VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Joint Vernon Township Board + Building Corporation Meeting

May 4, 2026

Note: This off-cycle meeting occurred in place of the May 20, 2026 regularly scheduled Vernon Township Board meeting.

The joint meeting of the Vernon Township Board and Vernon Township Building Corporation was held on May 4, 2026, at 602 Vitality Drive, Fortville, Indiana. The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Attendance

Township Board Members Present:

- Tim Plank, President
- Mary Beth Sears, Vice President

Township Board Member Absent:

- Larry J. Longman, Secretary

Township Officials / Staff / Consultants Present:

- Florence May, Township Trustee
- Stacy Nielsen, Deputy Trustee
- Jeff Bellamy, Township Attorney
- Mark Elder, Fire Chief
- Building Corporation representatives and bond compliance consultant

A quorum of the Vernon Township Board was established with two (2) voting members present.

II. Building Corporation Business

A. Building Corporation Minutes

Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the prior Building Corporation meeting.

Second: Seconded as stated during the meeting.

Vote: Building Corporation vote carried - Motion Passed

B. Building Corporation Officer Nominations and Election

Nominations were made for the Building Corporation officers. The slate presented was Brendan Hartnett as President, Robert Holland as Vice President, and Jeff Augustinovich as Secretary.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the Building Corporation officer slate as presented.

Second: Seconded as stated during the meeting.

Vote: Building Corporation vote carried - Motion Passed

The Township Attorney reported that the Building Corporation corporate report had been filed with the Indiana Secretary of State in February and that the Building Corporation remained in good standing for another two-year period.

Bond payment schedules, amortization schedules, EMMA filings, continuing disclosure requirements, and arbitrage reporting obligations were reviewed. No Township Board action was taken on these items.

III. Approval of Township Board Minutes

The March 26, 2026 minutes were deferred because they were not available for approval and a board member present for that meeting was absent. The April 15, 2026 minutes were presented for approval.

Motion: Mary Beth Sears moved to approve the Vernon Township Board meeting minutes from April 15, 2026.

Second: Tim Plank

Vote: 2 Aye / 0 Nay - Motion Passed

IV. Property Updates

A. Station 431 HVAC Work

An update was provided regarding HVAC replacement work at Station 431. Mission Mechanical began project work on site, with four units to be removed and replaced. Work was expected to take approximately one week. The project also included eliminating certain mini-split systems and tying affected areas into the central system where appropriate.

B. Mediation Update

The Township Attorney reported that mediation was successful and that the outcome was within parameters previously established by the Building Corporation. Specific terms remain confidential pursuant to the settlement agreement and confidentiality clause. Payments from mediation participants were reported as in progress, with two of three participants having made payment.

C. Station 432

Minor issues related to rooftop HVAC units and roof leaks were reported at Station 432. No extraordinary issues were reported, and project partners were responding to address items as needed.

D. Land Purchase

The Township Attorney reported that the land acquisition for the future fire station site was on track for closing, subject to final transfer documents, title company requirements, recording of the survey, and settlement statement preparation.

V. Old Business

Trustee May provided an update regarding her upcoming absence and confirmed that Jeff Augustinovich would serve as Township Trustee designee during that period. Stacy Nielsen will continue in her current role. The designee will countersign checks and township assistance purchase orders as needed to maintain required fiscal controls.

VI. Fire Department Update and Surplus Vehicles

Trustee May recognized Chief Mark Elder for his service as Vernon Township Fire Department's first full-time Fire Chief and noted his upcoming transition to serve as EMA/Homeland Security Director for Hancock County.

The Board reviewed Resolution No. 2026-5-4A regarding surplus vehicles, specifically a 2014 Ford Explorer and a 2001 Ford Expedition no longer being used by the Fire Department.

Motion: Mary Beth Sears moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-5-4A, a resolution approving the sale of surplus vehicles, including a 2014 Ford Explorer and a 2001 Ford Expedition.

Second: Tim Plank

Vote: 2 Aye / 0 Nay - Motion Passed

VII. Quarterly Finance, Debt, and Investment Reports

Quarterly finance reports were presented, including the township general fund, welfare administration, township assistance, fire fund activity, debt report, and Trust Indiana investment report. Discussion included current budget pacing, township assistance trends, land acquisition encumbrances, the ladder truck payment, remaining debt obligations, and investment earnings.

Motion: Mary Beth Sears moved to approve the quarterly finance report, debt report, and investment report as presented.

Second: Tim Plank

Vote: 2 Aye / 0 Nay - Motion Passed

VIII. 2027 Fire Territory Budget Update

Chief Elder presented a 2027 Fire Territory budget update. The Fire Territory Board had reviewed and approved the proposed budget. The proposed budget included salary adjustments, anticipated insurance costs, additional part-time staffing coverage, and increased supply and contractual costs. Presentations to McCordsville and Fortville were scheduled for May 12 and May 18, respectively.

IX. McCordsville Cemetery Right-of-Way Offer

The Township Attorney provided an update regarding an offer from USI Consultants on behalf of McCordsville for right-of-way acquisition at McCordsville Cemetery. The area discussed was approximately 0.028 acre, or approximately 1,220 square feet, with an offer of approximately $9,715, including fence relocation allowance. The Township Attorney will seek additional assurances regarding cemetery impacts, potential disturbance of remains, indemnification, sidewalk maintenance

responsibility, pedestrian safety, and related details before a recommendation is brought back to the Board.

No formal action was taken on this item.

X. Additional Cemetery Maintenance Discussion

A concern was raised regarding a fence post at McCordsville Cemetery appearing lower than adjacent sections. Township staff will review the condition.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Total Meeting Duration: 40 minutes.

Minutes submitted by:
Larry J. Longman, Secretary

Minutes approved by:

Tim Plank, President

Mary Beth Sears, Vice President

Larry J. Longman, Secretary

Florence May, Township Trustee

RESOLUTION 2026-5-4A

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF VERNON TOWNSHIP, HANCOCK COUNTY, INDIANA

The Township Board of Vernon Township, Hancock County, Indiana (the "Board") met at a duly called and authorized meeting of the Board on the date set forth below, such meeting being called pursuant to notice stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting received by all Board Members and published according to statute, and the following resolutions were made, seconded and adopted by those present at the meeting, which constitute a majority of the Board.

WHEREAS, Vernon Township owns the items identified on the attached Exhibit "A" (the "Equipment"); and

WHEREAS, the Township Board finds that Vernon Township can no longer effectively use the Equipment in providing fire and emergency services or the equipment has surpassed its useful life to the citizens of the Township;

WHEREAS, Indiana Code §5-22-22 permits the Township to dispose of surplus personal property no longer needed or useful to the Township;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Trustee be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered as the purchasing agent for the Township to take all actions necessary to dispose of the Equipment pursuant to the provisions of Indiana Code §5-22-22.

Dated this 4th day of MAY, 2026.

AYE	NAY
Tom Black	
Mary Beth Lear	

ATTEST:

Florence May, Vernon Township Trustee