

Vassar Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting – November 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: John Stack, Michael Clinesmith, Bob Forbes, Sam Tester, Bill Gray  
Absent: None

Motion by Forbes, supported by Gray to approve the October 8, 2013 minutes with corrections of “s”, “a” and “ed” to misspelled words.  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Tester, to approve the November 4, 2013 special meeting minutes with no corrections.  
Vote 4-0, with Gray abstaining, MOTION CARRIED.

MTA Training:

John Stack briefed the board about an MTA class on finances on October 29<sup>th</sup> and that also included other areas of discussion including building up the township with goals.

Michael Clinesmith briefed the board about a couple of MTA classes on October 30<sup>th</sup> on Township Board Roles and Effective Meetings. He signed up for the Township Governance Academy which includes bringing ideas back to the township. The ideas he chose were working with the supervisor to have meeting packets prepared by the Friday before a meeting, and review the policies of the township board.

Treasurer’s Report by John Stack:

During discussion of the payables, it was mentioned that Cyberlink would continue to work with the township on a month to month basis.

Motion by Forbes, supported by Gray to approve the payables in the amount of \$68,181.73  
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee’s Report by Bill Gray filed with the clerk.

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.

Resolution 24-2013 offered by Forbes, supported by Clinesmith of the Adoption of 2014 Federal Poverty Guidelines and Asset Test.

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

Fire Run Report by Michael Clinesmith filed with the clerk.

**Guests:**

Gary Anderson – Auditor

Gary Anderson provided audit reports for the township for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and went through the report with the board. A copy of the report is filed in the clerk’s office.

Eric Andreychuk – Vassar Library

Eric Andreychuk is in his second year managing the Vassar Library and discussed some of the issues with the library. There was a summer program attendance surge, roof replacement, programs for all ages and a digital checkout program. He provided some fliers for upcoming events. He would like to include some information in the Township Newsletter.

**Communications:**

DEQ – Flood Insurance

The township has received several letters concerning the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The DEQ is sending out letters to residents with concerns that since the township is a participating community, flood insurance must be purchased as a condition of obtaining a federally insured mortgage in federally identified 100-year Special Flood Hazard Areas. Another packet from the DEQ was received encouraging the township to communicate with homeowners and business owners strategies to help them reduce insurance costs due to the changes to the NFIP program. The question was raised if being a participating community increased the cost of residents by mandating flood insurance coverage in the floodplain. One question, “Can you obtain a federally insured mortgage if you are not in a NFIP community” was mentioned. It was suggested that the township should look for further information.

**Unfinished Business:**

Ted Hartleb Insurance

Resolution 22-2013 offered by Forbes, seconded by Tester to approve the Ted Hartleb Agency’s Michigan Municipal Insurance Coverage Proposal for the year 2013 with the addition of increasing Public Official Liability Coverage of \$2,000,000 in the amount of \$7,493.

Motion by Stack, supported by Tester to amend the Resolution to include Public Official Liability Monetary Damage Coverage-Zoning of \$250,000 at a cost of \$255 which brings the total to \$7,748.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 22-2013 offered by Forbes, seconded by Tester (as amended) to approve the Ted Hartleb Agency’s Michigan Municipal Insurance Coverage Proposal for the year 2013 with the addition of increasing Public Official Liability Coverage of \$2,000,000 at a cost of \$242 and include Public Official Liability Coverage-Zoning for a cost of \$255 bringing the total to \$7,748.

Roll Call: Forbes - Yes, Clinesmith - Yes, Gray - Yes, Tester - Yes, Stack - Yes

Vote 5-0, RESOLUTION CARRIED.

Newsletter:

Some content of the newsletter was discussed including a supervisor report, the recycling calendar and no library board report.

Private Road and Driveway Easement Ordinance:

There were a number of materials included in the packet about the Ordinance and discussion by board members and the audience.

Resolution 25-2013 offered by Forbes, seconded by Gray to approve the Private Road Ordinance 2013-2 with the removal of Section 1.D.

Resolution rescinded.

Meeting recessed at 8:50pm.

Meeting called to order at 8:55pm.

Resolution 26-2013 offered by Forbes, seconded by Tester to approve the Private Road Ordinance 2013-2 as written as presented to the board.

Motion by Forbes to call the question to stop discussion.  
Vote 4-1 MOTION CARRIED.

Roll Call on Resolution 26-2013: Forbes – Yes, Clinesmith – No, Stack – Yes, Gray – Yes, Tester – Yes  
Vote 4-1, RESOLUTION CARRIED.

**New Business:**

Garbage Assessment Hearing Date:

Resolution 23-2013 offered by Forbes, seconded by Tester to resolve:

1. The Vassar Township Board hereby tentatively declares that it intends to proceed with the garbage collection project and tentatively designates a special assessment district which shall include the entire Township.
2. The Vassar Township Board orders that the plans and cost estimates be filed with the Township Clerk.
3. A public hearing shall be conducted by the Township Board on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014 at 7:00p.m. at the Vassar Township Hall, 4505 W. Saginaw Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768, to hear objections to the proposed garbage collection project and to the special assessment district.

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

PC/ZBA training from attorneys:

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Forbes, to approve the training of the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals with the township attorneys with the date decided after further discussion with the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Zoning Maps:

The Tuscola County Planning Commission is requesting the township's zoning map with the Planning Commission's approved zoning change. Clinesmith asked about which map to send to the county. There were questions about the most recent map, the assessor made changes to a map which needs to be located. Contacting Wade Trim was suggested.

Scanner:

Motion by Clinesmith, supported by Stack, to approve purchasing a scanner for the township at a cost of no more than \$500 to be paid out of the clerk's budget.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

AT&T Contract:

Motion by Gray, supported by Tester, to approve the contract with AT&T.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor's Report:

A drug house was closed down in the township on Washburn Rd. The supervisor did not find any resolution about bids, and read MTA's explanation of bids and also stated that the township is not spending more than before.

**Public Comment:**

Ben Partridge asked why the township wouldn't want to bid out major purchases.

Janice Zawol mentioned the next Cass River Greenway meeting was December 4, 2013 at the Vassar City hall at 1:00pm.

Onna Clinesmith asked about the newsletter supervisor, clerk and treasurer reports and when they would be needed.

Bob Reil stated that township ditches were getting overgrown and would like to see them cleaned.

Mark Coleman suggested the township officer could check out the ditches.

Don Clinesmith mentioned that Watertown township had someone clean out both sides of the Brown Road ditches.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 10:18pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

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Vassar Township Clerk

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Vassar Township Supervisor