

Vassar Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – September 10, 2013
Phone: (989) 823-3541

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

Supervisor Forbes called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
The pledge was led by Supervisor Forbes.

Roll Call:

Present: John Stack, Michael Clinesmith, Bob Forbes, Sam Tester, Bill Gray
Absent: None

Motion by Gray, supported by Tester, to approve the August 13, 2013 minutes with correction of adding “ground” before asphalt.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer’s Report by John Stack:

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Gray to approve the payables in the amount of \$15,823.41 by increasing the amount of check 16844 from \$99 to \$198 and holding check 16841 for further investigation.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

No Trustee’s Report since no meeting after last township board meeting.

Zoning Administrator’s Report presented by Curtis Pennell filed with clerk.

Assessor’s Report by Debby Valentine read by Bob Forbes and filed with clerk.

Library Board Report read by Tom Borcharding and filed with clerk.

Supervisor’s Report by Bob Forbes about illegal dumping in the township filed with clerk

Fire Run Report by Michael Clinesmith. One fire run received. List of unpaid fire runs filed with clerk.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Tester to waive the fee for the fire run for John Liparoto.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Recreation Committee Report by Russ Fall

Russ Fall stated that Southern Lake Trailways is holding a meeting October 3, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Millington Township Hall and would like to give a presentation with a member of the Vassar Township Board Present. He also stated that the Recreation Committee is interested in having surveys done on the township properties.

Clerk Report by Michael Clinesmith

Michael stated the audit was completed, the township has received a letter about payment for Liquor Control, the MTA Principles of Governance was signed and paperwork is being completed.

Communications:

Roberta & Tracy Marsh:

Forbes read the letter by the Marshes with concerns about the Private Road and Drive Ordinance being discussed. The Planning Commission will discuss the Ordinance Thursday.

Old Business:

Smart Meter Resolution:

The Township received letters from Sandra L. Poirier, Joyce Baslock, Judy Neblock and Tony Day with concerns about smart meters. John Hall from the Reese Village Planning Commission was present and discussed some of the concerns he was aware of with the meters. Clinesmith read Resolution 20-2013, A Resolution Supporting the Ability of Vassar Township Residents and Property Owners to Elect to Opt-Out of Receiving Advanced Utility Meters (SMART Meters). The resolution was amended to have all power companies sent a copy of the resolution and Representative Terry Brown and Senator Mike Green.

Resolution 20-2013 offered by Clinesmith, supported by Tester, Supporting the Ability of Vassar Township Residents and Property Owners to Elect to Opt-Out of Receiving Advanced Utility Meters (SMART meters.)

Roll Call: Forbes-Yes, Clinesmith-Yes, Stack-Yes, Gray-Yes, Tester-Yes
Vote 5-0, RESOLUTION CARRIED.

City of Vassar – M-15 Bridge Replacement:

Several township residents attended the meeting at City Hall. One lane will remain open while work on the bridge happens with a light to direct traffic with minimal detours. The project is projected to occur from April to October 2014. The clerk has a copy of the plans in the office.

Plans for Gravel Pit:

A copy of the township agreement and modifications for the township gravel pit on Washburn Rd. was provided to the board. The property appears to be in reclamation. There is a list of things required of reclamation in the contract. It was mentioned about the grade being too steep, no overburden to work with and discussion about gravel being stored on the property for the future. The clerk is to contact Kip Kross and ask him to attend the next board meeting to discuss plans for the property.

Garbage Assessment:

The plan is to increase the assessment next year to adjust for the costs of collecting garbage. Attorney Howell needs to be contacted on this.

New Business:

Affordable Care Act

The law requires notices to be sent to employees regarding the Health Care Exchanges. MTA also has a document detailing the timeline of the changes required for the act focusing on townships. The documents were provided to the board.

Michele Deo: (Old Business)

Michele was present and presented a plan to the township to improve its web site.

Motion by Stack, supported by Clinesmith to allow Michele Deo to start activity one; Preliminary Design work and Review Time and Proposal Creation; and authorize a check for \$250.
Vote 4-0 with Gray abstaining. MOTION CARRIED.

Unclaimed Property – Schnettler Check

A copy of the documentation related to the check 15922 was provided to the board. The attorney recommends sending a letter to the Schnettler about the check. This is the last unclaimed property check that needs to be resolved. There was some discussion about the check.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Gray to postpone action on Schnettler check until an investigation is completed.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Old Township Board Minutes:

Clinesmith is working on reconciling old board minutes but did not have things prepared for the board. This will be postponed until October Meeting.

eCities Best Practices Survey:

eCities surveys jurisdictions as to their efficiency and business friendly atmosphere. There was a page of questions Clinesmith was unsure how to fill out about Best Practices concerning business development. A copy was provided to board members to think about.

AT&T Contract:

The township received a letter from AT&T about the Township's contract expiring in October. This will be looked into.

MTA Training:

This was done in payables.

Business Cards:

Some sample business card designs were provided to board members. Consensus was to use the flag design for Clinesmith, Stack, Forbes, Pennell, Valentine and a Generic card with important phone numbers on the back.

Public Comment:

Bob Reil stated with the fire call, that the man likely never turned it into his insurance, and that the insurance should pay for it. In another state with one of his properties involved, \$1.3 million was spent fighting SMART meters, companies using a "get power or not have it" strategy. After being installed, energy rates went up 60%. He asked when the vote on work on the parking lot happened; what happened to the township process of taking bids which was done in the past and why the township is varying from its open bid policy. He thought the clerk was wrong to use "the LORD" at a Vassar City Council meeting to support his agenda.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 9:22pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

Vassar Township Clerk

Vassar Township Supervisor