

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF VERNON TOWNSHIP HELD
ON JANUARY 8, 2026, AT 7:00 PM, AT VERNON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
3050 NORTH MAIN STREET, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at the hour of 7:00 p.m. by
Supervisor Kobler.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Kobler led everyone in the saying of the Pledge of
Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Those present at roll call were Supervisor Kobler, Clerk Vasquez,
Trustees Hirsh, Magati, Sebor, and Sender. Absent: None.

For the record, also present were Township Manager Gedville, Deputy
Township Manager Monie, and Attorney Williams.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined
in this Act, including a vacancy in a public office, when the
public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance,
or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of
a public office, when the public body is given power to
remove the occupant under law or ordinance; held in executive
session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3)

The Board did not enter into Executive Session.

6. APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

- a. Approval TO APPOINT BRUCE PIEPENBRINK TO FILL THE VACANCY IN
THE OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

MOTION: Made by Trustee Sender and seconded by Trustee
Sebor to appoint Bruce Piepenbrink to fill the vacancy in the
Office of Township Assessor.

DISCUSSION: Bruce Piepenbrink meets all the statutory
requirements necessary to hold the office. Additionally, the
responsibilities and details of the position were discussed
with Mr. Piepenbrink. Supervisor Kobler is confident that he
will do an outstanding job.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Hirsh, Magati, Sebor, and
Sender, and Supervisor Kobler. NAYS: None. Absent: None.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

7. OATH OF OFFICE – TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR

Clerk Vasquez administered the Oath of office to Bruce Piepenbrink
- Township Assessor.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The Board
of Trustees, December 11, 2025

MOTION: Made by Trustee Sebor and seconded by Trustee
Hirsh to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The
Board of Trustees, December 11, 2025.

Discussion: None.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

9. REPORTS

a. TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR:

-Supervisor Kobler thanked the food pantry staff and
volunteers. We were able to provide 135 meals through the
Holiday and Giving program this season.

-Congressman Brad Schneider stopped by for a tour of our Food
Pantry and took the time to wrap holiday presents.

The Supervisor filmed a video reviewing our year of giving.

-The Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) is offering a
scholarship to graduating high school seniors to continue
their education at Illinois colleges or universities.

-The Supervisor welcomes Bruce and congratulates him on his
appointment.

b. CLERK:

We are cosponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday,
February 26 from 9AM to 2PM at the Community Services
Building. We appreciate anyone that can make a blood
donation.

c. ASSESSOR:

Assessor Piepenbrink has lived in Vernon Township for 24
years. He is a Manager and Vice President for a bank in
Wheeling. He is also a member of the Rotary Club. He looks
forward to helping with the holiday food drive next year.

d. TRUSTEES:

Trustee Hirsh - No report.

Trustee Magati - No report.

Trustee Sebor - Echoed the sentiments about the staff and the volunteers working on the food pantry.

Trustee Sebor knows a group that is interested in helping in the garden or at the food pantry. She will talk with staff about further details.

Trustees Sender - Thanked the staff and volunteers for a wonderful job. Our staff have their holiday operations down to a science. He welcomed Assessor Piepenbrink.

e. STAFF:

-Township Manager Gedville shared a building update:

- There are some trim pieces that need to be completed.
- The gutter deicing system is also pending.
- Our architect has been active in addressing and completing any outstanding items.

-Landscaping update: We have been working with Manhard Consulting regarding the landscaping. Township Manager Gedville passed out a handout that included Before & After landscape renderings. The landscaping will include Illinois native plants, native prairie grasses, a native tree, and a rain garden. Also, one year of maintenance that includes weeding is in the contract.

-Township Manager Gedville was contacted by the Village of Lincolnshire to obtain a portion of Old Creek Road (approximately four-hundred feet of road). He will be collaborating with Attorney Williams to make sure that there is no negative impact on our unincorporated residents.

-The Township hired a new Highway staff member that has a CDL with Air Brake Knowledge.

-The Township hired an Executive Coordinator staff member: Annika Moody. Annika previously worked as a lifeguard in our pool and assisted in the office. She will be learning the finance side by handling accounts payable, providing backup to our cemetery and highway permitting, and assisting in passport services.

-Pool update: We are looking at redoing the plaster. We received one bid and will have an update in February.

-Roof work update: Roof work at the park and at the maintenance garage will begin on Monday.

-Deputy Township Manager Monie mentioned that camp registration for returning campers is on January 26; and that camp registration for new campers is on January 28.

-Also, 8-year-olds can now register, and our new camp hours are 9:00am to 3:00pm.

-Deputy Township Manager Monie will convey everyone's sentiments about the Holiday Program to Lauren and Nancy. We were able to provide 135 meals this year.

Additionally, the generosity of about 270 total donors has made this program successful.

-The Northern Illinois Food Bank was approached by an anonymous donor, as a result, a generous donation of \$18,750 was received and credited to our account.

f. ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

None.

g. Mental Health Board:

Trustee Hirsh mentioned that the Mental Health Board is meeting next week to evaluate twenty-four applications. They have a total of \$230,000 left to give out.

h. FOIA:

We received four Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests this month:

-One looking for a capital plan, one about building permits issued last year, an appeals attorney looking for the assessor's books, and an attorney looking for a video of a tollway crash.

10. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES IN THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:

- a. Town Fund
- b. General Assistance Fund
- c. Cemetery Fund
- d. Park Maintenance Fund
- e. Road Fund
- f. Permanent Road Fund
- g. Metra Fund
- h. Vernon Township Mental Health Board Fund

MOTION: Made by Trustee Sender and seconded by Trustee Hirsh to approve those expenditures in their aggregate of a grand total of \$312,720.16.

DISCUSSION: None.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Trustees Hirsh, Magati, Sebor, and Sender, and Supervisor Kobler. NAYS: None. Absent: None.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

11. PRIOR BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and Approval of a bid for the Aquatic Center Pool Finish Improvement project

The Board decided not to take any action on this matter.

- b. Appointment of Chris DePalma to serve as delegate to the Annual Business Meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts to be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026

MOTION: Made by Trustee Sebor and seconded by Trustee Sender to Appoint Chris DePalma to serve as delegate to the Annual Business Meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts to be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026.

DISCUSSION: None.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Made by Trustee Hirsh and seconded by Trustee Sebor to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Discussion: None

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED