

Minutes
Town of Vermont Board Meeting
July 9, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. – 4017 County Road JJ

Call to Order and Certification of Notice Posting

Called to order by Karen Carlock at 7:00 p.m. Agenda was posted on the town website, the door of Town Hall, emailed to the online subscribers and a meeting notice was published in the Mount Horeb Mail and the Star News.

Present: Karen Carlock (Chair), Scott Moe, Doug Meier, John Hallick, Todd Culliton, Jenna Schmidt (Treasurer) Chris Christian (Clerk)

Approval of Agenda

Todd moved to approve the agenda, Doug seconded and motion approved 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Doug moved to approve the minutes, Karen seconded and motion approved 4-0. Todd abstained as he was not present for June meeting.

Chairman's Report and Acknowledgments

Nothing to report.

Citizens' Input

Neighbor of Ted Hill was present in his absence to report on an incident that occurred the weekend before the Fourth of July. Someone was exploding tannerite on Larry Cox's property. Neighbors' houses shook and Ted Hill's daughter suffered a ruptured eardrum. Tannerite is often used to mark long distance shooting targets. Online guidelines indicate that tannerite should be used in amounts of one pound or less, with larger amounts to be used only by professionals. They spoke to neighbors and the amount of tannerite being used was unknown. Ted requested that the issue of tannerite use be on the next Board agenda.

Treasurer's Report

Jenna presented financial report which included very little activity: building permit, driveway permits, and interest. Deposits for month were \$2,296.01 and ending account balance as of June 30 was \$484,333.50. Jenna did a snapshot of revenues because we are halfway through the year. She included the two categories which are dependent on our activity: miscellaneous revenue (primarily interest earned) and assessment searches. Our actual –to-date was \$5,172.81 and budget was \$730. Todd moved to approve the treasurer's report, John seconded and motion approved 5-0.

Clerk's Report

Chris reported one new Vermont resident for month of June. She has been busy planning for Town of Vermont picnic along with Judy Robb, and getting ready for the August partisan primary. Karen moved to approve the clerk's report, Doug seconded and motion approved 5-0.

Payment of the Bills

Doug moved to approve payment of the bills, Todd seconded and motion approved 5-0.

Vermont Citizens ATC Committee Update

Michael McDermott provided update; time may be approaching when Board might want to take some actions. Michael provided reports he has been working on, he discussed results of environment impact studies; as there are two, he is not sure if they will be merged. Public hearings before the PSC will occur later. ATC application is in; PSC has identified some 200 issues or shortcomings, still unsure if it will take two months or six months to remedy. Regarding IMEPC review process, Michael presented a letter signed by four local representatives. Six chairs also signed a letter from local municipalities requesting more citizen input. Opportunities for participation will be coming up, including opportunity to participate as intervenor.

Patrolman, Black Earth Fire District and District 1 EMS Reports

Jack has been busy with trees, washouts, and unplugging culverts. Chipsealing is scheduled to take place beginning August 1st. The second round of mowing is fifty percent complete. The catalytic converter on the one ton went out, but it is under warranty.

Doug did not have anything to report on BEFD. Scott said the District 1 EMS meeting will be held Thursday and there will be an update on the new rig.

Proposed Amendment to Driveway Ordinance

The proposed amendment must be presented to the Board again and scheduled for a vote at a later meeting. Karen read through the changes again, which include minor additions. In review: The changes are mainly semantics to close the loop to better define that if you make a significant improvement to your driveway, even if it does not meet the highway, the improvement must still be approved by the town. Also, language added making it necessary for a shared driveway maintenance agreement to be filed with the Town of Vermont.

4.02 DEFINITION. In this ordinance, the term "driveway" is defined to mean private driveway, road, lane, field road or other means of travel through any part of a private parcel of land, of which any part connects or will ultimately connect with any public roadway.

Second change:

7. **SHARED ACCESS.** Access for more than one residence to a public road via any shared private road or driveway may be approved if the Town Board determines that a shared private road or driveway is desirable for environmental or safety reasons. A shared driveway shall be approved only if:
 - a. each property either has road access guaranteed by legal easement, or an alternative site for a private driveway;
 - b. a shared driveway maintenance agreement is executed and properly recorded with the Register of Deeds **and on file with the Town of Vermont;**

Todd moved to approve the updates to the Driveway Ordinance, John seconded and motion approved 5-0. Karen reiterated the requirements of any ordinance change to be posted in the newspaper, posted on the door of Town Hall, and added to the website.

Petition to rezone 3659 County Rd F- David Wilken

Dave Wilken spoke about his history with the property. He put in a 2 acre prairie between the house and the road and another 4.3 acre prairie on top of the hill. He will be moving but has a neighbor who is purchasing his house. He would like his prairie to go to the Prairie Enthusiasts, but it would require 4.3 acres to be rezoned to CO1 Conservation from CRP. The Plan Commission unanimously approved. Todd moved to approve the zoning change petition, Doug seconded and motion passed 5-0.

Commercial Zoning in the Town of Vermont

Doug asked Brian Standing at the county about rezoning commercial property to a lower commercial use. Brian indicated that if a landowner contests and wants to take it to the county board, it takes a super-majority of the board to move the change forward. It seems an extraordinary use or “taking,” so to speak, of potential rights. They had a conversation with some commercial land owners at the Plan Commission meeting, and there appears to be a willingness to at least listen to the possibility of limiting heavy-commercial zoned properties by some specific activities the Town may wish to seek. There is understandably a strong resistance to downgrading any of the commercial properties. The hope is that we can analyze commercial zoning and if there are egregious exceptions to the mission of our land use plan, we can approach those landowners individually to see if they would voluntarily take action by deed restricting.

Hoda Road Turn-Around

Last month Board approved letter to go to the property owner with two options. The property owner selected the option of doing a smaller turnaround at the end on his property, with an easement agreement, and the property owner would be responsible for cost of turnaround. Karen and Jack will meet with property owner tomorrow.

Annual Town Picnic

We have decided on a date of September 9, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Mike Cahill will provide music, beer or wine may be purchased, there will be free root beer and popcorn, chairlift rides will be available from 2:00-3:30, Judy is working on a contract with Tyrol. We would like to have a table available for town members to ask questions of Board and PC members, potentially having members staff table in shifts according to availability. We will put an ad in the paper and a notice in Vermont's Voice. Maria VanCleve will provide appetizers. We will need a few volunteers for setup and making desserts. Because Tyrol is not charging for use of the venue, we will have money in the budget to rent a bouncy house.

Agenda Items for August Meeting

-tannerite

Adjournment

Scott moved to adjourn, John seconded and motion approved 5-0; meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.