

VERMONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2009

The Vermontville Township Board met in special session on Friday, March 6, 2009 immediately following the Budget Committee Meeting.

Present: J Owens, B Moore, B Miller, J Nehmer and S Stewart. Public present: Dewey Eldred, Peggy and Gary McDiarmid, Joe and Virginia Harvey, Bonnie Valerio, Don and Marcia Grant, Judy Owens.

Supervisor Owens called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

During Public Comment, Joe Harvey questioned the wording in the Opera House Contract and asked how often can a non-profit use the Opera House without paying.

Motion by Owens to approve the agenda, support by Nehmer. All ayes. Carried.

The contract for ALS service from Charlotte EMS was discussed. The cost to the township would be a yearly payment, to be used by Charlotte EMS for equipment replacement only. It was also stated there would not be any extra money asked for when Charlotte does replace their equipment. Also, Vermontville would get a 50% reduction in cost, over other townships with an agreement with Charlotte, because we will provide our own ambulance for BLS service.

It was explained if the contract with Charlotte EMS is accepted, Charlotte would be dispatched as Vermontville's ALS service after Vermontville ambulance is toned out. It states in the contract that Vermontville will be charged \$350.00 each time a Charlotte paramedic gets in our rig. Owens stated Tim James, F&A Board, is concerned that will happen often and end up costing Vermontville a lot of money.

Owens will contact John Truba, Charlotte EMS, and request he attend the next Vermontville Township Board meeting on March 26 to answer questions by the public and board.

Acceptance of the contract was tabled until more information is obtained.

Nehmer presented the revised Opera House Rental Agreement and Policy. The documents were read to the public. Stewart is looking into the possibility of an easier to read and understand Indemnification Agreement, at the bottom of the rental agreement.

Joe Harvey said he would like to see a limit to the time a non-profit organization is allowed to use the opera house for free.

Things still needed to complete the rental process are a check list for Buildings and Grounds personnel to use when renting the Opera House, new locks and keys because it appears there are keys outside the township board and the possibility of having daytime EMT's do some cleaning at the Opera House; suggested by Dan Sowles, Ambulance Director.

Motion by Miller to accept the Opera House Rental Agreement and Opera House Policy, with recommended changes and possible new Indemnification Agreement, support by Nehmer. All ayes. Carried.

The 2009-2010 Proposed Budget was presented for discussion. Moore stated he understands why dust control was omitted this year, but stated we loose 1" of gravel per year without dust control. He said one year is probably all right, but next year we need to look into putting dust control back in the budget because replacing gravel is very costly.

The excess funds will be put into Elections for the purpose of a possible special election in November 2009 for ambulance millage.

Motion by Stewart to approve the 2009-10 proposed budget with revenues being \$170,024.78 and expenses equaling \$170,024.78, support by Moore. All ayes. Carried.

The proposed budget will be made available to the public for review; to be posted in town. The public hearing to discuss the budget will be held during the regular March 26, 2009 board meeting.

Virginia Harvey stated Eaton Township discontinued dust control to its residents but offer a program where residents may pay for their own.

It was discussed that non-profit organizations requesting the use of the Opera House, at no cost, should be subject for approval by the Board.

Joe Harvey stated the Township FOIA Policy needs to be readdressed. The fee of \$1.00 per page is too much. He stated when he talks about non-profit's, he does not mean kids programs, such as boy scouts, etc.

Duane Eldred stated Eaton County received \$100,000.00 to put gravel on township roads and the township needs a plan of action for township residents to sign up for individual dust control. He will get program information for the Board.

It was reported, our Poverty Exemption Resolution covers our Township without needing to adopt a new one each year. It states in the resolution that Vermontville Township will follow the guidelines put out each year. Nehmer presented her copy of the Poverty Exemption application to Owens and Miller for review.

Motion by Moore, support by Nehmer to adjourn special meeting. All ayes. Carried.

The special meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Sharon Stewart
Vermontville Township Clerk