

VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- September 7, 2010 (Tentative w/ correction)

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, Duane Ginther, and Dan Morris. Members absent: None. Other governmental representatives in attendance: ~~None~~ *County Commissioner Adam Stacey*.- Thirteen (13) citizens present.

Public Comment-

Agenda – Morris suggested adding HB 5572 Noxious Weeds to agenda. Ginther moved, second by Morris and motion carried to approve the agenda with addition of HB 5572 Noxious Weeds under new business.

Minutes and Treasurer Report – Malkin moved second by McDonald and motion carried to approve Minutes of August 3, 2010 regular board meeting with change of word withdrawal to termination on p.2. Treasurer's report was accepted and placed on file subject to audit.

Approval of Bills –

McDonald moved, second by Morris and motion carried to pay bills in the total amount of \$ 9,522.18 check #'s 10867-10881. Malkin moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve payment of CAF&R 3rd quarter operating bill prior to next township board meeting.

Reports -

Planning: No meeting held. Next meeting is September 28, 2010, 7 p.m., Township Hall.

CAFR (Fire Authority): Next regular meeting is September 14, 2010, 7:00 p.m., Station #1 (St. Johns). Malkin moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to appoint Michelle Wilsey to the subcommittee to review the CAFR agreement.

CCEA (Economic Alliance): Proposed revised bylaws presented.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RECREATION PLAN

Morris moved, second by Wilsey and motion carried to recess regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. and open public hearing on the Victor Township Parks and Recreation Plan. Malkin presented the draft Township Parks and Recreation plan and invited public comments. Claude Vail suggests dropping the parks and recreation process. He is concerned that it drums up spending. Malkin noted that it was grant focused. Vail expressed concern that grants cost money. Malkin noted that it does cost our citizens money and we therefore should bring some of those funds back to our community. Wilsey noted that it is a plan. No specific projects are proposed at this point. The township wants to be in a position to act if opportunities arise. Hewitt Vail noted that 38 states are broke and we should not take on additional obligations. Commissioner Adam Stacey noted that grant funds are available in the Michigan Trust fund. Gas and oil leases mineral rights provided funding protected by the Constitution. Marie Howe asked if the Trust Fund monies are the grant source for the \$3 in grant for every \$1 paid by the community. Tim Machowitz, SHSP noted that even though the state is having financial difficulties, the people of the state voted for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund monies to be dedicated to enhancing and preserving our natural resources and recreation. A DNR approved Parks and Recreation plan is a pre-requisite to qualify for the funds and it is timely for the township to seek funds. Ginther noted that the planning commission offered comments emphasizing trails, improvements like grills to existing facilities, and looking at replacing the play structures at the township hall. Claude Vail noted that he would support improvements to the soccer fields and a new play structure. Wilsey noted that multi-use trails, play structures were in the plan but was not sure it included emphasis on making improvements (like addition of grills, new well, pavilion improvements, signage, equipment etc.) to existing facilities. She noted this should be passed on to MSU and plan author Chuck Nelson in the form of comment. McDonald moved, second by Ginther and motion carried to close the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Economic Alliance discussion cont. . .

Ginther moved, second by Wilsey and motion carried to recommend support of the proposed revised bylaws for Clinton County Economic Alliance. Upon a roll call vote the following voted yes: Morris, McDonald Malkin, Wilsey, Ginther. The following voted no: None. The following were absent: None. Motion carried.

County Officials

Adam Stacey – Wilsey noted that Stacey had recommended Bob Craig as a possible replacement for John Czarnecki upon his retirement from CCEA. Stacey explained his reasons for recommendation of Bob Craig as a successor to the economic alliance. He noted the county will support kitchen incubator as a multi-county facility. He reported that the

county is working on budget for next year. The first budget meeting will be held this Thursday. General fund spending is declining. Cuts are helping to offset deficit impact. Employee increases are limited and they have pursued staffing cuts and attrition. Airport ex-officio board seat offered for \$8,500. Clinton County reached out to Eaton County. Airport Authority still wants Clinton County to proffer millage. Discussions will continue.

Items of Public Interest – CCTOA meeting Wednesday, September 15, 7:30 p.m. in Dallas Township.

Correspondences (received and placed on file) -

Sheriff's report of Victor Township (July)

Sheriff's report of jail and County (July)

Jerry Ann Beaufore letters in regard to Reed Cemetery (2)

Unfinished business –

Review/Update of Township's Policies and Procedures Manual (MTA Update) – Intro and first three chapters to be reviewed and discussed at next meeting.

FEMA Flood Insurance Study (Ordinance) – No report.

Michigan Medical Marijuana Act –Proposed ordinance received from the county for review. County hearing on September 9, 2010, 7:00 p.m., Board of Commissioners Room, County Courthouse.

Victor Twp Parks and Recreation Plan – Comments will be forwarded to Chuck Nelson for incorporation into the plan.

New Business –

Fire Runs – Approximately 4 (four) cases will be taken to court. Others being handled by Accumed.

Cemetery Ordinance – Malkin recommends looking at what can be done to improve the enforcement of our ordinance and to include specific provisions to prevent children under the age of sixteen to be in the cemetery without supervision.

Morris asked to look at cemetery rules and regulations in regard to shrubs, plantings and upkeep of lots.

HB 5572 Noxious Weeds - Provides townships ability to regulate noxious weeds in community. Morris thinks township should look into adopting something to prevent lots from becoming overgrown. Wilsey noted that well-intended ordinances can become problematic when applied broadly. One person's "overgrown" lawn is another person's natural landscape, pasture, wildflower area, etc. Enforcement becomes quite difficult. Malkin noted he was not for an ordinance.

Extended public comment - None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk