

SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP

Special Meeting

March 26, 2015

I to Order: 9:30 a.m. by Clerk Mongreig
dge of Allegiance

Members Present: Feldmeier, Hovenkamp, Mongreig and Scott

Member Absent: Don Ulsh

Clerk Mongreig asked for a motion to elect the Supervisor Pro-Tem to head the March 26, 2015 Special Meeting in the absence of Supervisor Ulsh.

Motion by Scott with second by Mongreig to appoint Trustee Feldmeier.

Motion carried 4-0

Clerk Mongreig addressed Trustee Hovenkamp stating that only last week Hovenkamp voiced displeasure with Supervisor Ulsh meeting one on one with the Village President and Manager unbeknownst to the full Schoolcraft Township Board. Clerk Mongreig then asked Hovenkamp why he did the same thing. Clerk Mongreig was referencing a private meeting Trustee Hovenkamp had with Vicksburg Village Manager, President and Planner regarding the decision of the full Schoolcraft Township board made at the previous Special Meeting (March 19, 2015), to have Attorney Rolfe draft a letter of support for the Vicksburg Trail System – but not committing any financial aid. All of the Schoolcraft Township Board members had an opportunity to review, comment, and agree on Attorney Rolfe's letter and a final copy was mailed to both Schoolcraft Township and Vicksburg Village

He
replied that "someone had to do it".

In what Trustee Hovenkamp described as a "thumbnail sketch", he explained to the Schoolcraft Township Board that he had had a conversation with Village Manager Schippers, who stated that they (he and Ms. Hoyle?), took a lot of grief over things they weren't responsible for.

Manager Schippers called Trustee Hovenkamp Tuesday morning, March 24, 2015 and stated that the village had opted to pick a different route for the Vicksburg Trail System. Trustee Hovenkamp asked them to reconsider, and then met with Village Manager Schippers, President Adams, and Ms. Hoyle, who Hovenkamp stated were upset and asked him if he could do anything.

Treasurer Scott stated that she agrees with the trail system, but "do I like their tactics? No."

Ron Smith of the Vicksburg Village Council arrived soon after the meeting began. He stated that he has been involved in the trail study program for approximately one year, and didn't they (Vicksburg Village) involve the township?

Feldmeier stated that the tone of the meeting was set 20 some years ago and the style has been carried to the current, and that the Village of Vicksburg missed an opportunity to open communications with the township.

Hovenkamp agreed that there have been problems in the past and suggested the two entities sit in on each others board meetings.

Feldmeier said that after a call from Trustee Hovenkamp, regarding Attorney Rolfe's letter of support for the concept of the trail system, he thought differently. He felt that the letter should have been written by the Schoolcraft Township Board rather than Attorney Rolfe.

dmeier stated that we would be very happy to use excess roads funds for funding the trails.

Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Feldmeier to create a letter to support the idea of trails and including supporting the maintenance of the trail as it goes through Schoolcraft Township.

Feldmeier, Hovenkamp – yes

Mongreig, Scott – no

Treasurer Scott stated that while she supports the trail system that the problem is that there have been no concrete figures to support the maintenance cost of the trails.

Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott to create a letter of support for the trail grant application and include our intent to consider assisting with the costs of maintenance of the portions of trails in Schoolcraft Township.

Mongreig voiced opposition stating that she disagrees completely with actions of the Village of Vicksburg on forcing this project on Schoolcraft Township.

Feldmeier, Hovenkamp, Scott – yes

Mongreig – no

Motion carried 3-1

otion by Hovenkamp with Second by Scott to direct acting supervisor Greg Feldmeier as signee of the letter of support with intent to consider financial support by Schoolcraft Township.

Feldmeier, Hovenkamp Scott – yes

Mongreig – abstained

Motion carried 3-1

Meeting adjourned 10:35

Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft

