

Vermillion Township  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2021

Attendance:

Supervisor Chairman Larry Ring  
Supervisor Audrey Felty  
Clerk Cindy Ladzun  
Treasurer Nick Rueger  
Attorney Leah Koch  
Building Inspector Mark Ceminsky

Chairman Ring opened the meeting at 7:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The supervisors reviewed the October meeting minutes and Ladzun noted that they were different than what was originally sent. Changes include typographical errors and re-arrangement. Felty said they were basically the same content and motioned to accept them as written. Ring seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Rueger presented the claims to the board. Felty motioned to accept the claims as presented. Ring seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion carried. Rueger presented a verbal summary of the Treasurer's report, highlighting some of the larger claims. He noted that the board had instructed him to put the American Rescue Plan money in the Gopher Account and the balance that was in that account was put into the General Account. He also noted that Envirotech did not receive the check that was written in September; a stop payment was issued on the first check and a second check has been written. Ring mentioned that residents are inquiring about the increased road and bridge costs this year versus what has been paid in previous years. These costs would include the costs incurred from our contractor, Kimmes along with the gravel that was purchased for the roads. The township has more than 40 miles of gravel roads that ideally would be completed every five years and spotting would be completed in the in-between years. Felty motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Ring seconded the motion; all were favor and the motion carried.

Deputy Weber visit – An inquiry by a township resident was made about the bounty on gophers. It was noted that the bounty paid out is \$3.00 for both feet and they are to bring them to a meeting. Ring suggested the resident call any of the supervisor's phone numbers listed on the website for more information. Traffic control enforcement for speeding was created on County Road 46 and the speed violations have been dealt with accordingly, however, passing on the shoulder was not noticed as the traveling billboard does not help. It was noted that thefts are at an all-time high and the thefts that Dakota County is experiencing is in the surrounding areas of Vermillion Township, but not necessarily in the township itself. Vehicle thefts that Dakota County had experienced last year resulted in the identification of several individuals and several arrests were made. It was mentioned that they have seem an increase in break-in's and thefts in vehicles. Irrigators/copper thefts has significantly been reduced to advanced technology. Other township in the area have made mention of increased speeds displayed by the motorists. It was noted that rural roads are open with wide shoulders which tend to allow vehicles the opportunity to go fast, however they will continue to monitor these areas with

increased traffic enforcement.

#### Permits:

- Pinnacle Properties/Dan Larson – Ceminsky explained that the setbacks between the house and the commercial buildings on the west end are pretty tight. Ring mentioned that Mr. Larson is currently out of town and this will need to be transferred onto the next meeting for review.
- Heidenreich - would like to have ground mounted solar panels versus the roof mount on their property. Ring noted that the current ordinance only allows roof mounted systems. If more residents come to the township meeting to ask for a change, the current ordinance could be re-visited.

#### **Recap of Older Permits:**

- Stewart Shop/Highland Sanitation – waiting for final plans from the owner.
- Svendahl – waiting for plans from the owner that will need to be approved at a board meeting.
- Ginther – a stop-work order was issued due to siding being completed without a permit.
- Doffing – if no payment is made, a Prosecutor at Dakota County will be referred for criminal prosecution.
- Nauer – it was noted that check can be cashed and the additional payment on the remaining balance will still need to be made.

#### Old Business:

- 19731 Coates Blvd – Inspection was done with Ceminsky and former building inspector, Darrel Gilmer. There are numerous ordinance violations on this property along with several issues on how this property is unsafe relating to the MN State Fire Codes. Koch will put a report together in an order for the December meeting for the board to review. Jim Sathra, a resident of the township is concerned why we are going to spend a bunch of money on this project and what will be accomplished. Koch explained at the end of a hazardous building order (if permission is approved by the court) the township resident must tear down the building. If the resident chooses not to, then the township can hire a contractor to do this, and the expense would be assessed on the property. Sathra wonders what is the legal status for the property and suggests we find out who owns the property before we go any further. Koch explained it's about the building itself that's the problem, it doesn't matter who owns the building or who owns the property. It's the fact that the building is hazardous which allows us to go through this statutory process.
- Dream Team – There is a business that involves training and riding of horses on a property within the township. In order to conduct business, they need to have a Conditional Use Permit. Ladzun will reach out to them to see if they are able to attend the December meeting.

#### New Business:

- Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County for Ordinance Enforcement – This JPA references Township Ordinance 522 regarding nuisances and Ordinance 527 regarding dogs and cats at large. The rates that would be charged if needed would be \$80.00/hour for investigation services and \$60.00/hour for court preparation. Koch would like to review this and bring it back up at the December meeting.

- Township Signage Prices – Warning Lites and Earl F. Anderson provided quotes, however the third contractor, Advantage Signs was unable to provide a quote before the meeting. The quotes we currently have only include the price for the signs and not the installation. Ring will reach out to Kimmes to confirm that he can install the signs for the \$69.20 per sign and Ladzun will reach out to Warning Lites and Earl F. Anderson/Safety Signs for installation prices.
- Sign Policy - We were given a sample of the Princeton Township’s Sign Policy, which is a straight forward and basic policy that states that we would abide by state law and would remove and replace signs as needed. Ring recommended that the township have a sign policy that would note where signs are placed, a sign inventory, and a replacement sign program. He also thinks it would be beneficial to have the supervisors conduct an annual road inspection in the spring of the township signage. Koch will bring a Sign Policy for the township to review at the December meeting. Sathra inquired if the stimulus money can be used for the signs. Ladzun stated that Dakota County had previously stated they would create a detailed informational plan via a zoom meeting or some other type of communication to let the townships in the county know what the stimulus money could be used for. The initial date for this information to be relayed was sometime in December.
- Building Inspector Contract - Beaver Creek Companies (Mark Ceminsky) has a contract with the township that would have a continuance on it if the township is happy with his performance. He would like the township to keep an open mind for the maintenance fees for plumbing, heating, siding, etc. as these may need to be increased because of increased fuel and insurance costs that have been steadily going up. Koch will work with Ceminsky on an updated version of the contract.
- Schedule of Fees - It was noted that the Schedule of Fees need to be updated along with the valuation table so the costs are comparable to the ICC (International Code Council). This update schedule would also provide the residents of the township a clean and more crystal-clear price for some of the basic permits that are required in the township.
- Town Board Meeting Time and Day - The town board decides the date and time that town board meeting is held and this can be changed by a resolution. Koch would like the town board to consider moving the date that the township meets to either a Wednesday or Thursday so she could continue to attend the meetings without conflicts from prior obligations or commitments. Rueger suggested earlier in the month due to financial obligations so payments could be made on time, however he did mention that the bank statement barely makes it for the meeting now. Ring stated that Wednesday would be off the board due to the meetings held at the PACE Hall for their meetings. Ceminsky stated that he is not available on the second Thursday of each month. This will be tabled until the December meeting.
- Ordinance Book – Koch has updated the ordinance book and suggests it be put on the website once it has been reviewed and checked for accuracy.

Other Business:

A discussion was held regarding the accuracy of the July 2021 minutes. The board decided to

review the recording of the meeting and make corrections if needed at the December 2021 meeting.

Adjourn

At 10:16p.m. Felty motioned to adjourn; Ring seconded. All were in favor and motion carried.

Cynthia Ladzun  
Vermillion Township Clerk

VERMILLION TOWNSHIP RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

TREASURERS REPORT

12/21/2021

VERMILLION BANK ACCOUNT R&B NOW ACCOUNTS (PUBLIC)

PREVIOUS BALANCE ON

12/6/2021

\$ 254,960.79

RECEIPTS (INCOME)

DEPOSIT DATE	NAME	DESCRIPTION/TYPE	CHECK #	CK. DATE	
11/15/2021	STEVE LOUIS	SEPTIC PERMIT	8042	11/6/2021	\$ 300.00
11/17/2021	GINTHER, NAUER	PERMITS	5447, 2462	10/208, 11/15/21	\$ 1,060.16
11/23/2021	DAKOTA COUNTY	DNR PILT PAY 2021	EFT	11/22/2021	\$ 1,445.50
11/23/2021	STATE OF MN	ARPA COVID 19	EFT	11/23/2021	\$ 2,144.97
12/1/2021	DAKOTA COUNTY	TAX DISTRIBUTION	EFT	12/1/2021	\$ 147,845.57
	INTEREST PAID 28 DAYS				\$ 193.32

DISBURSEMENTS (EXPENSES)

DATE	CHECK NUMBER	NAME	DESCRIPTION/TYPE	
11/16/2021	7319	BEAVER CREEK	PERMITS	(\$1,567.42)
11/16/2021	7320	CAMPBELL KNUITSON	VT ATTORNEY GENERAL BUSINESS	(\$3,561.00)
11/16/2021	7321	ECM PUBLISHERS	AD	(\$92.25)
11/16/2021	7322	ENVIROTECH	VT ROADS DUST CONTROL	(\$29,993.16)
11/16/2021	7323	HRA	FIRE PROTECTION	(\$50,525.78)
11/16/2021	7324	HIGHLAND RUBBISH	BOX SPRING & PRINTER	(\$131.62)
11/16/2021	7325	KIMMIES ENT.	OCTOBER WORK VT	(\$7,343.10)
11/16/2021	7326	SRE CONSULTING	SIGNS FOR VT	(\$4,890.09)
11/16/2021	7327	VERIZON WIRELESS	VT CELL	(\$50.06)
			ENDING BALANCE	\$ 309,795.83

VERMILLION BANK ACCOUNT GOPHER NOW ACCOUNTS (PUBLIC)				
PREVIOUS BALANCE				\$ 63,509.57
INCOME		INTEREST PAID	NUMBER OF DAYS 28	\$ 50.18
			ENDING BALANCE	\$ 63,559.75
VERMILLION BANK ACCOUNT GENERAL MONEY MARKET INVESTMENT				
PREVIOUS BALANCE				\$ 83,170.72
INCOME		INTEREST PAID	NUMBER OF DAYS 28	\$ 65.72
			ENDING BALANCE	\$ 83,236.44



**CLAIMS (BILLS TO PAY)**

NAME	INVOICE DATE	ACCT. NUMBER	ITEM		
BEAVER CREEK	12/6/2021	VT-21-112	PERMITS		
CAMPBELL KNUITSON	11/30/2021	35256	VT GENERAL BUSINESS		(\$2,144.15)
DAKOTA CTY. OFFICERS ASSN.	12/16/2021		JPA PUMP MAINT. INVOICE		(\$4,031.16)
DARREL GILMER	11/12/2021		SEPTIC INSPECTIONS		(\$1,353.00)
HIGHLAND SANITATION	11/23/2021	13611	RUBBISH PICKUP TIRE		(\$875.00)
KIMMIES ENTERPRISES	12/10/2021		NOVEMBER WORK		(\$25.00)
MATTI	10/7/2021	34229102	WORK COMP. COVERAGE		(\$4,238.70)
M-R SIGN CO.	11/29/2021	T-VERM1	SIGNS AND HARDWARE		(\$376.00)
ROTHER, DENNIS	11/23/2021		CUT VT GRASS		(\$185.81)
SOLBERG AGGREGATE	3/29/2021	TICKET 75564	1" CLASS 5		(\$175.00)
STOFFEL, LEWELYN	12/7/2021		ISSUE BURN PERMITS		(\$152.02)
VERIZON WIRELESS	12/3/2021	980631378-00001	VT CELL		(\$1,200.00)
XCEL ENERGY	11/16/2021	51-4765961-6	VT UTILITY		(\$50.06)
			TOTAL		(\$14,807.01)
<b>CONTRACTOR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>				
2021 KIMMIES ENTERPRISES	\$139,839.92				
2021 HRFA	\$101,051.56				
2021 BEAVER CREEK CO	\$35,805.66				
2021 PINE BEND PAVING	\$42,317.14				
2021 ENVIRO TECH	\$56,718.28				
2021 SOLBERG AGGREGATE	\$12,100.49				

YTD