

**VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 6, 2011**

**Call to order 7pm**

**Roll call** – Councilpersons- Mark Jorgensen, Nathan Derusha, Garry Patrick, Jeanette Schultz, Jason Sheridan, Sue Villanueva and Ruth Wineman-President. Kelly Williams-Treasurer, Monte O'Dell- DPW, Shirley Harmon-Clerk. Also present were Kay Marsh, Shari Carney-reporter and JoeAnn Nehmer.

**Pledge to flag**

**Public Comment** – JoeAnn Nehmer asked what do the village residents receive for the 1 mil tax levied by the Township General fund. Could some of the council come to the Township budget meeting on 1-11-11 at 7pm, told yes.

Monte O'Dell mentioned the Eaton County Road Commission bill which Major Streets will pay back to General.

Sue Villanueva would like a correction to the Minutes of December 9, 2010- under the DPW Report where Monte asked for permission to go on runs. To be clarified that he is asking to go on Fire and Ambulance runs as needed.

Clerk pointed out correction on agenda- consent agenda bills, the date should be 1-6-2011.

**Consent Agenda Items**

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM 5, CONSENT AGENDA, ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL NOT BE SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

- A. Minutes – Regular mtg.12-9-10 and 12-27-10
- B. Treasurer's report for December
- C. Bills for approval thru 1-1610

Motion made by Jason Sheridan to approve the consent agenda items with corrections, seconded by Sue Villanueva, all ayes.

**Reports from Council Committees**

Insurance-Nathan Derusha mentioned the email received from the David Chapman Agency stating the need for 3 people for the vision coverage-moved to new business.

Water/Sewer-Garry Patrick reported on the meeting on 12-31-10, mistake on a shut off, procedures need straightening, another meeting needed, he hopes to have reports available for the council members for them to look at. Also, there is a need for procedures and duties for the Chairmen of the committees-moved to new business. Sue Villanueva asked about the circumstances in which we are shutting off for non payment.

Grants- Sue Villanueva (Chairman) would like to call a meeting.

Ordinance-the committee needs to look into hiring a Code Enforcement Officer. Mark Jorgensen asked to see in writing where it says the village council cannot send out letters of notice of violation of ordinances. Garry Patrick stated that we need ordinances with more teeth in them and that the officer needs to be deputized.

Street Drains and Sidewalks-none

Fire-Jeanette Schultz gave report

Buildings & Grounds- Mark Jorgensen reported that the new restroom signs are up, the new handles for the doors are in and will be installed and will get an estimate for the water heater fix.

Technology-Mark Jorgensen reported that they are working on the new software but need to get the hardware first. Plus the new recording system that was received and we are trying out.

Health & Safety-the Neighborhood Watch meeting is set for January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the fire station.

Personnel-the personnel policies are not ready yet.

#### **DPW Report**

Monte O'Dell reported that he and the engineers are working on the summary of the project, need a Public Hearing set up in February or March and that we are still holding \$2,000.00 in retainage.

Phase 1 of the Sewer Lagoon System is done but we have not heard back from the DEQ yet so we are waiting to start Phase 2 until then.

Need a meeting of the Building & Grounds committee to go over the punch list for the office.

Need Grants meeting for new energy grants available, possibly next Friday.

Trapper's report – 7 raccoons, 1 mink, 8 muskrats and 1 barn rat were caught at the lagoons this last year.

Salt usage for last year was 78 tons.

Report on the budget for last year.

Freedom Net has removed their equipment from the water tower. Clerk mentioned that Freedom Net had called to talk to the Tech person and she referred him to Mark Jorgensen, about the canceling of our internet service, clerk to provide Mark with copy of our agreement with them.

#### **Report from Planning and Zoning Boards**

Planning Commission – minutes-Garry Patrick pointed out that their minutes listed Esther Dunham twice as present, please correct.

Jason Sheridan reported that they are working on idling trucks and medical marijuana. Please throw out any previous hand outs on the medical marijuana and hang onto the handout passed out tonight.

ZBA –no report but do need to appoint new member-next month

#### **Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator**

None

#### **President-Clerk-Treasurer Report**

President asked if anyone is interested in going to the township budget meeting and please bring any ideas.

Clerk reported that the Committee descriptions need reworking and the schedule of fees need revisiting.

Treasurer reported that the CDs are not on the Treasurers report this month because she is in the process of getting them all listed on their own report. Also, all CDs from 2010 budget have been purchased for 60 days so that she can talk to the auditors and see how best to handle their recommendation of condensing the number of accounts.

#### **Unfinished Business**

Dinner - need a date-1-19-11 at 6pm at the Sugar Hut.

#### **New Business**

Meeting dates for 2011 presented and moved by Mark Jorgensen to approve dates, seconded by Garry Patrick, all ayes.

Jason Sheridan gave a report on the medical marijuana subject, section 21B of our Zoning Ordinance says our Zoning cannot violate federal laws. He passed out a handout and he had gone to Nashville to a meeting. Nashville has a Medical Marijuana shop on Main Street. Some info on the subject: a doctor cannot prescribe it, a person can only grow 12 plants for themselves in a locked area or the patient can have a caregiver who grows the marijuana for them. Each caregiver can have 5 patients so that allows 72 plants in one place. The going price is 350.00 per ounce. The federal law is against and the state law is for.

Mark Jorgensen motioned to refer to the Planning Commission to bring back with recommendation to the council by April about the medical marijuana, seconded by Jeanette Schultz. Garry Patrick moved to amend the original motion by making it a referral to a joint committee of the Planning Commission and the Legal and Insurance committee, seconded by Mark Jorgensen, all ayes. Vote on the original motion is 6 ayes and 1 abstention (Jason Sheridan).

Two bills presented for payment, one from BlueHost Inc. for the web site and the other from Carleen Samann for the web site maintenance. Both of these bills were budgeted for under the council section, miscellaneous of the General Budget. Jason Sheridan moved to approve the payment of these bills, seconded by Mark Jorgensen, 6 ayes and 1 nay (Schultz).

Chairman and Committee descriptions-Mark Jorgensen recommended that the Technology Committee make a template for the council to work on.

Vision insurance- Ruth Wineman explained about receiving an email from the insurance agent Sheri Latham of David Chapman Agency stating that 3 persons are need with this carrier. After discussion of coverage and possible self funding of coverage, Mark Jorgensen moved to refer to the Insurance and Legal committee to make the decision on this matter, seconded by Jason Sheridan. Discussion followed, Mark Jorgensen recommended going with employees only for this year only. Motion made previously, withdrawn by Jason Sheridan and then Mark Jorgensen. Nathan Derusha brought up self funding the vision part. Jason Sheridan made motion to pay the amounts that would be paid for the premiums to the employees but then withdrew the motion. Mark Jorgensen moved to refer this vision insurance matter to the Insurance and Legal committee and for the committee to go ahead and make the decision, seconded by Jason Sheridan, all ayes.

Jason Sheridan offered to take care of the NEW Building Referrals only. Mark Jorgensen moved to appoint Jason Sheridan as Zoning Administrator for NEW building referrals only and pay him 20.00 per referral, sedconded by Jeanette Schultz, 6 ayes and 1 abstained (Sheridan). Garry Patrick moved to amend the title to Building Referral Agent, seconded by Mark Jorgensen, all ayes.

**Public Comment-**

Mike Hosey apologized for coming in late to the meeting and asked for any of the council to contact him if they needed any help. Jason Sheridan asked Mr. Hosey if the county was doing anything about the medical marijuana situation and was told no.

Monte O'Dell would like to put together an Open House for Kay Marsh for all of her years of service to the village. Garry Patrick and Tom and Kelly Williams would like to help.

Mark Jorgensen asked the water/sewer Chairperson to report an aging report with just prices but no address or names.

Nathan Derusha asked about Freedom Net, they have removed their equipment from the water tower and are now asking us if want to continue with their service and pay monthly or discontinue all together.

**Adjournment-** Moved to adjourn by Garry Patrick, seconded by Jason Sheridan, all ayes.

Time 9:34pm

Shirley Harmon  
Village Clerk

1/11/2011 11:56 AM