

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES  
MEETING HELD September 5, 2017

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF ISABELLA

LOREN COLE, CLERK

- A. The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Township Board was held on September 5, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Loren Cole (Clerk), Stephanie Allen (Treasurer), Ben Browning (Trustee), Lee Cole (Trustee) and Julie Cole (Deputy Clerk) . Members absent: Jeff Bean (Supervisor) .
- B. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Loren Cole with the Pledge to the Flag.
- C. B. Browning made the motion to approve the minutes from last month and the agenda for this month. Motion seconded by Lee Cole. Motion passed.
- D. Visitors present: Vaughn Jenkins (Cemetery personnel). No Comments.
- E. Supervisor's Report:
  - 1. Property Tax:
    - a. Burn rate on Vernon Hill Street Lighting is just <\$150 per month or \$1,800 annually. The account balance on 7-31-2017 was \$2,956. At the burn rate, when new money starts coming in December, we should have 15 months on hand. A 12 month reserve would be a good goal to strive for. While we could play with the rate and cut it, an electric rate increase could have us resetting again later to as much or more that we are assessing now. Consider leaving it at the current burn rate of \$150 per month or \$1,800 per year and let electric rates pull the reserve down to the 12 month level over a period of time.
    - b. Burn rate on Vernon Garbage is +/- \$7,000 per month or \$84,000 annually. The account balance on 7-31-2017 was \$84,446. At the burn rate, when new money starts coming in December, we should have 7 months on hand. That is a pretty healthy reserve for this item. The Township is operating on a 620 residential unit count. At the current burn rate or \$7,000 per month, we are being charged \$135.48 annually per unit. At the midterm of the contract we will be above \$140 annually. In 2016, the Township spread \$180 per unit. Consider dropping to \$140 per unit and we should be able to hold that for some time.
    - c. The Assessor is working on two or three tax parcels whose taxable value will be reset.
  - 2. Township Assets:
    - a. Harsh to pricing is available at this meeting.
  - 3. Other:
    - a. 2020 Local Census update of Addresses Operation (LUCA).
      - 1. We will need to name township personnel to assist in LUCA.
- F. Clerk's Report:
  - 1. Budget: see packet.

G. Treasurer's Report

1. Financial Report as of: August 31, 2017	
a. General Fund Checking.....	\$64,355.57
b. Waste Management.....	\$77,582.82
c. Vernon City Highway Lighting.....	\$ 2,827.43
d. Vernon Twp Perpetual Care Savings.....	\$44,732.05
e. Vernon Twp Cemetery CD -----	\$ N/A
f. Super High Yield Acct -----	\$76,671.44

2. Funds Received for the month of August 2017

g. State of Michigan.....	\$
h. Vernon Township Acc.....	\$
i. Opening/Closing.....	\$
j. Foundation.....	\$
k. Local Community Stabilization (metro-fee)	\$

2. Review and Pay Bills: Motion made by B.Browning to pay bills for a total of \$15,232.25. Motion seconded by Lee Cole. Motion passed.

H. Trustees' Reports

1. Ben Browning: States he looked into the well situation for the cemetery and solar lighting for the flagpole at cemetery.
2. Lee Cole: No Report.

I. Old Business:

1. Review of a U. S. Department of Justice Compliance Review of ADA Issues at the Township Hall. Discussion by the board but no action taken at this time.

J. New Business:

1. Consideration of a Resolution to Set the Assessments for the Vernon Garbage Collection and Vernon City Highway Lighting to be spread on the December 1, 2017 Winter Tax Roll. Motion for such resolution made by B. Browning. Motion seconded by S. Allen. Resolution adopted with a Roll Call vote.
2. Authorization Allowing for Supervisor and Clerk to Sign State Taxation Form L-4029 Establishing Tax Rates for 2017, including Vernon Garbage and Vernon City Highway Lighting Assessments. Motion by S. Allen. Motion seconded by Lee Cole. Motion passed.
3. Amendment to Budget, if needed. S. Allen made the motion to transfer \$1200 from Misc. Expense Account (line item #900-949) to Cemetery Care Account (line item #276-700). B. Browning seconded the motion. Motion passed.
4. Consideration of a Quote from Robin Harsh Excavating for Cemetery Improvements. Discussion by the board to get a couple more quotes. B. Browning to contact others for quotes.

- J. Adjournment. S. Allen made the motion to adjourn. B. Browning seconded the motion. Motion passed. This meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie Cole, Deputy Clerk