

Vassar Township Board of Trustees
Special Meeting – September 19, 2024

Call to Order: 5:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call:

John Stack	Excused Absence (EA)
Ben Partridge	Present
Bruce Foether	Present
Deb Pounds	Present
Tom Borcharding	Present

Call to Order:

Motion by Deb Pounds to approve agenda, as written, seconded by Tom Borcharding

(4) Ayes

(0) Nays

(1) EA

Motion Carried

New Business:

Cameras at Vassar Township Park –

Received a bid from Harper Alarms to install 11 cameras at Vassar Township Park (See Attached)

Bruce Foether mentions porta potty at Park, and asked Maintenance Employee Charlie Fabbro states that he must clean it out at least once a week if not more due to people misusing and trashing it.

Bruce Foether speaks and questions Township Officer regarding weapon incident that occurred at the park on Election Day in August.

The Township Officer did ask on day of the incident if we had any cameras at the park, which we did not. Township officer states it would have been helpful to the investigation to have some sort of video of what occurred. Or a camera to capture a license plate.

Both Township Officers believe that it would be good to have cameras at the Township Park for safety reasons and for preventative measures. Brings up that the City of Vassar has cameras in their pavilion and in their trail area.

Audience Member asks if the cameras are going to be night vision. Bruce Foether states most likely since that is what we currently have on the current Township Hall.

Township Officer suggests having zooming capability camera that looks at the parking lot to get a license plate if needed.

Ben Partridge asks if video will be stored just offsite or if it will be stored somewhere else? What if someone breaks in, will the storage also be sent to the cloud or elsewhere.

Bruce Foether asks Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski to reach out to Harper Alarms to get clarification on questions.

Ben Partridge states that not one camera looks at the front of the building or the back of the building. States that if someone steals the tractor, nothing will cover the front or back doors of the barn.

Township Officer asks if cameras will be 24-hour surveillance and motion activated. Per what Harper told Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski, to save on quality, the cameras will be recording at a lower definition till motion is detected, then the camera will switch to a high definition, clear footage.

Ben Partridge suggests that if equipment is to be stored in the shed, a more secure cabinet should be installed

Board asks if two dome cameras can be put inside the shed. Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski to ask Harper Alarms as well

Motion by Deb Pounds to approve cameras from Harper Alarm for the amount of \$12,545.90 for Vassar Township Park, seconded by Tom

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Borcharding	Yes
Deb Pounds	Yes
Bruce Foether	Yes
John Stack	EA
Ben Partridge	Yes

(4) Ayes
(0) Nays
(1) EA

Motion Carried

Tuscola County EDC –

Asking Vassar Township for \$1,000.00 investment to be a part of the EDC

EDC has a resolution and service agreement that they are asking to be reviewed and signed

EDC would help the Township to receive Grants and Loans

Ben Partridge wants letter sent to the attorney to see if Township is even legally eligible to join

Tabled till next Board of Trustees Meeting on October 8, 2024

Bids for old TV:

The TV is a 50 inch, Colored, SEIKI TV.

Motion by Bruce Foether to put bids out for old colored TV. Bids have to be in no later than October 7, 2024 at 5:00pm, seconded by Deb Pounds

(4) Ayes

(0) Nays

(1) EA

Motion Carried

This bid is to be placed on Facebook, the Township Webpage and the window.

Bruce Foether passed out information to board members

Ben Partridge states that it needs to be talked about due to what was put in the paper

Ben Partridge questions by what authority and law did the 30-day notice to residents for motion dispute get put into the paper

Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski states that John Stack told her that a notice needed to go into the paper that allows 30 days for residents to dispute the motion

Bruce Foether states that these comments need to be discussed in public comment

Public Comment:

Discussion by Ben Partridge states that actions by individual board members need to stop. It is a 5-person board, and all actions need 3 votes, or it does not happen

Ben Partridge believes that because the notice was put in the paper, the certified letter that the board received has to be reviewed and a meeting must be held with the individual(s) who sent the letter

Ben Partridge states that events like this keep happening where an individual on the board makes an executive decision with authority that they do not have individually

Ben Partridge states that the notice that was in the paper and the certified letter received need to go to the attorney, but no decision can be made tonight

Ben Partridge states that he spoke with MTA and that MTA “flat out said you need to talk to your attorney”.

Deb Pounds asked if John Stack discussed putting that notice in the paper with anyone on the board, to which they all stated no

Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski stated that John Stack told her it needed to go in the paper in normal conversation during normal business hours, not during the last Board Meeting

Todd Aymer states that he spoke with Sam Tester that Todd will be taking over as liaison for the Planning Commission

Ben Partridge states that that will need to be discussed at the Planning Commission Meeting

Admin Assistant Sarah Osentoski questions whose budget will be paying for the cameras at the park? Parks and Recreation?

Deb Pounds says Parks and Rec

Bruce Foether says no

Todd Aymer says that Parks and Rec did discuss it as part of their budget

Ben Partridge states that he doesn't believe that Parks and Rec has that kind of money in their budget

Bruce Foether says that it is a safety item and so it will not be paid for by Parks and Rec, it will come out of a different safety budget

Deb Pounds states that to run Temporary Electric at the new hall building site, she needed to sign an agreement with Thumb Electric and pay \$1,300.00. Deb Pounds made out that check. Deb Pounds has done two other utility checks as well. Deb Pounds called Lynette (Deputy Treasurer) to come up to the Hall to sign those checks, but has gotten no response

Motion by Ben Partridge to adjourn the meeting at 5:44pm, seconded by Tom Borcharding

(4) Ayes

(0) Nays

(1) EA

Motion Carried

X

Deb Pounds
Clerk

X

Bruce Foether
Supervisor

DRAFT