



AVON TOWNSHIP – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MINUTE Notes

433 E Washington Street,
Round Lake Park,
Tuesday, May 5/12/2026, 6:30pm

Date: 5/12/2026

1) Call to order: (time) 6:30 pm

2) Pledge of Allegiance: Clerk Tracey Repa

3) Roll Call:

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Trustee Nieder – Aye

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Additionally present: Assessor Brust, Clerk Repa, Bob Kula

Quorum established? Yes

4) Public Comment- Public Comment shall be limited to 3 minutes per speaker

None

5) Reports

A. Supervisor: Recording meetings now.

B. Clerk: In packet

C. Assessor: In packet

D. Highway Dept: In packet

E. Trustee Sloan: In packet. 1) Requests a timeline for setting up budgets in the next go-around (when we start, when we review, when we finalize). 2) My vote is my voice and the only say we have for agenda items. Sometimes we don't have all the information, or we don't fully understand what is

being said at a meeting. We need more transparent communication. We have to represent the people.

Motion to accept the reports as presented:

Motion: Nieder

Second: Henning

Trustee Arroyo - Abstain

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Nieder - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

6) Old Business: None

7) New Business

A. Approval of March 14, 2026, Township Board Meeting Minutes

Discussion: Bauman requests recordings of all meetings going forward be sent to Bianca ? Last name --- for posting to the public.

Repa: Can do.

Motion: Henning

Second: Neider

Trustee Nieder – Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

B. Approval of May 4th, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes

Motion: Henning

Second: Arroyo

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Trustee Nieder - Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

C. Approval of April 14th, 2026, Budget Hearing

Motion: Nieder

Second: Sloan

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Trustee Nieder - Aye

Supervisor Bauman- Aye

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

D. Approval of Monthly Bills as Presented

1. Prepaid Bills

Discussion: Trustee Henning, Chat GPT questions

Motion: Henning

Second: Nieder

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Trustee Nieder – Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Motion carries Prepaid Bills: Yes

Motion denied: Yes

Motion carries Outstanding Bills: Yes

Motion denied:

Discussion: Trustee Henning, Chat GPT questions

2. Outstanding Bills

Discussion on Nearmap Invoice: Contract discussion clarifying pricing

SEE the entire conversation at the end of this packet

Motion: Sloan

Second: Arroyo

Trustee Nieder -Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Abstain

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

E. Presentation from Brad Kuczynski on the Community Garden

- Edible landscaping bed has been planted
- Garden Club is doing a “Grow Along” (un-named seeds, planted then charted to watch what will end up growing
- Herb Spiral location determined
- Facebook fundraiser for the Garden Club raised \$1000
- Home Depot has been helpful, a grant with them will assist in installing the spigot
- Home Depot will replace wood raised beds with metal beds

- The Audubon Society provided a matching grant for native landscaping
 - Question: Will we get a Paw Paw tree? Yes
 - Comment: Cheesecake Factory makes Paw Paw Cheesecake
 - Paw Paw Festival is an end goal

F. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Purchase of Stainless Steel Dump Body For the 2019 F550

- aluminum bodies, will last forever

Motion: Arroyo

Second: Sloan

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Trustee Nieder - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Motion carries: Yes

Motion denied:

G. Discussion and Possible Action on Landscaper's Contract/Bid for 2026

Discussion: Contract was explained and requests were made to table the discussion till COW

Motion: Arroyo

Second: Sloan

H. Discussion Only on Back-to-School Event on July 11, 2026

Discussion:

- Amazon ordering has been a success
- Avon is partnering with State Representative Laura Beaver Diaz and State Senator Mary Edley Allen
- Goal is to give out 400 to 500 backpacks
- Must live in Avon Township
- Multiple social services will be represented including a possible autism table

I. Discussion Only on Current and Future Use of the Township Garage

Discussion:

- Trustee Henning inquired why the car was not in the garage on the property.
- Supervisor Bauman explained that the garage has \$50,000 dollars of flood mitigation equipment in it
- It is the Township garage

J. Resolution RS 2026-0512-001 to Transfer Previously Appropriated Funds within the Assessors Fund 12 (Pay for the Assessors car)

Motion: Arroyo

Second: Nieder

Trustee Sloan - Aye

Trustee Arroyo - Aye

Trustee Henning - Aye

Supervisor Bauman - Aye

Trustee Nieder - Aye

8) Member's Remarks: Clerk Repa, commented that the flag for LGBTQ is continuous. The LGBTQ flag will be displayed for the month of June and then on the Juneteenth, (June 19th) for in perpetuity.

9) Executive Session: None

11) Adjournment: Arroyo and Henning

12) Time: 7:35 pm

Avon Township is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting of facilities, are asked to call the Township office prior to the meeting.

As Clerk, I have observed continued confusion regarding the Nearmap discussions. In the interest of clarity, I have taken the initiative to transcribe the full conversation from the meeting in its entirety. Please be advised that this falls outside the standard duties of the Clerk and should not be considered a precedent for future meetings. I trust this will adequately address the Board's needs.

Nearmap conversation:

Bauman: have you given it (the contract) to us?

Brust: I gave it to Anmarie.

Bauman: When?

Brust: Probably the beginning of the month.

Bauman: Because the \$7000 would be great if we would be able to see it in the contract because I know that there was also an option of doing an extended four year that would have cost us \$16,000 rather than \$7000 a year. I thought it was that we were buying a program. For \$7000, I had no idea that we were.

Brust: I gave it to Anmarie. It was \$7000 each year.

Bauman: Did you let the board know that it was?

Brust: I didn't know I had to. I was using it for a tool for my job and that's why I included in the budget.

Bauman: If we were going to use it every year, it would have been better if we knew more about it. We bought 4 years would have cost us X amount of money instead of spending \$7000 a year. I honestly had no idea. We were happy to give it to you because we knew it was gonna help your program and help you with Assessor's office. We agreed that (but) I had no idea that it was annually.

Brust: Oh, I gave her the contract.

Bauman: But when we talked about it at the board meeting for approval, right, we didn't, we did not know that we did not know was annual.

Brust: Oh, I didn't know that.

Sloan: Did we approve that separately?

Bauman: It was, it was part of the budget, part of the project.

Henning: It was part of her budget.

Bauman: I agreed to it thinking that it was we were buying a program, not that it was a \$7000 and really where we could have discussed if there was a different plan that was never presented to us.

Brust: Oh, I didn't know that I had to do that.

Lawyer Mack: Can you - is there, is it cheaper if you do it in multiple years?

Brust: Yes, that's what I did in the four years plan.

Lawyer Mack: So, you did do a plan 4-year program?

Brust: Yes, that is why I did it in 4 years.

Bauman: So, if you did get the so if you did \$16,000, but thing is I thought the board only approved that the \$7,000?

Brust: Right, because it's for four years. Every year it's \$7,000 and it was it got down got down from \$15,000 a year.

Bauman: OK, so originally you told me it was \$7000 for the-

Lawyer Mack: It sounds like that's what she found out after?

Brust: Yeah. First one was \$15,00 that (correction) was \$16,000 so then I got it down to -- because it's a governmental business, that's why I got it for \$7000. So, I did get it down.

Bauman: For four years though?

Brust: Every four years. Yes.

Bauman: But could we have bought it for \$16,000?

Brust: No, not for \$16,000 every four years. So that is a year, every year for four years. We could have got it for or \$16,500 thousand.

Bauman: OK. Can you start doing that for four years?

Brust: I got it for \$7000 every year for four years. Because they wanted it for \$16,500 -- and I got it down.

Bauman: So can you send the board? So, can you send the board the contract?

Brust: I'll have to get it from Anmarie (Finance). OK.

Bauman: Can you get that for us this week?

Brust: OK, if I can see her tomorrow and get it from her.

Bauman: Ok will you please? Because I'm not--

Brust: Ok I just said I will.

Brust: Because I just think, OK, thank you.

Repa, Clerk: Can I ask a question, so I have this clear? The way you have it set up, at the end of four years it will be \$28,000?

Brust: Well, no, because then you will negotiate another price.

Repa: And you know at the end of four years we will spend \$28,000 and then you will be negotiating a new price. We won't worry about (negotiating) a new price.

Brust: It all depends on your population, right?

Repa: Right. And if the yearly contract was \$16,000, it would have been \$64,000, (total) right?

Brust: Right-

Repa: That's all I want to know.

Bauman: So, I thought that was a deal - that if you did so many years, they were going to reduce the price.

Mack: That is the deal--

Brust: That is the deal.

Bauman: That is the deal?

Brust: That is the deal. It was based on \$16,500 a year -- Every year -- I got it down to \$7000.

Bauman: OK. So, you'll get us the contract, and we'll be able to see it. Thank you very much.

Brust: You're welcome.

Bauman: OK, so any other discussion? On the Nearmap? On outstanding bills?

May Supervisor's Report

When disaster strikes in our community, the Avon Township Supervisor's Office is there to help.

Years ago, when I served as a trustee, our township was awarded a \$50,000 grant for flood mitigation equipment. At the time, we understood the importance of being prepared, but I never truly realized the impact that investment would someday have on our community.

Throughout the years, the equipment has been used when needed, but never as extensively as it was this past April.

After countless days of heavy rain, many homes throughout Avon Township experienced serious flooding. During those difficult days, our office worked around the clock — 24 hours a day for several days straight — to make sure residents had access to the equipment they needed to protect and save their homes.

We provided wet vacs, dehumidifiers, pumps, fans, generators, hoses, and power cords to residents in need. Even at 2:00 in the morning, our doors were open and equipment was still being distributed. Why? Because that is what we do.

The township garage stores most of this equipment, and yes, it takes up a large amount of space. But during this disaster, that space became one of the most important assets our township had. When our residents needed help, the equipment was ready and available immediately.

Over the course of several days, our office helped 38 residents by distributing flood mitigation equipment to families throughout Avon Township. We shared information across social media, reaching thousands of people throughout the community so they knew help was available. We also created instructional videos to make it easier for residents to learn how to properly use the equipment during an already stressful time.

To ensure accountability and proper tracking of township property, residents borrowing equipment were required to complete a form and provide identification. Once residents were finished using the equipment, they returned it so it could be cleaned, organized, and prepared for the next family in need.

I am incredibly proud of our staff and volunteers who stepped up without hesitation, working long hours to make sure residents received help when they needed it most. Volunteers also assisted by helping clean and re-shelve equipment as it was returned, allowing us to continue helping residents as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Because the township was prepared and able to respond immediately, many residents were able to limit flooding damage before it became severe. Quick access to equipment helped families avoid additional destruction, reduce costly repairs, and begin recovery right away. The ability to provide immediate assistance saved residents thousands of dollars and protected homes throughout our community.

This experience proved the importance of planning ahead and investing in emergency preparedness before disaster happens. Looking back, I could never have imagined the impact that \$50,000 grant would have years later. Because of that preparation and because of the dedication of our staff and volunteers, homes were saved.

The response showed exactly why local government matters. We are the front line. We are here every single day serving the people of Avon Township. Local government is often the first call people make during a crisis, and our responsibility is to respond immediately with action, compassion, and leadership.

As Supervisor, I believe our responsibility is clear: we do not wait for someone else to take control during a crisis — we lead.

I also want to thank the residents of Avon Township for their patience, cooperation, and willingness to help one another during a very difficult time. This response showed the strength of our community and what can be accomplished when people come together to help their neighbors.

As we move forward, we will continue evaluating ways to strengthen our emergency response efforts and ensure we are prepared for future disasters. In difficult moments, Avon Township comes together. Neighbors help neighbors, and our office will always stand ready to serve this community.

The Supervisor's Office is here for the people because of the people, and we will continue to stand ready whenever our community needs us most.

Preparedness matters. Leadership matters. And when our community needed help most, Avon Township was there.

Report: Trustee Patty Sloan

I would like to report, on the record, my concerns for our budget process and outcomes. One request I have before I explain is that **before we begin presenting and reviewing budgets next year, the trustees receive a timeline of expected dates for the budget process.** Having a timeline will allow us a snapshot of what's to come, which will create a smoother path to solid decisions.

As I look to next year's budget votes, I see my vote as my voice, not the conversations, not the questions, but simply my yeah or nah. People often say actions speak louder than words. Our vote speaks our truth louder than anything. Of course, conversations and questions can be productive contributors to strong decision making, as long as they include transparent communication. But here is the bottom line - our vote speaks for us. It is our power.

The power we have matters because we are here to represent the people. We are not here to get what we want or to keep others from getting what they want. We are here to foster decisions that are good for our constituents. In order to do that we must know who the people of Avon Township are and what they need. Based on data available for 2024–2026, the financial picture for Avon Township shows significant economic pressure on residents. Some data sources, such as Data Commons, report a 2024 median income in Avon township of \$43,706. Another source indicates the median household income for Avon Township was \$50,000. One report went as high as \$66,000. This financial picture supports the need for us to create a frugal, sustainable budget, one that doesn't risk drastic tax increases or severe service cuts for our most vulnerable people. **Our votes need to reflect our empathy for the financial capacity of our constituents.**

That said, I have concerns about some budget decisions, which give rise to expectations for next year. According to the assessor's revised budget emailed on March 8 of this year, the biggest reason for the \$72,000 dollar (42%) increase in salary money was the demands a Quad Year puts on the Assessor's workforce. Since next year at this time we won't be facing a Quad Year, I am putting it on record that **I expect a % decrease in salary money from fund 12 for the 2027/2028 budget.** In a township where salaries are low and taxes high, we need to keep the steep financial obligations of our residents at the forefront of our decisions. We need to speak with our vote.