

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES
MEETING HELD May 4, 2020

TOWNSHIP OF VERNON, COUNTY OF ISABELLA

LOREN COLE, CLERK

- A. The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Township Board was held on May 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m via Zoom.. Members present Jeff Bean (Supervisor), Loren Cole (Clerk), Stephanie Allen (Treasurer), Lee Cole (Trustee), Ben Browning (Trustee).and Julie Cole (Deputy Clerk). Members absent: None.
- B. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by J. Bean with the Pledge to the Flag.
- C. B.Browning made a motion to approve the March minutes (April meeting was cancelled due to the Governor's stay at home order) and the agenda for this month. Lee Cole seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. Visitors present: No visitors present. The invitation for the On-line Zoom meeting was posted on our township website.
- E. Supervisor's Report:
1. Property Tax:
 - a. The Township Taxable Value is \$51,516,000 and the assessed value is \$80,000,000.
 - b. The Board of Review granted two poverty and three veteran's tax exemptions at the last BOR meeting.
 2. Fire Dept.: INEFD 2020/2021 budget to be considered later in the meeting.
 3. Roads: Estimates requested for the following gravel projects:
 - i. Holiday Drive
 - ii. Parkview Drive
 - iii. Lakeview Drive
 - iv. Forest Park Drive
 - v. Isabella; Pere Marquette to N. County Line
 - vi. Isabella; Battle to Coleman
 - vii. Isabella; Coleman to Stevenson Lake Rd.
 - viii. Battle; Isabella to Dead End
 - ix. Duncan; Stevenson Lake Rd to Dead End
 - x. summerton; Herrick to Stevenson Lake Rd.(maybe to participate with Wise Twp.)
 4. Solid Waste:
 5. Township Assets:
 - a. Township Hall:
 - i. Survey stakes have been reset.
 - ii. What do we want to do with the extra ½ acre that is now an open field? --Table for now.
 - iii. Do we want to install corner posts?
 - b. Cemetery: Meeting with Isabella corporation sometime this week.
 6. Other:
 - a. Abandon house at 104 Hillcrest. Owner quit paying property taxes.
 - b. Residential house count.
- F. Clerk's Report:
1. Budget: see packet.
 2. Elections: There is some question if there will be open polls for the August and even November elections due to the COVID-19. Consideration of mass AV application mailings by the state.

G. Treasurer's Report

1. Financial Report as of April 30, 2020.

a. General Fund Checking.....	\$ 146,682.50
b. Waste Management.....	\$ 108,483.05
c. Vernon City Highway Lighting.....	\$ 4,148.05
d. Vernon Twp Perpetual Care Savings.....	\$ 51,753.79
e. Super High Yield Acc.	\$ 77,800.12
f. Vernon Roadway Fund.....	\$ 99,558.50

2. Funds Received for the month of March & April 2020.

a. Vernon Twp Tax Acct. summer Admin.....	\$ 352.43
b. Vernon Twp Tax Acct. General.....	\$ 9,974.57
c. Vernon Twp Tax Acct. Roads.....	\$ 20,043.47
d. Vernon Twp Tax Acct. Waste.....	\$ 20,298.00
e. Vernon Twp Tax Acct. VCHL.....	\$ 380.47
f. State of MI--Revenue sharing.....	\$ 20,350.00
g. Local LCSA	\$ 133.28
h. Chemical Bank ..Interest	\$ 44.74
i. Charter	\$ 325.68

3. Review and Pay Bills: Bills to be paid for April were a total of \$21,887.82 and for May were \$21,512.40 B. Browning made the motion to pay said bills. S. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

H. Trustees' Reports

1. B. Browning: Reported that the solar system for the cemetery pumps will hopefully be installed by the end of the month.
2. Lee Cole: Reported that for a new sign out front of the hall is around \$5,000 but he will be getting a quote.

I. Old Business:

- a. Review of Cemetery Ordinance. Continue to table.

J. New Business:

1. Consideration to approve the Isabella Northeast Fire Department budget for the budget period of 2020/2021 in the amount of \$97,900 which is the same of the 2019/2020 budget. S. Allen made the motion to approve the budget. Loren Cole seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Discussion of recent developments of the Wuhan Virus as it impacts:

- a) Stay At Home Orders and Government shutdowns by Governor's Executive Orders.
- b) Outreach to our residents and property owners.
- c) Budget implications --especially with Revenue Sharing.

Board discussion was centered around maybe needing to wait on some projects like the new sign and some cemetery work. Also, discussion about not doing public meetings until further notice and possibly sending out mailings asking for emails etc. Not action taken.

3. Consideration of opting into a medical and/or recreational cannabis operation within the Township.

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

November 2018 General Election Proposal 1, Recreational Cannabis						
	Statewide		County		Township	
	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%
Yes	2,354,640	55.89%	12,972	57.75%	241	41%
No	1,858,354	44.11%	9,490	42.25%	346	59%

K. Adjournment: S. Allen made a motion to adjourn. B. Browning seconded the motion. Motion passed. This meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on May 4, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted:
Julie Cole, Deputy Clerk