

Vassar Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – May 12, 2015

4505 W. Saginaw Rd
Vassar, MI 48768
Phone: (989)

823-3541

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

Roll Call:

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

Minutes:

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to approve the April 14, 2015 meeting minutes with corrections.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to approve the April 17, 2015 special meeting minutes with correction.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Reports:

No Trustee Report

Zoning Administrator's Report by Curtis Pennell filed with clerk.

Assessor's Report by Debby Valentine and filed with clerk.

Library Board Report read by Don Clinesmith

The library concert series was completed. The used book sale was a success. The summer reading program is upcoming and on May 29, 2015 at 1:30pm Irene Miller will discuss being a Holocaust survivor.

Fire Run Report by Michael Clinesmith

There was one fire run into the Township in April. There was one split payment and two more in early April.

Supervisor's Report by Bob Forbes and filed with the clerk.

Forbes also thanked the helpers for the tire pickup, including Don Clinesmith who was present at the meeting.

Training Report by Nancy Zuzula:

Zuzula went to the Horizon Conference Center for training in Excel on April 30 and May 1. There was instruction on using hotkeys, cool tricks, spreadsheets, templates, formulas, macros and more.

Election Report by Michael Clinesmith:

There were 669 votes cast in the May 5, 2015 election, 51 said yes and 617 no on Proposal 1. A voting tabulator was replaced, and there will be a county audit of Precinct 1.

Treasurer's Report by John Stack:

Treasurer's Report presented and filed with the clerk.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Clinesmith to pay \$30 for the key box to be paid to Don Clinesmith out of the clerk's supplies budget.
Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Forbes to approve the May 2015 payables in the amount of \$87,862.12, and pay the (*amend*) Xerox Zerex bill when it comes due and add to next month's payables
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Guest: Debby Valentine

Folding Machine:

Valentine discussed the Township getting a folding machine, and described the Martin Yale 1501X which she is familiar with. She is willing to use half of the assessor's supply budget for the purchase.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Stack to share the cost of the folding machine with the assessor's supply budget and to shop around for a better price.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

BS&A Software:

Valentine described the current situation with the software. The current program is non-compliant. The updated software will work with GIS, which could help with the Township's mapping working with the county. The cost of the software is \$4,680 with a \$750 annual renewal fee. The Township will look at including the cost in its upcoming budget.

Information:

Tire Pickup:

The tire pickup was supposed to be May 8, but was incorrectly posted as May 9, and tires ended up being dropped off from Friday to Sunday.

1986 Annexation by Vassar City:

There were inconsistencies about a parcel with the Ball Diamonds at the Fairgrounds being in the Township or City. After contacting the Office of the Great Seal in Lansing which deals with annexation, the clerk was able to get a document regarding an annexation occurring in 1968 concerning the parcel.

Unfinished Business:

Ditch Clearing & Maintenance:

The Tuscola County Road Commission is still working on setting up the ditch clearing. Vicky Sherry mentioned that she can look for grants for the Township. She did not find any for ditch clearing in her initial search. There is an upcoming supervisor's meeting with the Road Commission. David Kennard dropped off a map to the Township on sections in the Township that had brush cutting done through the winter.

Road Maintenance:

The Township has received bids from Roadside Maintenance and R&R Excavating & Trucking for mowing the sides of the roads.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Tester to hire R&R Excavating & Trucking to mow the Township roads and cut in the middle of the summer.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Secretary Position:

Forbes suggested making a motion to bring to the budget hearing but Stack mentioned that such a motion was already made at the Township's April 17th meeting.

New Business:

Foreclosure Sale Property:

There is one property available to the Township. Stack tried to load the property on the screen, but the internet was slow. There was mention of the Sierra Nevada properties, but those went up for auction due to foreclosure on its mortgage on May 7, 2015.

Motion by Forbes, seconded by Gray to allow the property up for auction due to lack of payment for taxes to go back to the county.
Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Salary Resolutions:

Resolution # 08-2015 **RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SUPERVISOR SALARY**

WHEREAS, MCL 41.95 authorizes the township board of Vassar Township to determine the salaries for the office of supervisor for fiscal year 2015-2016 by adopting a resolution at least 30 days prior to the township annual meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of supervisor is warranted in consideration of adjustments in the cost of living and responsibilities of the supervisor

_____ since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of July 14, 2015, the salary of the office of supervisor shall be as follows:

Supervisor: \$12,000 salary

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the annual meeting to be held on June 27, 2015, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, in accordance with state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on _____, is properly adopted by the Vassar Township Board at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, as required by law.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member Bob Forbes and supported by Board Member Michael Clinesmith.

This Resolution was withdrawn to allow more general discussion of salaries.

There was a lot of discussion about setting salary wages.

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BE IT RESOLVED, that as of July 14, 2015, the salary of the office of supervisor shall be as follows:

Supervisor: \$12,000 salary

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on _____, is properly adopted by the Vassar Township Board at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, as required by law.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member Bob Forbes and supported by Board Member Michael Clinesmith.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted
"Aye" (2): Forbes, Clinesmith
"Nay" (3): Gray, Stack, Tester

RESOLUTION FAILED.

Resolution # 10-2015

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH CLERK SALARY

WHEREAS, MCL 41.95 authorizes the township board of Vassar Township to determine the salaries for the office of Clerk for fiscal year 2015-2016 by adopting a resolution at least 30 days prior to the township annual meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the township board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of Clerk is warranted in consideration of adjustments in the cost of living and responsibilities of the Clerk

_____ since township board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of July 14, 2015, the salary of the office of Clerk shall be as follows:

Clerk: \$15,000 salary

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the annual meeting to be held on June 27, 2015, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, in accordance with state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on _____, is properly adopted by the Vassar Township Board at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, as required by law.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Board Member John Stack.

Resolution failed for lack of a second.

Janice Zawol suggested giving the PC a raise for the work they were doing with master plans.

Motion by Clinesmith, seconded by Stack to postpone discussion of the salary resolutions to the budget meeting on May 15, 2015.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

TV Screen Demonstration:

It was suggested to postpone the demonstration because of the time.

Landscaping:

Motion by Stack, seconded by Forbes to accept the bid by Yard Works.

Vote 4-1, MOTION CARRIED.

Internet:

It was stated that the "internet sucks." Stack mentioned the Township would need a 20 foot tower increase which Speedconnect will not do. There was a suggestion to connect into the internet fiber cable across the road.

Public Comment:

Janice Zawol summarized the Cass River Greenway report. The report is filed with the clerk.

Russ Fall mentioned that the String Bank Erosion needs 300 15-20 foot spruce trees to line the banks of the river.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Tester to adjourn.

Vote 5-0, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:52pm.

Minutes prepared by Clerk Clinesmith.

Vassar Township Clerk

Vassar Township Supervisor