

**VERGENNES TOWNSHIP**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2004

The regular meeting of the Vergennes Township Board was called to order by Tim Wittenbach at 7:10 p.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall.

Members Present:	Tim Wittenbach-	Supervisor
	Mari Stone	- Clerk
	Jean Hoffman	- Treasurer
	Al Baird	- Trustee
Member Absent:	Vern Nauta	- Trustee

Minutes of the March 8, 2004 regular and special meetings and March 5, 2004 special meeting stand approved. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Baird, to approve bills as read. **Motion approved.** Motion by Baird, seconded by Hoffman, to approve Agenda as written. **Motion carried.**

**Public Hearing – Ullery Special Use Request for Temporary Residence.**

Open: 7:10 p.m.

Scott and Sue Ullery need special use permit to allow them to place a 38' travel home/trailer on the property during construction of their new home. The travel home/trailer will be removed upon completion of residence. Pole barn to be built first then residence. They hope to complete construction in approximately six months. They have well and septic and driveway permits already.

Dave Steinbrecher, owner of Murray Lake Marina, concerned that building permit length allowed to be too long a time period as there are 2-3 unfinished constructions in the area all ready. Not objecting to the construction of the home just time length of permit.

Roger Odell concerned about allowing trailer/mobile home into the township as past history suggests removal is sometimes a lengthy process.

Close: 7:15 p.m.

**Unfinished Business: Fire Code Reference Ordinance.**

Jim Doezema made some minor changes to the Ordinance. Stone questioned ability of Board to adopt Fire Code Reference Ordinance without another Public Hearing regarding changes made by Doezema. Motion by Stone, seconded by Hoffman, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2004-0419-1** Fire Code Ordinance as written upon approval of adoption without another public hearing from Township Attorney, Jim Doezema.

**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Hoffman, Wittenbach, Stone**

**No: None.**

**Motion Approved.**

**New Business:**

1. Ullery Special Use Request for Temporary Residence. Motion by Stone, seconded by Hoffman, to issue a special use permit for a 38' Park Model Mobile Home to be used as a temporary residence on their property with issuance of a \$5,000 bond during the construction of their permanent residence for a term of one year to coincide with the issuance of a building permit; one year term to begin on the date of issuance of the building permit. **Motion approved.**
2. 2004 Minor Road Construction Work Order. Motion by Baird, seconded by Stone, to approve Kent County Road Commission 2004 Minor Road Construction Work Order for projects as decided at the January 2004 Regular Meeting of the Board. **Motion Approved**
3. Planning Commission Recommendations. Motion by Stone, second by Hoffman, to approve **Ordinance No. 2004-4** mini-warehouse parking formula amendment, i.e. 5 spaces changed to two spaces and 30' changed to 24' separation between buildings.  
**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach**  
**No: None**

Motion by Baird, seconded by Hoffman, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2004-5** keyhole development lake access regulation ordinance as reviewed by Township Attorney, Jim Doezema.  
**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach**  
**No: None**

Motion by Wittenbach, seconded by Stone, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2004-0419-2**, Vergennes Township Residential Property Farm Animal Ordinance, a General Law Ordinance which regulates farm animals in residential districts.  
**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach**  
**No: None**

Motion by Baird, seconded by Stone, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2004-6** Animal Restriction Ordinance which has been changed to add a permanent exception use for platted property and/or condominium subdivision property temporary allowing farm type animals with an annual renewal of permit.  
**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach**  
**No: None**

Motion by Stone, seconded by Hoffman, to adopt **Ordinance No. 2004-7** Change of Building Occupancy in Commercial and Industrial Districts, as recommended by Planning Commission.  
**Roll Call Vote: Yes: Baird, Stone, Hoffman, Wittenbach**  
**No: None**

**Motions Approved.**

4. Resolution Regarding Computerized Tax Roll. In order to perform tax collection functions in-house with the new BS&A tax program software, this resolution/information will be forwarded to State Tax Commission. Motion by Stone, seconded by Hoffman to adopt Resolution No. 2-2004 regarding computerized tax roll. **Motion carried.**
5. Discussion of Community Trail Draft Agreement. This is the first document for discussion amongst the representatives from each governing body. Mark VanAllsburg, attorney from Mika Meyers et al stated Committee's next step is an agreement between the three governing bodies spelling out

development details and maintenance of trail for perpetuity as this project will not be publicly funded. Need for the three governing bodies to commit to work together to obtain grant dollars and matching funding. Phase I will be within Vergennes Township and will be built when funding is available. The trail committee has asked for an ongoing commitment from the Lowell Area Community Fund, which has identified the development of a trail as a community priority. Committee goal is to put together a portfolio so as to apply for April 2005 grant cycle. There is ongoing discussion regarding school representation - school district could maintain trail as they have the equipment and the trail will link the various school buildings. All wording regarding buildings, equipment and/or vehicles will be removed from the agreement, as the trail entity does not plan to own any of their own. Need to determine term of offices; insurance issues/exclusion of liability under each governing body; operating budget – need for some sort of annual dollars (establish a recreation budget from general funds) from each governing body to cover general maintenance of trail. Hope to go to community for additional financial support with community wide fund raiser. Stone asked for Board comments. Wittenbach has questions regarding dollar amount needed from Township. Baird is okay with trail creation as long as it is not funded by millages. Hoffman supports the concept.

6. Grattan/Vergennes Sewer Advisory Committee. Request by Sewer Advisory Committee of Grattan for a representative from Vergennes Township to serve on the Committee. Committee meets one time every other month and pays \$40.00. Board agreed to send a letter to all residents of the area around Murray Lake requesting a volunteer to serve as Vergennes Township representative to serve on the Grattan/Vergennes Sewer Advisory Committee.
7. Approval of Designated Depository Institutions. Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Baird, to designate Huntington Bank, Kent County Money Max, Fifth Third, Ionia County National Bank and River Valley Credit Union as Vergennes Township designated depository institutions. **Motion approved.**
8. Designation of Township Attorney, Auditor, Engineer, Planner. No changes. Motion by Stone, seconded by Baird, to designate Jim Doezema, Township Attorney, Phil Saurman, Township Auditor, David Austin, Township Engineer, and Jay Kilpatrick, Township Planner for another year. **Motion carried.**

**No Citizens Comments**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mari Stone, Clerk