

Vassar Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – October 9, 2012
Phone: (989) 823-3541

4505 W. Saginaw Rd
PO Box 1651
Vassar, MI 48768

Supervisor Forbes called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
The pledge was led by Supervisor Forbes.

Roll Call:

Present: Gray, Stadler, Forbes, Clinesmith, Stack
Absent: None

Motion by Forbes, supported by Gray, to approve the September 11, 2012 minutes with the correction to the vote on the August 28, 2012 minutes with Gray abstaining from the vote.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

There was no treasurer's report due to construction and the computer updates not being completed.

Trustee's Report by Bill Gray

September 13, 2012 PC Meeting

- A. Permit for Robert Dubin parcel #020-032-000-1900-05 for Haunted House and Battle of the Bands was approved. See the Planning Commission minutes of September 13, 2012 for more detailed information
- B. New Zoning Map: One map was made available. Questions were asked about the map. Clerk Clinesmith will see about getting questions answered.

New Business

- A. Motion was approved to allow one unlicensed vehicle in a backyard or behind a fence. Bill Gray is recommending the Board approve this.
- B. Discussion on Fencing Ordinance. Bill Gray was asked to contact Township Attorney Howell regarding residential areas bordering farms. Bill Gray contacted Attorney Howell regarding Fencing Ordinance. See attached letter from Attorney Howell.

Zoning Administrator's Report by Curtis Pennell attached.

Guests:

Eric Andreychuk – Bullard Sanford Memorial Library:

The Library is working with the City of Vassar to inform voters, and want to work with Vassar Township and insert a mailer with the winter tax bill.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Stadler, to allow the Vassar Library mailing one time on a trial basis along with the Winter 2012 tax bill.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

John Schlicht:

Schlicht is running for the 5th District Commissioner seat of Tuscola county. He discussed some of his ideas about how to run the county.

Communications:

Enbridge:

Enbridge (*amend 11-13-12*) sent a letter to the township discussing their crude oil and liquid petroleum system and plans.

Saginaw Asphalt:

Saginaw Asphalt sent a \$10,705.87 check to the township for sand and gravel.

New Computer Installation/Cyberlink:

Edward Lee from Cyberlink attending the meeting. The new computers were set up and running, though some bugs still need to be worked out. There was some discussion about the service contract presented.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to approve the General Support Contract from Cyberlink.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

State of Michigan:

The State of Michigan sent a couple of letters to the township denying the amending 2011 return filed by Vassar Township and requesting the tax 2009, 2010, and 2011 returns from the township.

Smith Boville/Harry Fall Estate:

There is a lien on the property in the Harry Fall Estate that needs to be paid before the land is divided. Supervisor Forbes contacted Smith Bovill P.C. which sent a letter to the township saying the total amount paid to them due to the Vassar Township vs. Fall matter for professional services and other costs was \$11,969.65. Additionally, the township was asked to take ownership of the road.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Clinesmith, to deny the request to make Down Creek Drive a public road.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

DNR:

The DNR has sent another letter to the township regarding mineral lease rights.

Juniata Township Planning Commission:

The Commission is proposing amending the pages of their 2008 Development Plan and has sent Vassar Township a copy of the changes asking for input. They will have a public hearing on the matter at Juniata Township Hall, 1971 Ringle Rd. beginning at 7:00pm on December 3, 2012.

Gary Howell – Fencing:

The township has received a letter from attorney Gary Howell stating that all fences require a zoning permit with an exception of farm fences on a property used for farm purposes.

Old Business:

Township Hall Renovation:

There has been work on the township hall, a new ceiling and some electrical work. The hall was a mess for about three weeks, and was recently cleaned up by ServPro. The lights are to be installed Wednesday. Additionally the new computers were installed with some bugs still to be worked out and led to some difficulty getting everything organized for the meeting.

Garbage Assessment:

The township is currently in discussions with Gary Hicks about adjusting the garbage contract. He is trying to make the meeting.

Township Facebook Page:

John Stack proposed that there was already a Township Facebook Page and that the Township should use that one. Edward Lee from Cyberlink stated that Cyberlink would be willing to help the township and train a person to run the Facebook Page. There was some discussion about the structure of the page such as having an admin and back up admin and about the timing of when to start the page.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Stadler to have John Stack and Michael Clinesmith be administrators of a township Facebook page to be opened after the first of the year.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Garbage Bin:

The bin was intended to be a service to the people, but it is being abused and trash is being piled around the dumpster.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Clinesmith, to have the dumpster removed.
Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Gray to put in the Cass River Trader an explanation of why the dumpster is removed.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Purchase Orders:

The township does not yet have them ready.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes to postpone using purchase orders until after the January 8, 2012 meeting.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

Zoning Maps:

The Planning Commission is working on the zoning map, it still needs some changes.

AT&T Contract:

The Township got a letter that the current contract is expiring. The contract needs time to be looked at. Stack will look into it and bring it to the next meeting.

Assessor's Contract, Work Schedule, Report:

There has been some questions about the assessor's job, the roles and responsibilities and aspects of the assessor's contract.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to have the assessor present a written report to the board for the monthly township meetings.
Vote 3-2, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Stadler, supported by Forbes, to have the township assessor present at the next regularly scheduled board meeting to review requirements for the report.
Vote 3-2, MOTION CARRIED.

Gary Hicks/ Garbage Contract:

Hicks arrived and told the township he is currently working on getting approval to adjust the township's contract rate of increase and garbage surcharge in exchange for a longer plan. Onna Clinesmith suggested including the garbage schedule along with the tax bill.

Parliamentary Training:

The City of Vassar along with other governmental agencies is planning a parliamentary training session, and has sent information to the township. Bob Forbes, Michael Clinesmith, and Bruce Foether are interested in going.

Election Commission, Public Test:

The members of the Vassar Township Election Commission decided to meeting Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 5:30pm. There will be a public test of the voting machines at the township hall on October 29, 2012 at 1pm.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Stack, for the board to schedule a special meeting on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 6:00pm to approve the payables and AT&T contract.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Township Cleanup Day:

Motion by Forbes, supported by Stadler, to schedule Township Cleanup Day for October 19, 2012 with a 40yd dumpster from 9am to 5pm or until filled, to be published in the Cass River Trader.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

Grace Proffer thanked the township for mowing the roads which was better this time than last year.

Don Clinesmith asked if there was any interest when working on the Caine Rd. Bridge in 2015 to set it up for canoe delivery.

Ben Partridge stated that the board should be educated and check out the idea.

Onna Clinesmith stated that it was nice working with Gary Hicks and the guy with the Roadwork, and asked if the assessor was going to get paid for the missing days. She should be asked about this, and should we pay the assessor for being on call instead.

Rhonda Schultz asked if Debby had been asked about giving an assessing report before.

Bruce Foether requested a motion for the township board adjourn.

Motion by Gray, supported by Clinesmith to adjourn.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:05pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

Vassar Township Clerk

Vassar Township Supervisor