

**VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**April 7, 2011**

Call to order 7:01pm

**Roll call** –Present were Ruth Wineman, Jeanette Schultz, Sue Villanueva, Garry Patrick, Mark Jorgensen and Nathan Derusha. Also present were Monte O’Dell –DPW, Kelly Williams-Treasurer, Shari Carney-reporter, Gene Fisher-Syrup Assoc., Jason Orton-David Chapman Agency, Blair Miller, Tom Williams and Shirley Harmon-Clerk.

**Absent**-Jason Sheridan

**Pledge to flag**

**Public Comment**

Gene Fisher-Maple Syrup Festival-they are all set for festival this year, there will be fireworks on Friday night and Mid America Shows will do the rides again.

Jason Orton-insurance issue-in going over our past coverage he found that we had coverage of accidental death and dismemberment for the council. If we still want this coverage, it is an additional \$1,385.00. Put under new business.

Blair Miller – would like to see the syrup association honor Mr. Gerald Lundstrum in some way.

Gene Fisher-they had honored him at one time. Also this year Ken Beardslee is being honored, by Rick Jones presenting a certificate to his widow.

Blair Miller-He also reported on the Paul Henry trail progress-work has been done at the end of Linden Street and they recruited 27 students to build the trestle bridge.

The Michigander Bicycle Tour is coming thru July 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be 450 bikers and they will be camping at the high school.

**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. 3-3-11
- B. Treasurer’s report for February 2011
- C. Bills for approval thru 4-7-11

Motion to approve the consent agenda items made by Garry Patrick, seconded by Jeanette Schultz, 4 ayes and 1 abstained-Villanueva.

**Reports from Council Committees**

Insurance

Water/Sewer-met with the Ordinance committee, probably won’t change the ordinance concerning the renter’s deposit, but will probably do resolution to increase the deposit needed to 3 months of billing.

Grants –Natalie Brocius and Ruth Wineman will be going to meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> on grants for Farmer’s Markets.

Ordinance-Garry Patrick moved to read the new ordinance presented 11-01 Compensation for the President and Council, seconded by Sue Villanueva, all ayes. Garry was asked to read it.

Street Drains and Sidewalks –bid received from Murray’s Asphalt for 1,800.00 to patch for water main breaks this winter.

Fire-minutes-newer fire truck should be received by May

Buildings & Grounds-Mark reported that the water heater in the office has been rewired. Next work on getting bids for the roof and remortering the steps.

Jason Sheridan entered meeting at 7:50pm

Technology-see minutes, also have chance to purchase 2 servers from Eaton County for \$350.00 for the both of them.

Health & Safety-Neighborhood Watch meeting set for 4-18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Personnel-working on personnel handbook and a Benefits at a Glance chart.

### **DPW Report**

Monte would like to purchase 2 new village limit signs for \$276.48 @. Put under new business.

Project 2010 figures now match, per Paradigm.

DEQ working on the lagoon elevations

Need a Building and Grounds meeting.

A 4" sewer wafer valve is leaking down by Nut St. lift station. The cost to replace is \$1,712.00.

Two bids received for 3 trees-Trees n Scapes for 840.00 and The Outer Edge for 654.00, went with the lower bid which is the local business.

Ryan Hickey from the church group from last year will be in the park on Saturday to do work.

Mentioned the Ken Beardslee signs attached to the village limit signs.

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

Planning Commission – minutes

ZBA -none

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

Ruth gave report on Incorporation Class. Mayor Exchange-paired with Otsego but they called and backed out because of budget constraints. Ruth has gone onto the president list serve and has two (Manistee and Fremont) interested in next year but not this year. Garry asked how much we had budgeted for this, told him 400.00, he suggested that we hold a community meet and greet, possibly to coincide with the Farmer's market opening.

Ruth also reported that if we want to challenge the census count we need to do it by June 1<sup>st</sup> (**corrected to say "we have 1 year from June 1, 2011 to do it"**). Mark Jorgensen moved for Garry Patrick to chair a committee to look into the challenge procedure, seconded by Sue Villanueva, all ayes.

Shirley reported that the Assessor is done and has given his notice, the Township is advertising for the position.

The Township has been offered a donation of property on N Ionia Road to use as a park.

Have had a couple of inquiries as to trash pickup within the village, like we did three or four years ago, keep in mind for next budget year.

Shirley brought up community garage sales and possibly having the same weekend as Farmer's Market and Community Meet and Greet.

Letter from Eaton County Conservation District brought up.

Kelly went over her Treasurer's report for everyone. It was suggested to break out the CDs as to what they are earmarked for.

### **Unfinished Business**

Note from MV Wrestlers for parking during Syrup Festival-moved by Jason Sheridan to allow the MV Wrestlers to use the ball field and bathrooms with provisions stated in note plus deposit being paid, seconded by Mark Jorgensen. Sue Villanueva questioned why the wrestlers had to submit request in writing when other groups do not. She was not given a clear answer. Vote- 1 nay and 5 ayes.

### **New Business**

Mark Jorgensen moved to cancel the insurance coverage for the council members that Jason Orton had been present to explain, seconded by Nathan Derusha, all ayes.

Jason Sheridan moved to purchase the 2 servers which Nathan Derusha had already bought, seconded by Sue Villanueva, all ayes.

Jason Sheridan moved to purchase 4 village limit signs at \$276.48 @, seconded by Sue Villanueva, all ayes.

### **Public Comment**

Jason Sheridan mentioned that property taxes are up and would like to look at possibly lowering taxes next year.

### **Adjournment**

Mark Jorgensen moved to adjourn, seconded by Jason Sheridan, all ayes.

9:12pm

Shirley Harmon  
Village Clerk