

Vernon Township Budget Hearing (March 9, 2026)

The Vernon Township Board convened a budget hearing at 6:30 p.m. with all board members present. The board reviewed the proposed budgets for the General, Fire, Ambulance, Refuse, and Revolving & Improvement Funds, as well as the 2025 tax reconciliation. The treasurer presented the reconciliation, and the board examined revenues, expenditures, and overall fund totals.

The clerk presented the 2025–2026 budget amendments, including adjustments across several General Fund departments and the Refuse Fund. After discussion, the board approved the proposed budget, the 2025 tax reconciliation report, and the amendments.

The board then set the annual meeting schedules for the township board, planning commission, and zoning board of appeals. Wages for all township employees, boards, and commissions were reviewed and approved.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Synopsis – Vernon Township Board Meeting (March 9, 2026)

The Vernon Township Board met on March 9, 2026, with all board members present. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m., and the agenda was approved with additions.

Key Reports and Actions

- **Road Commission:** Presented 2026 project proposals (~\$200k). New stop signs installed, public requested additional signage at Garrison & Brown Rd.
- **Fire Department:** Reported 5 fire and 5 EMS runs in February; burn permit system and website are now active. Approved sale of the 1997 fire truck for \$4,000. Fire report approved.
- **Ballot Language:** Board approved two fire millage renewal/new millage resolutions for the August ballot.
- **Planning Commission:**
 - Reviewed March 2 minutes and recommended approval of Holiday Shores' Special Use Permit with conditions. The Township Board approved the permit and site plan with conditions.
 - **Planning Services:** Due to dissatisfaction with McKenna's service, the board voted to issue an RFP for new planning support.
 - **2026 Planning Work Plan:** Approved, excluding spending on Data Center Ordinances.
- **Building Report:** Ten permits issued in February; minor correction noted. Report approved.
- **Ambulance (SSESA):** Rates expected to rise; new ambulances arriving soon.
- **Sheriff:** 139 incidents reported in February.
- **Clerk Updates:** Ballots for May election to be mailed by March 26; state requiring replacement of Dominion voting equipment in 2027; residents confused by voter registration card mailings; new township website is live.
- **Shiawassee River Coalition:** Board approved a \$100 donation and reappointed John Wolf as township representative.

Public Comment Highlights

- No storm damage at Chalker Cemetery.

- Concern raised about lack of available water for potential data center developments.
- Fire department thanked for contributions to Greenwood Cemetery; 40 flags ready for Memorial Day.

Old Business

- **Auditor Selection:** Three CPA firms will present proposals before the April meeting.
- **SATA Funding:** Board approved holding an April 13 public hearing to begin the special assessment process.
- **Cemetery Records:** Due to incomplete records for Love Joy Cemetery, the board authorized the clerk to use plot maps to establish ownership when paperwork is missing.

New Business

- Bills and payroll were reviewed and approved.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.