

VIENNA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

Monday, September 14, 2026

CYNTHIA J. BRYAN, CLERK

Roll Call: **Present:** Rizk, Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron
 Absent: Johnson

Previous Minutes: August 10, 2026. Moved by Bryan, supported by JThomas to approve the minutes of August 10, 2026, with any changes or corrections.

All in favor

Bills: Bills in the amount of \$18,203.85 were presented. Moved by Thompson, supported by Bryan to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$18,203.85.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Rizk, Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron

Nays – None

Motion carried

Treasurer Report: Thompson stated included in your board packet is the July 2026 Treasurer's report and the July 2026 Revenue and Expense report showing the balance of general fund as of July 31st was \$8,266,916.23. Today taxes were due. The drop box is available overnight. After that there will be a 1% late fee applied and then 1% each month thereafter. Payments can no longer be made at Independent Bank for the summer tax collection. Taxes need to either be paid here in the office or online. I would like to recognize Mark Thompson for his dedication to our community. Long before my time as your treasurer, my family has been blessed to have a front row seat to watch and learn from Mark. His work ethic and his passion for serving others is unmatched. Over the years, he might be found cleaning windows inside the office, mowing grass, on the roof cleaning gutters, talking to residents as they come and go, repairing calculators, fixing toilet seats at the senior center, cleaning the library, raising and lowering flags, trimming trees, or comforting someone at a gravesite at West Vienna Cemetery. This list is so long, and yet there are countless things that no one will ever know of that have made a difference in the lives of our residents. In 1986, Verl Newman hired Mark Thompson to work for the Township to care for the building and grounds. What neither of them knew then was that their employer employee relationship would develop into a mentor mentee relationship, and then a lifelong friendship. Maybe even more of a father son relationship as time went on. It always amazes me how God weaves lives together. Verl served our township from 1959 to 2000. 25 years

as clerk and 16 years as supervisor. He would tell stories about how he used to work out of his home in the early years, during his tenure, this building was constructed, and the I-75 interchange was reconstructed. In the early 1980s, he helped to establish a charter for the Township. He was a fixture here for a long time and he was a wonderful asset to our community. Just recently, he was still asking me what's new at the Township Hall? We lost a legend Saturday morning at 99 years old; Verl Newman passed quietly at his home. I don't think it's coincidence that Verl served 41 years here, and also, the young kid that Verl mentored all those years ago is now in his 40th year of service to Vienna Township. I think it comes down to the kind of men they are. I thank both of them for the lasting impact they've made on this community. My heartfelt condolences to the entire Newman family. Our love and prayers are with you.

- Building Report:** Rizk said the building report simply has just two new constructions for new residential homes, a few roofs, and a bunch of inspections. Looks like we're closer to having another gas station completed. Goodwill is working diligently. It's all enclosed and working on the inside. Randy Wise building is coming along really well, and there's been several other additions to the business community. Culver's is coming in front of the Planning Commission very shortly so they can start construction on their building.
- Planning Report:** Thompson reported the Planning Commission did not have an August meeting due to lack of new business. But as Joe mentioned, we do have a meeting coming up September 28th and Culver's will be coming before us with their site plan and their special land use. So right now, that's all that is on our agenda for that meeting.
- ZBA:** Bryan said ZBA has a meeting this Wednesday, September 16th at 5:30 and we will be looking at two different variances. One is for Simms Chevrolet and the other one is for Dolan Drive Corporation.
- Library Report:** Thompson said included in your board packet are the July 2026 library financials. We have received checks from Vienna Township and from Thetford Township and we're waiting on the City of Clio to send theirs for our budget year. Our budget year is July 1st to June 30th. They have their invoice, and they're working on it. In the month of July, they had 3,231 visits to the library. And then in August, even with kids back to school, they still had 2,862 visits. They're running signups for new library cards. You can get prizes if you sign up. They are encouraging residents to come in for that. They are having their October book sale on Saturday, October 3rd from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Monday, October 5th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The funds from the book sale come right back to the library.

Senior Center Report: SThomas reported there was not a meeting this month.

Fire Authority Report: Bryan reported that the Fire Authority had a couple of meetings since our last board meeting. There was a couple of budget eliminations that are going to hurt the Fire Authority. In October, the state budget funding for the smoke alarm installation program is being eliminated. And we've used that a lot. We are looking into grants or donations, hopefully, to keep it going. As of last month, we've had 114 installed this year. That program has continued to gain every year since it started five or six years ago. A lot of people have benefited from that. The state budget also eliminated \$1 million appropriation that supported the Michigan Task Force and the MABAS programs. The firemen used these organizations in the event of any large disaster or event, such as a tornado, a flood, search and rescue, water rescue. As of right now, efforts are still underway to restore the funding through a budget amendment. So hopefully both of these programs will get funded again. They're very, very important to any community. The Fire Authority approved the purchase of extrication equipment for both stations. These are much better than what we have right now. The new ones will be battery-operated, and I believe they're a little more powerful. You've heard of some of the accidents on I-75 where people have to be extricated and the jaws of life have to be used to open up and extricate those folks out of there. There's a grant that is opened again that hopefully will give us the money to replace what we spent on those, which would be nice. And then a sad note, if you haven't heard already, we had a firefighter, Darin DeFreese passed away this past Thursday, September 10th. He was a firefighter for Clio for over 21 years. He was 14 years with Burton Fire, and he also was in medical transportation for 20 years. He was a true servant of the community, and our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends, for the loss of Darin DeFreese.

BDA Report: Supervisor Rizk announced the director's report says that we have a new studio that opened up. It's an artistry show by Abbey. Bridge Park has got their annual cleanup on October 12th at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served. The digital billboard that the BDA contributes to at the exit on the northbound expressway exit has engaged 161% in increase in people that have viewed it, and the views themselves are up 248%. We do surveys amongst the people that belong to the BDA, and they directly ask the clientele that come in. I think it was 11 months ago or ten months ago and they've had some great results.

Parks and Rec: Thomas said the zombie walk trunk or treat in the park is October 10th, from 530 to 830. We stopped letting people in at 830, but it goes to usually about 9:00. We do have a bigger amount of turnouts this year for trunks, and also

we're going to be having vendors in the park this year. It's growing. Last year we had about a thousand kids. And this year I expect a lot more with the response I've been getting. If you need any information, you can contact me on Facebook or through the township website. Get my information, give me a call and I'll help you out. So that's everything I have right now on the trunk or treat. In the account is \$7,959.71, which will be spending a bunch of that for the zombie walk.

Sports Complex Report: Thomas reported he was not able to attend the meeting. We did get a treasures report for the sports complex. We have \$47,477.08. I have not received a completed report from baseball, soccer, or football in the last three months. By the next meeting, the season will be over.

Supervisor Report: Rizk recognized we have representative from MMR here, Rob Heath. We've had a couple of issues that we're trying to work through, and we're monitoring those closely as far as response times. And we appreciate Rob working with us. Also, on the agenda item is payroll. It is budget time and payrolls a first step towards it. The next thing you'll see is the budget. You'll have probably three weeks to look at that. Ask any questions that you have. Our faithful accountant is working on that with me. I say working on it with me. She does 99% of the work. For those of you out there listening, because we do have a crowd that listens on the internet and on YouTube and whatever else that we broadcast on. No permits for any new work are issued at Clio Plaza. So, if they have a tenant that comes in and any work must happen there, unless they're not doing anything in the building, they can't move in. They can't get anything done. We've had several problems out there. Our international fire code has been violated. Chief Bronson has been out there. Our code enforcer has been there. We're working diligently to get past it, but we've been working with them for seven years. And so far, we've had zero results. They've asked us to spend taxpayer's money. And the last quote that we had for any work that had to be done there was close to \$700,000. I wouldn't even present it to you here as a board. There are a lot of people out there wondering what's going on with trash. We're wondering the same thing. We're meeting with their regional manager, Angelo, and with their local manager, Derek, this Thursday at 10 a.m. We've had several problems, as everyone in the community is aware of. We get up to 100 phone calls either the day of collection, or the day after. We promised that somebody would be there. They've tried to implement certain things that we've not noticed a change yet. Tomorrow will be a telling day. Our deputy treasurer is also responsible for answering the phone calls for trash complaints, we have let them know that she can't get her job done because of all the phone calls and trying to dispatch somebody to pick things up. The next thing is tonight we're going to ask you and we're going to ask this board to pass a moratorium on data centers. It's not because we're trying to dissuade anybody from coming in as a data center. But the misinformation and lack of

information involved makes it very, very difficult for it to be presented to planning without some guidance. So tonight we're going to be asking for a one-year moratorium. It's on the agenda. I want everybody to know why. Because we don't know enough about them yet. That has to do with vibrations in the ground. It has to do with water use, electricity, etc. so when we get the answers, then you'll see something come forward but originates from planning eventually.

Additions/Changes: None

Correspondence: Letter - State of Michigan, Adult Foster Care License
Report - August Activity Reports, Genesee County Sheriff's Department
Notice of Hearing - State of Michigan, Consumers Energy

Public Comment: Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting, and such comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.

Nicole – Mott Community College

New Business:

1. Final Reading and Adoption - Rezoning Ordinance

Moved by Bryan, supported by Thompson to adopt rezoning ordinance 470 to rezone parcel 18-17-300-029, from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) to I-1 (Industrial).

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk

Nays – None Motion carried

2. Resolution 09-14-26-19 - Data Center Temporary Moratorium

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to adopt Resolution 09-14-26-19, to establish a temporary moratorium on data centers.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk, Bryan

Nays – None Motion carried

3. Health Contribution Act 152

Moved by Bryan, supported by JThomas to opt out of the publicly funded Health Insurance Contribution Act 152 in 2027.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk, Bryan, Thompson

Nays – None Motion carried

4. 2027 Proposed Salaries

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to approve 2027 proposed salaries as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – SThomas, Muron, Rizk, Bryan, Thompson, JThomas

Nays – None Motion carried

5. 2027-2028 Assessor's Contract

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to approve 2027-2028 contract with Legacy Assessing Services, Inc as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Muron, Rizk, Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas

Nays – None Motion carried

6. 2027 Building Official Contract

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to approve 2027 Building Official contract with Michael Mantei as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Rizk, Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron

Nays – None Motion carried

7. Engagement Agreement - Michigan Tax Tribunal

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to approve engagement agreement with Foster, Swift, Collins, and Smith, PC, at a rate of \$300.00/hour for legal representation in the Michigan Tax Tribunal, as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – Bryan, Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk

Nays – None Motion carried

8. Tree Removal

Moved by Bryan, supported by JThomas to approve agreement with Riddles Tree Service in the amount of \$1,800.00 to remove tree at West Vienna Cemetery.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas –Thompson, JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk, Bryan
Nays – None Motion carried

9. BS&A Payments

Moved by Bryan, supported by Thompson to approve agreement, as presented, with BS&A for Integrated Payments, with an initial payment for card reading terminals for \$600.00.

ROLL CALL:

Yeas – JThomas, SThomas, Muron, Rizk, Bryan, Thompson
Nays – None Motion carried

10. Trick or Treat Hours

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to set 2026 Trick or Treating Hours from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Saturday, October 31, 2026.

All in favor

11. Set Public Hearing - 2027 Budget

Moved by Bryan, supported by SThomas to set Public Hearing for 2027 Township Budget for Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

All in favor

Public Comment: Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting, and such comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.

Rob Heath – MMR

Board Comment: Johnson – Absent

Muron – No comment

Thompson – I want to give my condolences to the family of Darin tonight. My daughter and son-in-law had the privilege to work with him, and I know that EMS family feels that loss. A special thank you to my deputy, Jeni. As well as Angie, Shelly, Joe, and Cindy for picking up the slack at the tax counter.

SThomas – No comment

JThomas – Thank you everyone for coming tonight.

Bryan – I want to remind everyone that absentee ballots are supposed to be available the 24th this month. If you are interested in voting absentee, please contact either Angie or myself to come in and fill out an application.

Rizk – No comment

Moved to adjourn at 6:05 PM

Joseph A. Rizk
Supervisor

Cynthia J. Bryan
Clerk

CERTIFICATION:
STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF GENESEE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Township Board of the Vienna Charter Township, Genesee County, Michigan, held on the 14th day of September, 2026.

Cynthia J. Bryan
Clerk