

VICTOR TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES- July 6, 2006 (Approved)

Call to Order and Pledge

The regular monthly business meeting of the Victor Township Board was held at the Township Hall, 6843 Alward Road, Laingsburg, MI 48848. Supervisor Warren Malkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The pledge to the flag was given.

Roll Call of Members

Members present: Michelle Wilsey, Warren Malkin, Donald McDonald, Duane Ginther and Dan Morris.

Members absent: None. Other governmental representatives in attendance: Clinton County

Commissioner Claude Vail. Fifteen (15) citizens present.

Public Comment

None.

Agenda

Ginther moved, second by Morris and motion carried to approve agenda with addition of election dates and broadband under Items of Public Interest.

Minutes and Treasurer Report

Minutes were approved with spelling corrections. The Treasurer's report was accepted subject to audit.

Approval of Bills

McDonald moved, second by Ginther and motion carried to pay submitted bills, check #s 9861-9884 in the amount of \$80693.41.

Reports

Planning: The township planning commission requests that the township board initiate the rezoning process beginning with the northwest corner of section 22. Ginther moved, seconded by Malkin and motion carried to request that the Clinton County Board of Commissioners initiate rezoning proceedings for the northwest corner of section 22, Victor Township and that the Planning and Zoning Department provide notification to the affected property owners per the requirements of the Clinton County Zoning Ordinance.

Agenda was suspended in order to introduce Jeremy Vermeer, Acting Chief of Clinton Area Fire & Rescue.

PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting recessed at 7:15 p.m. for a public hearing on the creation of a special assessment district for Weed Control at Round Lake. Supervisor Malkin recognized receipt of petitions of over 50% of the property owners in the proposed special assessment district. Steve of the Professional Lake Management described the plan and cost estimates. He explained that the plan generally targets eradication of Eurasian Milfoil, a non-native invasive lake weed. The proposed remedy is treatment with Sonar (active ingredient is Flouridone). The first year would include a whole lake treatment. Spot treatment would be used in subsequent years to contain the spread of Milfoil and other nuisance species. The majority of the cost is incurred in the first year. A resident asked if cattails would be treated. Steve reported that cattails were not addressed in the plan. Another concern was raised as to whether the treatment would harm lily pads or ~~good~~ good, native species. The representative from PLM stated that Sonar does not have negative effects on native plants. A resident pursued this question and cited some contradictory reports on observed effects. The PLM consultant did extensive ~~doctoral~~ thesis research on Flouridone in Michigan Lakes and has found no substantiated negative effects in Michigan Lakes. Some asked about alternative treatment approaches such as weevils. The consultant reported that PLM has some experience in the use of weevils but found them not as effective as Sonar. A resident questioned why Sonar was banned in Europe? The consultant replied that the product is relatively new but the research is extensive and that Sonar is registered and approved by DEQ. The resident cited specific cases (not related to Sonar) where DEQ approved products were later found to be unsafe. A resident questioned whether there were long-term human or animal effects. The consultant reported that Sonar is not bio-accumulated, not carcinogenic and it is biodegradable. A resident questioned who is liable if the product is later determined to be unsafe? The consultant reported that in the unlikely event this were to occur, manufacturers were a more likely to be held liable than individuals. A resident asked for and the PLM consultant provided some history on the introduction of Milfoil to the U.S. Concerns were raised over preventing future introductions of invasive weed species in the plan. The plan focuses primarily on treatment but some community education in boat washing and launching practices would help. A resident

asked if the township would put up boat washing signs in the public alleys. The Supervisor indicated that the township would cooperate if the community wanted signs placed in those public areas. The owner of Don's Party Store indicated that he has erected signs and will further implement the same standards as Lake Lansing for launching boats. A resident commented that if the township was encouraging public access to Round Lake then the whole township should pay the assessment. The Supervisor reported that the township was not promoting public access to the Lake. A resident questioned if funding was planned for clean up of dead weeds that drift to the shore. No funding is planned for shore clean up. Drift is not expected to be significant. John Esch reported on attempts to control weeds at the lake with ~~24D~~ 2-4-D treatment. The treasurer raised concerns over the timing of tax collection and payments due for the assessment. The interest rate on balance due was high. PLM indicated that they would work out an agreeable arrangement. A letter from Jeff Woodend raising concerns over the equity of spreading the costs equally over back lots and front lots given the lack of access to the lake by back lot owners was discussed. Alan Chadwick echoed his concerns and felt the issue should be addressed so that those who benefit more bear more of the costs. The public hearing closed at 8:05 p.m.

Reports continued

Fire/CAF&R: Chief Mike Johnson resigned to take a position in Florida. He was replaced on an interim basis by Jeremy Vermeer. The search for a new Fire Chief is underway. Next meeting is July 11, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Station #1 St. Johns.

Historical Society: A State of Michigan Historical marker or architectural sign for Reed Church is being considered as an Eagle Scout project. Next meeting is July 12, 2006, 7:30 p.m., Victor Township Hall. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month – public welcome.

LBA: Pancake Breakfast is July 29. Victor Township Board and community volunteers will serve sausage. Next meeting scheduled July 12, 2006, 8:00 A.M. at Jordano's Restaurant.

Laingsburg Area Recreation Committee: No report.

Economic Development: Economic Development Feasibility Study interviews are currently being scheduled. Study results due in early fall. Rural Heritage Tourism exploratory meeting scheduled July 25, 7:00 p.m., Victor Township Hall.

Road Committee: The Victor Township Citizen Road Committee continues to meet and work out a plan to determine and prioritize road projects in the township. A web site is in development to provide the community access to their activities, research and findings.

Clinton County Officials

Commissioner Claude Vail reported that legislative changes have resulted in a prohibition against charging fees for a personal protection order. This is a costly process that is placing a strain on the budget. The County is sending a resolution to the legislature requesting that all counties be able to charge a fee of \$25 for personal protection orders. A group of 8 counties are participating in Homeland Security coordination. Larry Martin and Steve Lehman will serve on this board. Commissioner Vail reported on education provided by Mid-Michigan Health Department on pandemic influenza. Local governments should develop policies and procedures to deal with pandemic crisis. A fact-finding committee is scheduled August 10, 10:00 a.m. at Mid-Michigan Health Department in Ithaca.

Items of Public Interest

The Primary and General Elections are scheduled August 8, 2006 and November 7, 2006 respectively. Approximately 40 people have responded YES to broadband. We are working with vendors to expand broadband access to the entire township.

SOS petition is a concern to our local government.

The Victor Township Picnic is scheduled August 27, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.. It is a pig roast and potluck picnic community celebration. No cost. Bring a place setting and a dish to pass. All are invited.

Correspondences (received and placed on file)

Equalization Annual Report

Sheriff's report of Victor Township (May).

Sheriff's report of jail and County (May).

Unfinished Business

Vision for the Township and Goals: Land use under review.

Alleyway Ordinance: No report.

Cemeteries: Volunteers are needed for cemetery restoration. If you are interested in volunteering contact Warren at (517)651-2094.

Round Lake Property Owners: Issue will be taken up at August 1 board meeting.

Roads: Malkin moved, McDonald second and motion carried to approve Road Commission Contract dated 7/5/2006 for project #497 014 147 610 in the estimated amount of \$2475.00.

Wilsey moved, Malkin second and motion carried to approve Road Commission Contract dated 6/15/2006 for project #497 014 147 609 in the estimated amount of \$6250.00.

Malkin moved, Ginther second and motion carried to approve Road Commission Contract dated 6/15/06 for project #497 014 147 608 in the estimated amount of \$31749.00.

Malkin moved, Morris second and motion carried to approve Road Commission Contract dated 6/15/2006 in the estimated amount of \$11793.00.

Website: Content in development. Training scheduled July 28.

TRUCK ROUTE ORDINANCE: Motion offered by Morris, seconded by McDonald to adopt a resolution to adopt and enact Ordinance No. 22.1 to amend Section 3 of Ordinance No. 22, The "Victor Township Truck Route Ordinance," to provide for the prohibition of truck travel on parts of Hollister, Ballantine and Watson Roads; and to provide an effective date hereof. Upon a roll call vote the following voted yes: Ginther, McDonald, Wilsey, Malkin, Morris. The following voted no: None. The following were absent: None. The Supervisor declared the motion carried and resolution adopted.

Trustee Meetings: Supervisor requests trustees prepare a list of proposed meetings to be paid by the township and submit to board members for review at the August meeting.

New Business

Clinton County Veterans Memorial: Ginther moved, Morris second and motion carried to contribute \$200 to the Clinton Count Veterans Memorial to be paid from general government expense.

Broadband: Wilsey moved, second by Supervisor and motion carried to sign the Underserved Certification Form for ACD Communications.

Extended Public Comment

Friends of the Looking Glass River received a grant to do a watershed study on the upper part of the Looking Glass River. John Esch is a member of the group. Next meeting is in July. The brush spray route will be determined by the Supervisor following a road tour.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Michelle Wilsey, Clerk