

# Minutes Board of Town Trustees

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STATE OF ILLINOIS

LAKE COUNTY

TOWN OF NEWPORT

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the office of the Town Clerk at the Village Hall on April 17, 2013.

**Members Present:**

Beth Hartford, Trustee

Katherine Newyear, Trustee

Ron Miller, Trustee

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Daniel Dziekan, Highway Commissioner

George Pavelich, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

**Call to Order:** Supervisor Pavelich called the meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Supervisor Pavelich previous led the Pledge of Allegiance at the preceding General Town Budget Hearing.

**Roll Call:** In attendance were Beth Hartford, Ron Miller, Katherine Newyear, Dan Dziekan, Jerome Berens, George Pavelich and Debbie Spurgeon. Richard Galgan, absent.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Hartford; seconded by Newyear to approve the agenda.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

**Approval of Minutes:** Supervisor Pavelich requested a motion and second to approve the March 20, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes. No discussion.

Motion by Newyear; seconded by Miller.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion passed 3-0.

**Township Business:**

Supervisor Pavelich noted Fire Board Trustee, Doug Reno sent him a letter requesting re-appointment to the fire board for another term. Supervisor Pavelich is in agreement, and requested and received a motion and second to approve the appointment of Doug Reno to the position of Fire District Trustee. Newyear inquired if there were other interested candidates. Pavelich stated he had received none, adding this typically occurs only when there is a vacancy.

Motion made by Hartford; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

**Finances:**

The bill packets were provided for review.

Pavelich requested a motion and second for approval of the General Assistance Fund bills.

Motion made by Newyear; seconded by Hartford.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

Pavelich requested a motion and second for approval of the General Town Fund, including Assessor's General Town bills.

Motion made by Newyear; seconded by Hartford.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

Pavelich requested a motion and second for approval of the Gravel Fund bills.

Motion made by Newyear; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

Pavelich asked for the whereabouts of the Road & Bridge bills around the table, and is told Dziekan is reviewing them as the board cannot pay legal bills since Dziekan has no budget in force. [The Highway Commissioner has not yet presented a road district budget for the new

fiscal year already in effect.] Pavelich asks if the legal bills Dziekan included in his monthly bill packet are the same figures which were previously denied for not being associated with Dziekan's lawsuits (yes). Dziekan modified and initialed the Road & Bridge bill packet to remove the submissions for the attorney firm of Ancel Glink, et al., and for additional reimbursement to himself. Trustees also initialed the changes.

Highway Commissioner Dziekan then stated he believes he is operating under a new budget. He is reminded he is operating under no budget, as he has not yet submitted one nor held a public budget hearing. Dziekan asks if road district bills are still going to be able to be paid this month. Yes, but only customary/necessary bills can be paid outside of a current budget.

Motion and second for approval of the amended Road & Bridge Fund bills now totaling \$19,313.41, which includes removal of two lines for additional legal fees previously denied-- \$10,385.21 and \$1,290.00.

Motion made by Miller; seconded by Newyear.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays, none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

**Assessor's Report:** Assessor Berens thanked voters for electing him to serve another term as township assessor. He noted Newport assessments will be going down again this year, but cautioned residents that the state will likely do the same as last year, and increase the tax rate effectively negating a reduction in assessments. Berens invited residents to an assessment workshop, for which he provided fliers.

**Highway Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Dziekan stated the road district has sandbags available to combat area flooding if residents need them.

**Trustee Comments:**

Hartford – No report.

Miller-- No report

Galgan -- No report.

Newyear – No report.

**Clerk Comments:** No report.

**Supervisor's Report:** Supervisor Pavelich commented he wore his Butch Bennett Excavating shirt to the meeting tonight in remembrance of former long-time Newport trustee, Butch Bennett.

He noted the years of service of the soon-to-depart board members and suggested that it may be appropriate to present Trustee Rich Galgan with a memento at the May meeting for his 20 years of service to Newport Township. All were in agreement.

**Attorney's Report:** No report.

**Public Comment:**

There were no public wishing to comment.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Hearing no public comment, Supervisor Pavelich requested a motion and a second to adjourn.

Motion by Hartford; seconded by Newyear.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passed 3-0. Galgan absent.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

**Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013.**

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**Deborah Spurgeon, Township Clerk**