

VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- January 4, 2011 (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, Duane Ginther, Dan Morris and Don McDonald. Members absent: None. Other governmental representatives in attendance: Deputy Sheriff James Chrenka. Five (5) citizens present.

Public Comment -

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

Minutes and Treasurer Report – Minutes of December 7, 2010 meeting approved with correction on p.2 under topic of meeting dates 2011, strike McDonald as voting no and replace with none. Ginther moved, second by McDonald and motion carried to approve minutes with correction. Malkin noted that after checking with MTA, the board action on approving the road contracts last month was legal and permissible. 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 accounts payable bills in the total amount of \$3,275.34, check #'s 10939-10952. McDonald moved, second by Wilsey and motion carried to approve payroll in the amount of \$6,479.77, check #'s 11040-11050.

Reports -

Planning: Meeting was cancelled in December. Next meeting is January 25, 2011, 7 p.m., Township Hall.
CAFR (Fire Authority): No report. Next regular meeting is January 11, 7 p.m., Station #1 (St. Johns).

County Officials – Clinton County Deputy Sheriff James Chrenks reported that there was a significant drug bust and B&E activity in the area. Some arrests have been made related to those matters. Call volume for the sheriff is up significantly.

Items of Public Interest – Wilsey reported that the BAS Annual Response form was corrected and submitted. Corrections for the Round Lake subdivision were submitted. The final Victor Township Parks and Recreation plan was submitted to the State of Michigan with copies submitted to the Clinton County Community Development department and Tri-County Planning.

Correspondences (received and placed on file) -

Sheriff's report of Victor Township (December)

Sheriff's report of jail and County (December)

Unfinished business –

Review/Update of Township's Policies and Procedures Manual – Reviewed additional proposed changes for section 4.0 "financial administration" submitted by Wilsey with township board. Additional work needed on section 4. Section 5 review is underway focusing on facilities maintenance and facilities use.

FEMA Flood Insurance Study (Ordinance) – Maps have been finalized but no changes for Victor Township were incorporated. Need to pass ordinance.

New Business –

Budget FY11-12 – Proposed budget was presented and discussed. McDonald moved, second by Malkin and motion carried to hold the public hearing on the FY 2011-12 budget at 7:15 p.m. on February 1, 2011. Salary resolutions will be adopted at that time.

Board of Review Members (2-yr term) - Malkin moved, second by Morris and motion carried to appoint the following Board of Review members for a two year term 2011-2012: Donald Arthur, Leo Cook, George Hazle and Carl Hill as alternate.

Poverty Exemption Guidelines 2011 – Board discussed income levels and asset tests. Motion by McDonald, second by Malkin and motion carried to adopt the following resolution:

Victor Township Board Resolution to Adopt Poverty Exemption Income Guidelines and Asset Test for 2011

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under the General Property Tax Act; and

WHEREAS, the township board is required by Section 7u of the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893 (MCL 211.7u), to adopt guidelines for poverty exemptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, pursuant to MCL 211.7u, that Victor Township, Clinton County, adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement.

The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year. To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor/assessor or board of review after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of the board of review on a form provided by the local assessing unit.
- 3) Provide federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead including any property tax credit returns.
- 4) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested, if requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 7) Meet the following maximum asset standards for a household to be eligible for a poverty exemption. The below asset levels do not include the value of your homestead. (Per Tribunal ruling 08-13-97, Docket #236230, and the equity of the homestead should not be included within the asset test to be valid)::

1 person.....	\$21,000
2 persons.....	\$26,000
3 persons.....	\$31,000
4 persons.....	\$36,000
5 persons.....	\$41,000
6 persons.....	\$46,000
7 persons.....	\$51,000
8 persons.....	\$56,000
9 persons or more.....	\$61,000

If your household assets exceed this amount you are not eligible for a poverty exemption.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member McDonald and supported by Board Member Malkin.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "yes": Ginther, McDonald, Wilsey, Malkin, Morris. The following voted "no": none. The following were absent: none.

The Supervisor declared the motion carried and resolution adopted.

Extended public comment. CCTOA meeting will be held Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m. Bengal Township Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk