

VOLINIA TOWNSHIP
CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2023
6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Larry Davis at 6:35pm. Members present: Supervisor Larry Davis, Trustee Harry R. Rasmussen, Treasurer Alex Williams, Trustee Denny Grice and Clerk Annette Peters. Members absent: None.

Others present: Nick Seelye, Mark VanDusen, Mike Lutz, Chuck Wilson, Sue Conklin, Jeff Conklin, Gary Locke, Vickie Locke, Glenn Blough, Brenda Blough, William Westrate, Mary Fosdick, Brock Yordy, Peg Yordy, Shannon Grice, Susan Kraft, Steve Kent, Sherriff Rick Behnke, and Brian Lamourax.

Prayer was given by Bob Rasmussen.

Pledge of Allegiance was given by Bob Rasmussen.

Public Comment

Peggy Yordy thanked everyone for the meeting.

Sherriff Rick Behnke said that they have installed camera license plate readers though out the county. These are used to track suspect vehicles. There are 10 up throughout the county. Since installed in April they have recovered 8 stolen vehicles. Catalytic converters are still and issue. The County Drug Team is still going strong. There have been four drug searches last month, all for meth. CCRC has received 19 recommendations for accident control at the Decatur Road/Marcellus Highway intersection. All have been newly implemented. The owners of the speed boat found on Briarpatch have been located.

Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting May 8, 2023, were presented. Alex Williams made a motion to approve the minutes; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The March Revised Treasurer's Report was presented with a balance of \$429,637.49 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Receipts are as listed. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the March Revised Treasurer's Report; Annette Peters seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis- Yes

Williams – Yes

Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the March Revised Treasurer's Report.

The April Finalized Treasurer's Report was presented with a balance of \$371,977.75 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Receipts are listed. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the April Finalized Treasurer's Report; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis – Yes

Williams – Yes

Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the April Finalized Treasurer's Report.

The May Treasurer's Report was presented with a balance of \$437,092.19 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Receipts are listed. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the May Treasurer's Report; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis – Yes

Williams – Yes

Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the May Treasurer's Report.

Bills

The March Revised Bills were presented with the total amount of \$36,904.44. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the March Revised Bills; Annette Peters seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis - Yes

Williams – Yes

Rasmussen - Yes

The Board approved the March Revised Bills.

The April Revised Bills were presented with the total amount of \$41,418.16. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the April Revised Bill; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis Requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis – Yes

Williams – Yes

Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the April Revised Bills.

The May Revised bills were presented with the total amount of \$256,090.39. Added were the bank service fee was \$20 because they were charging \$5 per account for mailed statements. The \$27.50 for QuickBooks with is a monthly recurring charge. The Dust Control account was charged a \$15 service fee, which is supposed to be reimbursed. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the May Revised Bills; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes
Davis – Yes
Williams – Yes
Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the May Revised Bills.

The June Bills were presented with the total amount of \$75,074.21. Bob Rasmussen made a motion to approve the June Bills; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes
Davis – Yes
Williams – Yes
Rasmussen – Yes

The Board approved the June Bills.

Cemeteries

They were all looking good until we got this heat, but they did look good for the Holiday. It was nice having help putting out the flags. Cripps gave a quote of approximately \$1,600 for the 200 foot of driveway at Rosehill. There were no burials this month.

Peggy Yordy made a complaint that the sign at Crane Cemetery does not say Crane on it and the dirt is being put in many places instead of just one place, along the new woods. Bob promised that the dirt will not stay that way, and he will get quotes for new signs for the cemeteries.

Roads

There are phone calls to make about Lawrence Road and north Gards Prairie. Gards Prairie paving has been completed. CCRC is doing all of the paving projects first, and then will work on the seal coating. Nobody is happy about the condition of Penn Rd.

Supervisor

There will be a Site Plan Review meeting on June 15, 2023 at 7:00pm at the CCRC for the gravel pit. Denny stated that he has been getting calls with questions. Thursday's meeting is to go over all the questions that residents have about the gravel pit.

Steve Kent asked who is on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission consists of Harry Rasmussen, Bruce Butchbaker, Randy Cuthbert, Jeff Steinkraus, Frank Ross, Dave Goodenough and Ron Butts.

Peggy Yordy wants to know why they do not have time to speak their opinion. Larry Davis and Annette Peters both tried to explain that there is a time and place and this meeting is not it. The board is only the Final decision makers and these opinions need to be heard only by the Planning Commission at this time.

Brian Lamourax suggested opening up an additional Public Comment session at the end of the meeting.

Bob Lehigh stated that the Township Zoning Ordinance states shall not be hazardous, disturbing, or detrimental of the use, peaceful enjoyment, economical value or development of neighboring property. Asked how the gravel pit company determines the joyfulness of the property.

Mary Fosdick stated that the notice of public meeting says that all concerns have to be received in writing.

Denny confirmed that the Site review the Planning Commission hears all the information, the Board members have to remain quiet but the residents can speak. The Planning Commission then makes a recommendation to the Board, who then makes the final decision.

Vickie Locke asked what happens if the State issues permits before the Board make a decision. There are still bills going in front the House tomorrow. If passed the then go Senate, who can reconcile the bills. Then if passed it will go in front to the Governor. There are currently 3 bill tied to Gravel Pits on the state level.

Brock Yordy says that he has worked on Water and Mining Projects all over the County, and that it's scary to have on in his back yard. If passed there are many things the company has to be regulated by including EPA, EGGLE, and hours of operation. More information is still need of the Air and Water Quality. The Planning Commission will have a lot of questions. Haul roads will also be an issue. Well Logs are not accurate.

Board

Bob Rasmussen said that all groups will be involved.

Mary Fosdick said that they need to fight now not after an issue arises.

Doreen Williams is worried about farmers not being regulated.

Sue Conklin asked if the company has received fines in the past on other sites.

Bob Rasmussen is worried about the ARPA funds being taken away from us. Alex Williams said that all of the funds are allocated for. Doreen Williams said that she has not seen anything that states the funds will be withdrawn. All the money has been reported, designated and transferred to the general funds of the road projects.

Larry Davis said that he hopes that all the faces that showed up tonight will be at Thursday's meeting.

Public Comment

There were 8 notices mailed for the Site Review but only 3 people actually received them.

Jeff Conklin asked if there was a plan for ambulance service if Pride shuts down. Jeff wants to know the contingency plan. Larry said that he has been working with Mr. Butts from Wayne Township. Larry had been told that Pride will be continuing their Contract. The township will probably have to ask for additional millage if Pride does pull out.

Brian Lamourax said that his case has been pleaded with the ZBA, and agreed on 3 accounts. They agreed to rectify the situations. Department of Ag has been contacted and will only give dissention of the parcel but does not want to be involved. Brian would like the Board to have the Zoning Administration determination over road. He wants the board to take back the responsibility. The certificate was approved and sent to Doug. Larry said that he will talk with the Attorney and Doug and see what's going on. Brian stated that he would like to be present if a meeting is help. Larry said that Doug will be at our July meeting.

Adjournment

Annette Peters made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Bob Rasmussen seconded the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Peters
Volinia Township Clerk