

VOLINIA TOWNSHIP
CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, September 11, 2023
6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Larry Davis at 6:31pm. Members present: Supervisor Larry Davis, Trustee Denny Grice, Trustee Nick Seelye, Treasurer and Clerk Annette Peters. Members absent: Alex Williams.

Others present: Bob Rasmussen, Ryan Brown, Tina Klein, Michael Klein, Katherine Yoder, Frank Maley, Glenn Blough, Brenda Blough, Sharon Grice and David High.

Prayer was given by Denny Grice.

Pledge of Allegiance was given by Larry Davis.

Minutes

The minutes from the last meeting August 14, 2023, were presented. Larry Davis made a motion to approve the minutes; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

The minutes from the Truth in Taxation Hearing August 14, 2023, were presented. Denny Grice made a motion to approve the minutes; Nick Seelye seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

The minutes from the special meeting, August 28, 2023, were presented. Nick Seelye made a motion to approve the minutes; Larry Davis seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The August Treasurer's Report was presented with a balance of \$307,824.65 in the general fund. Balances in the other funds are as shown. Receipts are as listed. Annette Peters made a motion to approve the August 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

Seelye – Yes

The Board approved the August Treasurer's Report.

Bills

The August Revised bills were presented with the total amount of \$30,420.86. Denny Grice made a motion to approve the August Revised Bills; Nick Seelye seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes
Peters – Yes
Davis – Yes
Seelye – Yes

The Board approved the August Revised Bills.

The September bills were presented with a total amount of \$81,569.93. An additional bill came in from Zoning Solutions that Annette Peters asked to include making the new total \$81,914.93.

Denny asked about the bills for CCRC and Wayne Township. Annette explained that those are the final road contracts and the half of an annual fire contract. Larry said that the end of Gards Prairie is still not completed. Annette suggested that we still approve the payment, but hold the check until the work is completed. Larry Davis said that the fence for LFL Cemetery should be completed this week but we can pay the bill in October.

Denny Grice made a motion to pay the bills as listed, including the payment for Zoning Solutions and to hold the check for CCRC until Gards Prairie is fixed. Nick Seelye seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice - Yes
Peters – Yes
Davis – Yes
Seelye – Yes

The Board approved the September Bills.

Cemeteries

Everything looks good considering the rain. New fence on the North and East sides of LFL Cemetery have been installed.

There was one burial, Jerry Britton, at Rosehill. Cripps leveled a pile of dirt while they were at Rosehill. There's more work to do, but it's been too wet.

Larry said that the fence on the North side is too high and he is waiting for it to be lowered. The fence does have pedestrian walk way.

Roads

All road contracts have been completed, except the dip at the end of Gards Prairie.

Dave High talked to CCRC about the new intersection at Dewey Lake Street and Lawrence Road.

The rest of the roads are looking decent, and CCRC is working on filling pot holes. Bob Rasmussen had called again about Penn Road, and asked them to start at Dutch Settlement to McKenzie. CCRC started at Church and never went past the orange markings, past McKenzie.

Warner Road is all washed out, CCRC needs to get out and pack it down.

Storms have washed out most of the hillsides on gravel roads. Bond Road lost most of the road. CCRC is still working on fixing these.

Paved roads are about as good as they are going to get.

Dust Control third application (spot application for those who opted in) got delayed due to the rain. Have been told it will be done by the 15th.

Denny asked if there was an estimated time frame for the Dewey Lake/Lawrence intersection. Dave said the engineer struggled. He explained and went out to the site with CCRC and walked through it. The culvert is the dangerous part, along with the stop sign being too close to the road. CCRC didn't realize there was that much traffic in the area. Bob Rasmussen was told another culvert has to be bought, and the work will be completed by fall.

Denny asked if the township paid for the intersection. NO. It is a county road.

Larry Davis said that he has called and complained about the stop sign light being out for three weeks at Decatur and Marcellus Highway. Was told CCRC is waiting for the company that installed to come out and fix.

Larry Davis requested the Blight officer go to Thompson's Corner about the flags being so close to the road.

Nick Seelye said that the shoulder on Dutch Settlement near White Temple is already washed out. Larry and Bob have both called CCRC and complained about it.

Supervisor

Larry Davis received an updated Cost Share for the ambulance service. It will be \$3,264.06 quarterly. Larry Davis made a motion to approve the updated Cost Share for ambulance service of \$3,264.06; Nick Seelye seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote.

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis – Yes

Seelye – Yes

The board approved the updated cost share for ambulance services.

Larry Davis has received a draft of an Ambulance Service Agreement. They will be having another meeting September 18th at 5:30pm. Kevin Carter is also working to find a long run option.

APC Towers have offered another buyout option for the cell tower lease. Denny Grice said that he doesn't like that in section 4 it says that we can't look for other bids. Annette Peters said she would like to know more details. Denny Grice doesn't want to vote for.

Board

Denny Grice and Nick Seelye received quotes for replacing the Handicap entry door. Johnny's Custom Construction gave an estimate of \$1,522; this would be for a steel door like the existing and power washing. Jeff Surach gave an estimate of \$3,837.72 which would include a steel door with push bar and power washing. McNeal General Construction gave an estimate of \$1,368.48 for a steel door with push bar but is unclear if it includes power washing. Larry Davis made a motion to accept McNeal General Construction's estimate for replacing the handicap door; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Larry Davis requested a roll call vote:

Grice – Yes

Peters – Yes

Davis – Yes

Seelye – Yes

The board approved McNeal General Construction for replacement of the handicap entrance door.

Public Comment

Ryan Brown from Decker Agency introduced himself. They have 20+ years experience and would like to quote for the Township's insurance needs. There are lots to offer township. Decker Agency had been working to expand into Cass County. Packets distributed to board. Larry Davis asked where Ryan office is out of. They are out of Portage, but Ryan lives in Mattawan.

Tina Klein asked if there was any update of Camp Mativix. Larry Davis said that the attorneys are still arguing, but he does know that the camp was put back on the tax roll.

Adjournment

Annette Peters made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Denny Grice seconded the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Peters
Volinia Township Clerk