

VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 3, 2008

1. Call to order 7pm
2. Roll call – Mark Jorgensen, Garry Patrick, Jason Sheridan, Sue Villanueva, Tom Williams and Doug Kelsey. Absent –Abe French. Also present were, Kay Marsh, Shirley Harm on, Monte O'Dell, Lee Joppie, Sandy Ponsetto and Richard Dunham.
3. Pledge to flag
Kelsey opened Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARING
Ordinance No. 08-01

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE ONE, UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE, CHAPTER
2, SECTION 2.9 VILLAGE WASTEWATER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

Ordinance amendment was read, with no discussion. A motion to recommend approval at the regular session was made by Jorgensen, seconded by Villanueva and all ayes.
A motion to close the public hearing and return to regular session was made by Williams, seconded by Jorgensen and all ayes.

Abe French entered meeting at 7:05pm

4. Public Comment

Lee Joppie was present to question the council on driveway permits and violations of requirements. A neighbor across the street from her is making a drive with no permit issued and the property owner has a drive off of West Main. Kelsey charged Monte as Street Administrator to check into and let Streets, Drains & Sidewalks Committee know if he needs one or not.

Ms. Joppie also had pictures of the property in question with junk and debris in evidence. Kelsey charged the Ordinance Committee to check into and send notice of violations if needed.

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. 3-6-08 and Council of the Whole 3-12-08
- B. Treasurer's report for March
- C. Bills for approval- 3-7-08 thru 4-3-08 and 4-4-08

Patrick motioned to approve consent agenda items with the exception of the Mika, Meyers, Beckett & Jones bill. Seconded by Jorgensen with all ayes.

6. Reports from Council Committees

Technology Committee—Broadstripe (Millennium Digital) contract was received with signatures and two minor changes which were basically cosmetic.

Streets Drains & Sidewalks- Storm water Ordinance- committee has met once and is scheduled to meet again on April 19th at 8am.

Ordinance Committee-Chapter 58- Clerk pointed out that she had received letter from the Chapman Law Firm (who represents HUD) informing her that the Village of Vermontville could not

charge water/sewer bills to the properties that they hold because of law prohibiting holding federal government liable with criminal results. Clerk then asked the village attorney if this was valid. His response was that the ordinance does say criminal misdemeanor now but the council needed to pass the Chapter 58 Enforcement addition for the village ordinances and that would make it a civil infraction. Ordinance committee said that the Chapter 58 Enforcement is ready for the council to act on. Clerk to have on next months agenda as first reading.

Business Task Force- French reported that they had a productive meeting. Another meeting is scheduled for May 14th.

7. DPW Report

South Main- spots have shown up in the new pavement on the east side from First Street to Second. This is under warranty.

Need Water/Sewer mtg.-meeting set 4-7-08 at 4pm

Digital Imaging- cost of \$7,200.00 per bid from Wilcox. Patrick asked for Monte to get another bid. French asked if this price included the soft ware so we could update it, Monte will check into.

Monte reported that all technology equipment in our pump house will be removed and placed in a new building being erected on a cement slab within the fence around the water tower.

Monte presented a booklet for Emergency Preparedness which could be imprinted with village information. Cost would be \$100.00 for 100 books. Council decided to pass.

Monte presented the need for finishing the grant paperwork for the Façade Grant. The cost for Wilcox to do it will be \$1,000 to \$1,500 and they have it done in two or three days. Asked if a council person or clerk couldn't do it and he informed them no because there is demographic information to be pulled together and sorting and binding which would take us too long for the deadline is the end of April. Williams moved to have Wilcox do it and pay from the money set aside for the grant, Villanueva seconded with all ayes.

8. Report from Planning and Zoning Boards

Schedule of Fees- review-not done yet because no meeting held. Kelsey asked council representative to get a meeting set up.

Planning-meeting with 151 S Main and Amore Springs - Sheridan gave report that Mr. Brace did show and admitted that he had been using the building for some construction work for another job. The commission pointed out to him that this activity is not allowed under the zoning for that property and he should stop. Mr. Brace had told the clerk that he was waiting for funding to come thru to start the renovations for the food establishment he wants to put in.

Mr. Shaw from Amore Springs did not show up. The clerk reported that he had called the office and that he is waiting for a DEQ report to come thru approved and then he would be going thru with the purchase of the building.

9. Ordinance Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator

Building referrals report-one is for a new business-Miller's Photographic Studio
Ordinance violations report presented.

10. Unfinished Business

Mayor Exchange-contact has been made with Caledonia.

Lease for office- clerk reported that the lease had been received back with signatures, for the Assessor to use the village office.

Wilcox Contract-need approval-Williams moved to approve the signing of the contract with the changes from our attorney and the 2 changes from Wilcox. Seconded by French, 6 ayes and 1 nay-Villanueva.

Approve Ordinance Amendment- 08-01-Sheridan moved to approve the recommendation from the public hearing to approve the ordinance amendment 08 -01 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE ONE, UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE, CHAPTER 2, SECTION 2.9 VILLAGE WASTEWATER SYSTEM ORDINANCE.

Seconded by Jorgensen with all ayes.

Deputy Clerk- clerk reported that 6 apps. had been received and 3 were to interview on the 15th and then Monte and Shirley would hire one to start as soon as possible. Some discussion on this position as to it being appointed or hired, it is hired as a “at will employee” and would be reporting to Shirley and Monte.

11. New Business

Mail- training material, letter from township on the reassessment starting on April 15th, letter from C. Hall concerning her handicapped son and that the Children’s Hospital requested special consideration for her water/sewer bill (two citizens have offered help if she gets on the shut off list), letter from attorney general concerning some businesses advertising “going out of business sale” and not really going out of business. Need to require permits.

Valley Plows and More info

Spring Garage Sales-looking at May 23rd and 24th –clerk to handle.

Water report- clerk presented report of long overdue water/sewer bills in the village, 8 properties for a total of \$2,301.13. Report will be published in Maple Valley News that if not paid by April 30th then the amounts will become liens on the properties and be on the 2008 tax roll.

Patrick asked for clarification on the attorney bill, concerning the FIOA request and the Employee Retiree Health. Villanueva asked what the Employee Retiree Health thing was and Kelsey explained that Monte had requested health coverage after he retires in a few years and that the employee committee had been checking into all the requirements and regulations, and it hadn’t been brought to the council yet from the committee. Patrick moved to pay the attorney bill, seconded by Sheridan with all ayes.

12. Public Comment

Clerk brought up that the Emergency Response Plan needed updating (2002) Jorgensen will meet with Shirley and Monte.

Monte asked if the breakdown of the Wilcox bill was sufficient and the council said yes and that they want the attorney and engineering bills broke down and given to them for review. Clerk to put in their mail boxes as soon as she gets them so they can be reviewed before council meetings for the consent agenda.

13. Adjournment- moved by Jorgensen to adjourn, seconded by Sheridan with all ayes.

Time-9:16pm

Shirley Harmon
Village Clerk