

VERMONTVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
MAY 28 2009
MINUTES

The Vermontville Township Board met in regular session on Thursday May 28 2009 at 7:00pm in the Opera House.

Present were J. Owens, J. Nehmer, M. Grant, B. Moore and B. Miller; Clerk, Sharon Stewart absent. Public present included Joe and Virginia Harvey, Kay Marsh, David Chase, Sheri Reynolds, Shirley Harmon, Dan Sowles, Steve Pifer, Judy Owens, Brian Peacock, Carla Rumsey, Rita Miller, Lorraine Miller, Kim Eldred, Duane Eldred and Jonni Morris.

Supervisor Owens called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the pledge to the flag.

Owens motioned, Moore seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. All Ayes

Brian Peacock, Eaton County Sheriff representative, gave the 911 incident report for the Township and Village stating there were 33 calls total for April 2009.

Monte O'Dell, fire chief, was not in attendance to give the Fire Report.

Dan Sowles, Ambulance Director, gave the ambulance report stating in March there were 12 calls for service and in April there were 19 calls. April being higher because of the Syrup Festival. Director Sowles felt that there were now more billable transports because of the contract with Charlotte Area EMS. He reported that there will be significant training coming up for EMS and talked about places he felt he could make budget cuts in the ambulance budget, one place being the hourly/daytime EMT coming in just an hour later, at 8:00am instead of 7:00am.

Steve Pifer entered the meeting at 7:10pm supplying the Board with the fire report of 10 runs for the month of April. One was a "PR" run which was questioned by Nehmer. She would like to review the contract Vermontville has with Kalamo. Nehmer stated that she was under the assumption that Kalamo would pay for at least personnel expense if no hoses were pulled.

David Chase wanted to make sure that the Township Board received information on the Board of Review's service.

Jeff Winans, Assessor, was not in attendance.

There was several comments from the public.

There were several bill add-ons and corrections to last months minutes.

Moore questioned the Consumers Energy gas bill and the credit that was supposed to be on. The Consumers bill that the Township received had only the electric on it, no gas.

Nehmer motioned, Owens seconded, to accept consent agenda with corrections. All ayes.

Several correspondence were shared.

Supervisor Owens reported that he had a new e-mail for everyone to use. It is jowens7540@yahoo.com and should be used effective now. He also reported that MSU had two fireproof filing cabinets for \$225.00 each that he would like to purchase for the Assessor to use when he moves to the Fire Station. Nehmer motioned, Owens seconded, to buy the cabinets. All ayes.

Owens had asked both the Fire Chief and the Ambulance Director while they were in attendance at the Township Meeting to comment on their feelings about having the Assessor moved to the Fire Station but neither one of them, Ambulance Director, Fire Chief himself nor his representative, commented during their reports. Owens also questioned who would move the office equipment out of the Village Office and make arrangements for new phone line.

Nehmer had questions about the 14 point review from the State of Michigan. One section talked about "adopting a policy". Adopting a policy to what was not clear. She also wondered why the Assessors contract was not returned to the Township Board yet. Owens will look into to the contract.

The liaison from the Fire and Ambulance Board reported that Kalamo would like to get reports in a more timely manner which was already improving.

Since Stewart was absent there was no Clerk's report.

Nehmer reported that she had sent three cases to Small Claims Court and the court date was set for June 22, 2009.

Shirley Harmon reported for the Library that they had received a grant for \$2000.00 for creativity books. It is the third time the library has received this grant. They also were awarded a matching grant of \$1400.00 and the community had been very generous in helping with the match. She also reported that the Summer Reading program was in "full bloom".

Moore reported for the Buildings and Grounds. There is still a need for a cleaning person and he would like to get an ok for a "handyman" to be hired for odd jobs. He stated the air conditioner needs serviced and he still needed an inventory list from the Clerk. He discussed the roof shingles and had been told maybe there was wind damage from last summers storms. Miller volunteered to contact an adjustor from the Township's insurance to look into it.

Nehmer stated she thought Moore should "step up" and do some of the things that needed fixing. Moore said that was above and beyond his board seat and was not going to do it. Owens said Moore should be able to hire someone to do day-to-day odd jobs. Miller stated that emergency situations should be handled immediately without contacting the rest of the Board but felt the odd jobs should at least be brought to the attention of the Board. There still had been no answer from administration as to hourly day/time EMT cleaning at the Opera House.

Dust control was discussed once again. Owens had received three calls from people complaining and Nehmer had received two. Because of the extra paper work and follow-up that would be needed to collect from residents and the few complaints the matter of no dust control was left as previously voted.

The origins of the Fire and Ambulance Board was discussed at length. There were no minutes located to prove or disprove how the Board was formed. A special meeting was set for June 24, 2009 by a motion from Owens, seconded by Miller, to define the Fire and Ambulance Board. All ayes. The meeting will be held at 7:00pm at the Opera House. Miller requested everyone research the Public Acts available pertaining to fire boards so they were prepared for the meeting.

Budget cuts were discussed. Nehmer asked for \$12,000.00 to be cut from the budget. It was decided to leave the \$9000.00 for the ambulance CD in the liquidity account in case extra money was needed, by a motion from Owens and seconded by Nehmer. All ayes.

Nehmer informed the Board that the MTA picnic set for June 22, 2009 will be hosted by Vermontville Township and held in the park at Main and Main at 6:30pm. She would like the Village Council invited.

Several comments from the public were heard.

Miller requested that the removal of the Nashville Dam be put on next months agenda under New Business. He will have a presentation with photos to share with the Board.

Shirley Harmon, clerk of the village, requested a letter be sent to the village about the non-renewal of the rent for office space for the Assessor. Because of the short time span for the Assessor to be moved out (three days) Nehmer motioned, Owens seconded, to pay the rent to the Village for one more month. All ayes. Owens will be in charge of the move.

Moore motioned, Owens seconded, to adjourn. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Deputy Clerk
Marcia K. Grant