

VERMONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
MARCH 26, 2009  
MINUTES

The Vermontville Township Board met in regular session on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Opera House.

Present: J Owens, B Miller, B Moore, J Nehmer and S Stewart Public present: Doug Kelsey, Marcia Grant, Joe and Virginia Harvey, Shirley Harmon, Rita Miller, Kim Hildred, Matt Emery, Sandy Haas, Carla Rumsey, Chris Rumsey, Darlene Hosey, Terri and Greg Elliott, Sheri Reynolds, David Chase, Steve Pifer, Mr and Mrs Poole, Mr and Mrs Larry Stevens, Tina Bartlett, Nick Bartlett, Danny Baker, Lorraine Miller, David Spencer, Scott Peters, Dan Sowles, Brian Reynolds, Monte O' Dell.

Supervisor Owens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Supervisor Owens called the budget public hearing to order at 7:05 p.m. He reported the 2009-10 Proposed General Budget being estimated revenue of \$170,024.78 and estimated expenses being \$170,024.78. The proposed 2009-10 Fire Budget is revenue \$60,088.54 and expenses \$60,088.54. The 2009-10 proposed Library Budget is revenue \$68,177.49 and expenses \$68,177.49.

.75 mills are allocated to the Library, 1 mill is allocated to the Township and 1 mill is allocated to the Fire Department.

There was a question and answer period. There were no objections to the proposed budgets.

Motion by Moore, support by Miller to close the public hearing. All ayes. Carried.

The public hearing adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Motion by Miller, support by Moore to reenter into open session. All ayes. Carried.

Deputy Peacock reported there were 18 calls for service during February.

Fire Chief O'Dell gave the fire report. He stated the furnace purchase has been tabled.

Ambulance Director, Dan Sowles, gave the ambulance report. He stated if we plan to upgrade our ambulance service, we will need to affiliate with a hospital, such as Hayes Green Beach. Hayes Green Beach presented Vermontville Township with a contract for service which is being discussed later in the meeting.

Brian Reynolds reported he is working on a remonumentation project in Vermontville Township restoring section corners used by surveyors. He explained the project and gave a history of surveying.

John Truba, Charlotte ALS , explained Charlotte currently provides mutual aid to all areas; although they are not obligated to do so. He spoke in length about the different levels of coverage available for ambulance service. He explained it is very hard to run a small ambulance service with low-call volume. He suggested Vermontville, Sunfield, Mulliken, Kalamo and Chester Townships combine for a grant for an ambulance service. He felt even then the call volume would not support an ALS; some tax dollars would have to be included. He offered to work with Vermontville Township; even if we do not contract with Charlotte, to help decide what would be best for Vermontville Township.

Doug Kelsey, Vermontville Village President, requested the Township agree to cut the 2005 property taxes they paid on a building they purchased, by half. They are asking for a refund. Owens stated he wanted to speak with Jeff Winans, the assessor, before making any decisions.

There were some public comments pertaining to the library and ambulance service.

There were two corrections to bills for approval. General: to JoeAnn Nehmer, \$15.79 for mileage reimbursement and Ambulance: \$250.00 to Medical Management; not \$503.75. Nehmer requested pulling out checks to Landmark for \$3,999.00 for the 10% retainer fee until we get an "all clear" letter from the state and a check to a person not on the fire department for \$14.32.

Miller stated one correction to the February 26 minutes being the \$2,000.00 awarded to Winans was for PRE'S AND QUALIFIED AG PROPERTIES, not splits. He, also, asked to add to the minutes that when he voted nay on the fire contracts to Kalamo and Chester is was because he is against charging others less than Vermontville Township residents pay.

Motion by Moore, support by Owens to approve Consent Agenda. All ayes. Carried.

Reports were given.

Motion by Owens, support by Moore to approve Patty Cooley, Chairperson, and Judy Mohler and Marcia Grant (part day) and Sharon Stewart (part day) as election inspectors for the May 5<sup>th</sup> Special School election. All ayes. Carried.

Motion by Miller, support by Moore to approve a contract with Charlotte EMS for one year. 4 ayes, 1 nay (Owens). Carried. Owens will call Truba and send a letter to Central Dispatch.

Owens stated there is a vacancy on the F& A Board due to the resignation of Rick McCloy. There was some discussion concerning filling the vacancy before by-laws are adopted. Miller stated the F&A Board asked for by-laws and Nehmer felt they need some kind of structure and to know what is expected of them. Owens was against waiting for by-laws. Motion by Owens, support by Moore to put an ad in the

Maple Valley News and ask for letter of interest. 3 ayes, 2 nays (Nehmer and Miller). Carried.

Upon discussing the refund of property tax to the Village, Nehmer stated the County Treasurer sent a letter stating the Township should not pay the village tax money. She stated the summer tax collection goes to the village and school, not the township. She feels it should go to the tax tribunal. Owens will set up a meeting with Jeff Winans, assessor. The issue was tabled until April.

Motion by Miller, support by Moore to approve the following amendments to the 2008-09 budget: \$15,000.00 from Ambulance to Buildings and Grounds; \$4,000.00 from Township Board to Assessor, \$900.00 from Elections to Road Maintenance and \$700.00 from Treasurer to Road Maintenance. All ayes. Carried.

Owens read the Officers Salary Resolutions.

Motion by Moore, support by Stewart to approve \$6,882.00 for Supervisor. Roll call vote revealed all ayes. Carried.

Motion by Stewart, support by Miller to approve \$10,736.00 for Treasurer. Roll call vote revealed all ayes. Carried.

Motion by Miller, support by Nehmer to approve \$11,138.00 for Clerk. Roll call vote revealed all ayes. Carried.

Motion by Stewart, support by Nehmer to approve \$1,593.00 for each Trustee. Roll call vote revealed all ayes. Carried.

Motion by Nehmer, support by Miller to approve the 2009-10 proposed budget. Roll call vote revealed all ayes. Carried.

A representative from the DNR will be at the April meeting to discuss some of the impacts that removing the dam in Nashville will have on some parts of the river in Vermontville Township.

Owens is looking into dust control options that may be available to township residents. He will get some quotes for dust control.

Motion by Miller, support by Owens to accept Cameron Abfalter for membership on the Fire Department. All ayes. Carried. Owens will send a letter to Abfalter.

Joe Harvey requested the FOIA charge issue be placed on the April agenda.

There were some public comments.

Motion by Owens, support by Moore to adjourn. All ayes. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Sharon Stewart, Township Clerk