

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES  
MEETING HELD March 5, 2018

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF ISABELLA

LOREN COLE, CLERK

- A. The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Township Board was held on March 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.  
Members present: Jeff Bean (Supervisor), Loren Cole (Clerk), Ben Browning (Trustee), Lee Cole (Trustee) and Julie Cole (Deputy Clerk) . Members absent: Stephanie Allen (Treasurer).
- B. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Jeff Bean with the Pledge to the Flag.
- C. B. Browning made the motion to approve the agenda for this month and the minutes from last month.  
Motion seconded by Lee Cole. Motion passed.
- D. Visitors present: Brent Duffett, Jim Bissett, Rose Polize, Andrea Laney, Michelle Anderson, Jill and Corey Bourland, Denny Parsons and wife and Nathan Rodgers (all residents). Rose had concerns regarding Stevenson Lake Road. Jim had zoning concerns regarding his property.
- E. Supervisor's Report:
  - 1. Fire Department: Open negotiations to roll back the CAFD millage from 1.1 mil to 1.0 mil.
  - 2. Property Tax:
    - a. Tentative Schedule for the March BOR:
      - 1. Organizational Meeting on tuesday March 6th at 3:00 p.m.
      - 2. Appeals Hearing Day 1: Wednesday March 14th, 9am. to Noon & 1pm. to 4pm.
      - 3. Appeals Hearing DAY 2: Thursday March 15th, 1pm to 4pm & 6pm to 9pm.
  - 3. Roads: Township Road Tour.
  - 4. Other: Smith/Norris Property at 104 Hillcrest. The property was sold on a land contract and the family has left. There is someone willing to buy the property.
- F. Clerk's Report:
  - 1. Budget: see packet.
  - 2. Pere Marquette District Library. There is a Spanish club starting and also the possibility of bike rentals for the nearby Rails to Trail.

G. Treasurer's Report

- 1. Financial Report as of: February 28, 2018
  - a. General Fund Checking..... \$125,300.89
  - b. Waste Management..... \$106,258.05
  - c. Vernon City Highway Lighting..... \$ 3,400.03
  - d. Vernon Twp Perpetual Care Savings..... \$ 45,051.79
  - e. Vernon Twp Cemetery CD ----- \$ N/A
  - f. Super High Yield Acct ----- \$ 76,791.37
  
- 2. Funds Received for the month of February 2018
  - a. State of Michigan for Road repair refund ... \$ 9,392.94
  - c. Chemical Bank...Interest ..... \$ 10.88
  - d. Vernon Tax Account-Summer admin..... \$ 45.25
  - e. Vernon Tax Account-General..... \$ 20,167.65
  - f. Vernon Tax Account-Waste..... \$ 32,263.49
  - g. Vernon Tax Account-VCHL..... \$ 547.50
  - h. Cemetery: O/C, ..... \$ 700.00

3. Review and Pay Bills: Motion made by Loren Cole to pay bills for a total of \$12,920.62. Motion seconded by B. Browning.. Motion passed.

H. Trustees' Reports

1. Ben Browning: Gave update from the last INEFD meeting. Informed the board of the purchase of a new truck by that department.
2. Lee Cole: None.

I. Old Business:

1. Review of a U. S. Department of Justice Compliance Review of ADA Issues at the Township Hall. B. Browning made the motion to table this discussion again. Lee Cole seconded the motion. Motion passed.
2. Discussions and Actions regarding receipt of petition to the Electors of the township to request that the Township Board adopt an Ordinance creating a Planning Commission pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, 2008 PA 33.
  - a) Letter required by Township Clerk validating signatures on petition.
  - b) Meeting with Attorney council on March 13, 2018 to help with wording for the ballot.Motion by B. Browning to table this discussion. Lee Cole seconded the motion and motion passed.

3. Consideration of 2018 Road Program.

- a) Gravel will be mined from Clare County Pit for 2018 at \$14,003/mile and \$15,008 with contingency.

Loren Cole made the motion to table this. B. Browning seconded the motion and motion passed.

J. New Business:

1. Set date and time for the Budget Hearing and Advertise. Since we will not be spending money between March 31st and April 2nd, we are able to have the Budget Hearing prior to the regular meeting. Motion by Lee Cole to set the Budget Hearing for April 2nd, 2018 at 6 p.m. and to publish said meeting per the guidelines. Motion seconded by B. Browning. Motion passed.

2. Consideration of a Resolution to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to enter into a Township Brine Participation contract with the Isabella County Road Commission for 2018. We have 40.61 miles of gravel roads. Motion by B. Browning to adopt resolution. Lee Cole seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken with 4-0 in favor. Resolution 001-2018 was adopted.

3. Consideration of a Resolution to revise the conditions and rules under the Freedom of Information Act to include Additional Language required by the Michigan Department of Treasury as it relates to issues of Access to Property Tax Assessing records and to post them on the website. Motion by B. Browning to adopt this resolution. Loren Cole seconded the motion. Roll call vote of 4-0 in favor. Resolution 002-2018 was adopted.

K. Nathan Rodgers requested time to talk. Granted. He informed the board of some of the County zoning/planning commission decisions/discussions of late regarding the Windmills.

L. Adjournment: B. Browning made the motion to adjourn. Lee Cole seconded the motion. Motion passed. This meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. on March 5, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie Cole, Deputy Clerk

# VERNON TOWNSHIP PROJECT LIST 2017-2018

**The following items have not been prioritized:**

1. Township Hall:
  - a. Extend Parking on South Side of Roadway.
  - b. Evaluate Roof
  
2. Cemetery:
  - a. Set Boundary Markers.
  - b. Protect Burial Lots From Being Driven On.
  - c. Coleman Road Access.
  - d. Drainage.
  - e. Install or Repair Existing Flag Pole or remove altogether.
  - f. Consider putting a dumpster at the Cemetery.
  - g. Tree work.
  
3. Zoning:
  
4. Waste:
  - a. Consider a Township Wide Hazardous Waste Collection Day of Promotion of Soil Conservation District Events.
  
5. Internet Service:
  - a. Consider methods to infill areas not yet serviced by High Speed Internet.
  - b. Consider internet service at the Township Hall.
  
6. Fire Protection:
  - a. Work to balance fire department payments to 1 mill of contributing taxable values.
  
7. Roads:
  - a. Evaluate Gravel roadways for areas in need of drainage and prepare list by priority.
  - b. Consideration of new Road Millage issue.