, second by Malkin and motion carried to pay bills in the total amount of \$37,044.49, check #s 10573-10592.

Reports

Planning: Joint meeting with the township board was held on May 20, 2009 to discuss the need for wetland protection and a possible wetland ordinance. Boards agreed that they would pursue a county-level discussion. The planning commission planned to speak informally to the Community Development Department about an ordinance and the township would request that a presentation on wetland protection and ordinances at the next CCOA meeting presentation on wetland ordinance. Next meeting scheduled June 17, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Victor Township Hall.

CAFR: Next meeting is June 9, 2009, **1 p.m.**, Station #1 (St. Johns). The earlier meeting time will be the standard for future meetings.

Historical: Next meeting is Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 7:30 p.m., Victor Township Hall.

Clinton County Economic Alliance – previously reported.

Recreation Plan Update – A recreation meeting will be scheduled to gather public input on or around July 9, 2009.

Energy Audit – working with City of Laingsburg and Laingsburg Community Schools to develop a joint energy efficiency proposal.

Clinton County Officials

Clinton County Commissioner Adam Stacey – The Greenspace Commission meeting on Friday will be followed by a trip to Motz County Park. Clinton Transit is working on building support for the millage renewal on the August ballot. He noted that ridership figures show that a diverse section of the population uses the service.

Clinton County Deputy Sheriff Alward reported that scrapping thefts and breaking and entering (B&E) crimes are on the rise. B&E's have been reported in Watertown, Dewitt and Olive. The thieves typically hit homes during the day. They knock and then break-in if no one answers. They have been seen leaving at least two of the homes they broke into.

Public Interest – None.

Unfinished Business

Review/Update of Township's Policies and Procedures Manual (MTA Update) – MTA report pending.

Open Burning Ordinance – Other townships have not taken any action, so it is not an issue at this point.

Markers for Blood Cemetery – Malkin moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to proceed with proposed list of replacement stones and add additional stones as funding permits.

CAFR Budget – The final budget has not yet been passed.

Road projects – Malkin moved, second by Morris and motion carried to approve \$2500 expenditure with the Clinton County Road Commission for Lake Victoria brush spray and mow.

Malkin will investigate shoulder gravel for Hollister Road and bring proposal back to board.

Malkin would like to hold off on seal coating because revenues are a potential concern. The impact of revenue sharing cuts by the state and declining property tax revenues are not fully understood. The board agreed to reconsider projects pending further review of the budget.

New Business – None.

Extended Public Comment – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk  
Victor Township