VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

MEETING HELD May 1, 2023

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF ISABELLA LOREN COLE, CLERK

1. The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Township Board was held on May 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m at the Vernon Township Hall. Members present were Ben Browning (Supervisor), Loren Cole (Clerk), Stephanie Allen (Treasurer), Lee Cole (Trustee) and Jeff Denton (Trustee) and Julie Cole (Deputy Clerk). Members absent: none.
2. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Ben Browning with the Pledge to the Flag.
3. Loren Cole made the motion to approve the minutes from last month and the agenda for this month. Motion seconded by Lee Cole. Motion passed.
4. Visitors present: 1. John & Jenny Koch (residents) Asked the status of the EPB. Informed them it had been deleted per the state mandates. But a paper copy of the November election was available at the county level. They also were in question about the roads regarding Coleman: Mission to Summerton and Crawford: Herrick to Grass Lake Road. 2. Ray McCullen (Wise Twp). talked about the regulations regarding roads that Wise does. 3. James Bissett (resident) questions regarding taxes. S. Allen communicated with him. 4. Bill and Joan Southwell (residents) had questions and comments regarding all the Liquid Manure wagons on the roads.
5. Supervisor’s Report:

1. Roads & Drains:

a. Status on Crawford Road tube issue: Waiting on drain commissioner/ICRC.

2. Property Tax:

a. Be aware of an upcoming Michigan State Tax Commission’s requirement, as

part of the Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR), calling for all Michigan units

of government to establish an online offering of the assessment cards and related assessing

information be made available to the public at large. This is a new project in the works.

Beach and Beach will be doing this.

3. Fire Dept: INEFD Increased their Budget by 4%. Clare FD-TBD.

4. Township Assets: Township Cemetery: Solar Panel/Water Installation once weather permits.

5. Other:

a. Legal Issues:

i. ARPA Funds: Accountant filed report April 28th.

ii.Urban Cooperation Agreement draft proposal being prepared by an attorney.

F. Clerk’s Report:

1. Budget: See reports.

2. Elections: Clare School Bond election is tomorrow at the Pere Marquette Library.

3. Misc. The State is requiring either a PO Box or a mail drop off box at the Township Hall.

Motion by S. Allen to purchase a PO Box at Clare Post Office. Motion second by Lee

Cole. Motion passed.

G. Treasurer’s Report

1. Financial Report as of April 30, 2023.
2. General/ Fund Checking……………………….. $ 221,926.02
3. Waste Management……………………………. $ 122,714.15
4. Vernon City Highway Lighting……………….... $ 4,012.90
5. Vernon Twp Perpetual Care Savings…………. $ 59,011.27
6. Super High Yield Acc. …………………………. $ 11,131.64
7. Vernon Roadway Fund…………………………. $ 202,402.76
8. ARPA funds …………………………………….. $ 142,172.06

2. Funds Received for the month of April 2023.

a.. mercantile Bank … Interest ……….……….....$ 326.46

3. Review and pay bills. Lee Cole made the motion to pay the bills in the amount of

$16,921.98. S.Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

I. Trustees’ Report:

1. J. Denton: No report.

2. Lee Cole: Questions about the Annual Budget of ICRC.

J. Old Business:

1. Review of Cemetery Ordinance. (Remains on table.)

K. New Business:

1 . Condition Report of Stevenson Lake Dam. See report.

2. Discussion on communication with residents: Website Updates, Mailings, Email, Etc.

No Action taken.

3. Discussion of Road contracts. No Action.

4. Public Comment: Ray McCullen had questions regarding item D 2a.

L. Adjournment: S. Allen made the motion to adjourn. J. Denton seconded the motion. Motion

passed. This meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. on May 1, 2023.

Respectfully submitted, Julie Cole, Deputy Clerk