

**VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2008**

1. Call to order- 7:03pm

2. Roll call- Mark Jorgensen, Garry Patrick, Jason Sheridan, Tom Williams and Doug Kelsey-President. Kay Marsh, Treasurer and Clerk Shirley Harmon were also present. Audience-Brian Moore, Allen Gardner, Monte O'Dell, Russ Laverty, Gene Fisher, Lee Joppie, Steve Priddy and Sandy Ponsetto.

ABSENT- Abe French and Sue Villanueva

3. Pledge to flag

4. Public Comment

Russ Laverty -Township has hired a new assessor, Jeff Winans, and wondered if he could use the Village office. Township letter is under new business.

Gene Fisher – Syrup Corporation would like to use the Museum parking lot for the Flea market this year during Syrup Festival. He was asked about the handicapped parking and they plan on doing that at the village garage. The Syrup Corporation has purchased two more metal picnic tables for the park. The Sugaring Off party is set for February 28th at 7pm.

Lee Joppie – Questions on the extension of Sherman Street to place a house on a lot on the west side. What about the run off on Sherman Street, a problem already exists, will it be engineered, will water line be 2", 4" or 6", how will they end road, will fire truck be able to turn around, will work be done by insured company and when will next meeting be on this subject. (Water line is 6" now and meetings are posted at the office, garage and village park message board) Street, Drains and Sidewalks committee will set up a meeting soon.

Fred McPhail the Undersheriff – present to give report on the business break -ins. They did establish a tip hotline and received 2, which it was a former employee, but they have had a hard time catching him. From December 1st to January 31st there were 79 calls in the village. Williams commended the officer who he saw checking the business doors after hours. Snowmobiles were questioned as how to catch them.

Doug presented the report from Carleen Samann on the web site. It has turned out to be a good investment.

5. 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. 1-10-08
- B. Treasurer's report for January
- C. Bills for approval 1-11-08 to 2-7-08

Motion to approve consent agenda items as presented by Jorgensen
Seconded by Williams vote all ayes

6. Reports from Council Committees

Technology Committee-IT Tech fees have been received for the year 2007.

Broadstripe – we have not heard back yet on the lease agreement, probably waiting on the corporate office.

Grants Committee- Façade Grant progress-report below

Streets Drains & Sidewalks - "Now entering a Zoned Community" signs at main entrances to village - not done yet. They have had one meeting on Sherman Street, with the attorney's recommendations.

Water & Sewer – recommendation to amend the sewer ordinance to read like the water on the maintenance of lines on private property. Clerk to get it written up.

7. DPW Report

Façade Grant - Mr. Tom Durkee from the state will be doing a walk around soon of the 5 businesses that have decided to participate in this round. The notice of intent was mailed in last week.

Park Grant – applied for a parks grant from Eaton County and was awarded \$900.00 for a new swing set and trees.

Lagoon Report – the project has been completed and DEQ has approved.

Jetter – the Eaton County Road Commission has requested to use the village's Aqua Jetter. In return for the use and in lieu of equipment rental, they will store it in their heated garage and repair it and insure it. Road Commission to send back an agreement.

8. Report from Planning and Zoning Boards

Schedule of Fees- review-not done yet – clerk to check with ZBA Chair
Letters of intent from 2 board members - will be done at next Planning Commission meeting.
No response to ad for ZBA member

9. Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator

Building referrals report-none

10. Unfinished Business

Info on Tax Tribunal case- the case has been received and is now in the process of waiting for a hearing date to be set. It could be months.
Amore Springs progress – no contact has been established since December.

11. New Business

Mail- Summerfest/Car Show organizational meeting was postponed until February 13, 2008

Establishing fund for Technology Improvements from technology rental fees – Jorgensen moved to establish a separate fund from the rental monies brought in from technology companies for the purpose of spending on new technology for the village. Seconded by Williams, all ayes.

Letter from Township requesting to use the village office for the new assessor. Doug referred to the Building and Grounds committee to draw up an agreement, with consideration for rental fee.

Syrup Corporation request to use the Museum parking lot for the Flea Market, Williams moved to approve, seconded by Patrick, all ayes.

Clerk presented four new forms, Mileage and Travel Reimbursement, Conflict of Interest, Steps for Accounts Payable and Bookkeeping Procedures, for the council to adopt, these are items recommended by the auditors for the new audit requirements for the audit coming up.

12. Public Comment

Kay Marsh asked if the village should adopt a poverty exemption policy like the Township. Russ Laverty will ask that question at the Board of Review training that he is going to next week, but he didn't think so with the village being under the Township Board of Review.

Sheridan brought up that he, Jorgensen (**correction-French not Jorgensen**) and Patrick were talking with others and they feel the need for the council to assist the business owners in Vermontville to create a Chamber of Commerce or committee to come up with ideas to help promote the businesses. Jorgensen moved to establish a "Business Development Task Force", seconded by Patrick, all ayes. Clerk to contact Abe French to spear head that project. Jorgensen, Patrick, French and Sheridan will all be on it.

13. Adjournment

Williams moved to adjourn, seconded by Sheridan, all ayes.

Adjourned at 8:25pm

Shirley Harmon
Village Clerk