

Vassar Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting – March 12, 2013  
Phone: (989) 823-3541

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

Supervisor Forbes called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.  
The pledge was led by Supervisor Forbes.

Roll Call:  
Present: Stack, Clinesmith, Forbes, Tester, Gray  
Absent: None

Motion by Stack, supported by Gray, to approve the February 12, 2013 minutes with one correction.  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to approve the payables in the amount of \$15,696.73.  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Planning Commission Liaison Report presented by Bill Gray.

Zoning Administrator's Report presented by Curtis Pennell.

Assessor's Report by Debby Valentine read by Forbes.

Fire Run Report read by Michael Clinesmith.  
A list was presented to the board on outstanding fire runs.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to take Harry Sziber, the Deels, Melissa Cohee and Andrew Davis to small claims court for unpaid fire runs.  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to authorize a check to the small claims court to pay for the fees.  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Forbes brought up and the board discussed the poverty situation of Dave Phillips.  
Motion by Forbes, supported by Stack to drop the Dave Phillips fire run charges.  
Vote 3-2, MOTION CARRIED.

**Communications:**

DEQ Wetland Permitting Workshop:

Clinesmith read the letter from the DEQ about workshops to increase awareness or regulated activities by the DEQ on wetland and other water related areas.

Tuscola County Drain Commissioner:

Forbes read a letter from the Drain Commissioner about a situation involving maintenance on Shurtz Drain and a property owner. There will be a meeting between the contractor, drain commissioner, Township official and property owner to address the issue.

Mike Green Lake Level Meeting

The township has received a flier about a Townhall Meeting by State Senator Mike Green and Director Jon Allan about the low water levels of the Great Lakes and Saginaw Bay on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Tuscola County Planning Commission Opening:

The County Planning Commission has an opening on its board and is accepting applications for the position.

Medical Training Class:

The township received flier about a "Mental Health First Aid" class hosted at the Library in Vassar on March 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

Facebook:

There was discussion about the township having a Facebook page, and the usefulness of it. There is a webinar by Strategic Government Resources that discusses integrating your community and social media. Some townships are developing pages, one had a problem with negative feedback.

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Stack, to claim the Vassar Township web site on Facebook and use it to post meeting dates.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Tester, to appoint the clerk as the administrator of the Facebook web page.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Road Commissioner Winter Road Maintenance:

There was discussion by the board and the public about the timing, cost, extent and liability of having the County salt township roads.

Resolution 07-2013 by Forbes, seconded by Clinesmith to approve the Special Township Agreement Trial-Run for the 2012-2013 Winter Season and extend through Winter 2013.

Roll Call: Gray:No, Tester:Yes, Forbes:Yes, Clinesmith:Yes, Stack:Yes

Vote 4-1, RESOLUTION CARRIED.

Purchase Orders:

Clinesmith read the "Vassar Township Purchase Order Policy" as provided by Russ Fall, and a Best Practices on Purchasing Policy from the MTA. There was discussion from the board and public about the township having a purchase order policy.

Motion by Forbes to postpone the purchase order policy, died for lack of support.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Clinesmith, to turn down the purchase order policy and the idea of using purchase orders, with only the supervisor, treasurer and clerk making purchases for the township until the matter is settled.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Finish Line Pizza – Vassar City Annexation Request

Forbes read the letter from Howell on the procedures of approving the 425 Agreement with the City of Vassar. Clinesmith read the 425 Agreement with the City of Vassar.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Tester to accept the 425 agreement as provided by the lawyer.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Stack to have the public hearing for the 425 agreement on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

**New Business:**

Amend Budget:

Resolution 06-2013 offered by Stack, supported by Gray to amend the 2012-2013 Budget.

Roll Call: Forbes:No, Tester:Yes, Clinesmith:Yes, Stack:Yes, Gray:Yes.

Vote 4-1, RESOLUTION CARRIED.

VAAS Bylaws Appointment:

John Engels will attend the March VAAS meetings, which will be the last meetings he attends. He gave some details of the issues dealt with by VAAS. The VAAS has approved a new set of bylaws and has sent a letter to the township asking the board to appoint a main and alternate representative for the township. Forbes thanked Engels for his service.

Printer Cartridges:

The Township has accumulated old printer toner cartridges. It was suggested that they could be donated, then it was suggested that the clerk should check Staples to see if they will buy back the cartridges.

Recreation Plan – Set Workshop Date:

Motion by Stack, supported by Forbes, to set up a recreation plan workshop for April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30pm.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

**Public Comment:**

John Stack wanted to thank the sheriff deputy for his service and was disappointed in that the township asked for volunteers (*amend*) and ~~in~~ didn't use Fall's policy

Steve Roland wanted to thank the township for the opportunity to serve.

Russ Kime asked about the Garbage bin, and would like there to be a large garbage bin to deal with blight.

Russ Fall asked the clerk about what happened to his letter he submitted to the board about a suggestion for the driveway ordinance.

Donald Clinesmith requested that the clerk post the outstanding fire runs, that the meetings should start earlier, never to let the DEQ on your property, and thinks that the Federal DEQ will come after all private wells used for public by requiring water sampling results and that they be posted.

Ben Partridge asked Forbes why he voted "no" on the budget amendment, and why the board has not requested planning commission minutes from the planning commission if they are missing instead of a resident requesting them multiple times.

Bob Reil talked about his fire run bills that he had to pay when they did nothing as there was no fire, and believed the township was opening up the door by excusing fire runs.

Donald Clinesmith said it would be more fair to put a flat assessment for fire run service on people's tax bills.

Bruce Foether brought up that people in the township are charged for false alarm fire runs.

Motion by Tester, supported by Gray to adjourn.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:54pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

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Vassar Township Clerk

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Vassar Township Supervisor