

Minutes Board of Town Trustees

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 July 23, 2014.

Members Present:

Beth Hartford, Trustee

Ronald Miller, Trustee

Diane Crittenden, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Rodger Edmunds, Highway Commissioner

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore called the Special meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. [The Regular meeting scheduled for July 16th was postponed at Supervisor Whitmore's request and rescheduled by Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer as a Special meeting.]

Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Whitmore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: In attendance were Beth Hartford, Ron Miller, Rodger Edmunds, Jerome Berens, Diane Crittenden, Corey Kirschhoffer, Randy Whitmore and Debbie Spurgeon. Also present, Ancel Glink Attorney, Adam Lasker.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was not called for approval.

Approval of Minutes: Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion and second to approve the minutes from June 18, 2014. No discussion.

Motion by Hartford, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes from June 18, 2014 as presented.

Voice vote: Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion passed 5-0.

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore introduced Mayor Tim Smith of Old Mill Creek who indicated his attendance tonight is related to the portion of Edwards Road under the jurisdiction of his village. Highway Commissioner Rodger Edmunds identified possible remedies including the Village of Old Mill Creek de-annexing the property and associated roadway or considering a formal intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Newport Township to maintain the roadway.

Edmunds says he has patched the roadway on a couple of occasions and has not received payment for the materials paid for by Newport. Tim Smith has legal questions regarding de-annexation. He maintains Old Mill Creek doesn't have the money to maintain roads. Edmunds says he has looked into the de-annexation process for Old Mill Creek and says it is less expensive for Old Mill Creek to hire Newport to maintain the road. Trustee Beth Hartford suggests the de-annexation process is the proper pathway and is concerned about Newport tax dollars being spent to maintain another municipalities' roadway. Edmunds admits Newport will likely not receive enough money through IGA to balance out what it will cost to repair and re-pave the road. Hartford suggests Edmunds could better defend to taxpayers a permanent fix (de-annexation) by Old Mill Creek rather than signing up to maintain a road (IGA) that Newport is not responsible for. Trustee Corey Kirschhoffer notes Edmunds is cumulatively using all of our funds to maintain all of the roads. Supervisor Randy Whitmore asks Tim Smith if he wants to look into de-annexation. Smith indicates he does. Kirschhoffer believes this is the most cost effective path. Smith has concerns about de-annexation. Hartford suggests he needs to check with Old Mill Creeks' attorney for his questions. Edmunds requests Adam Lasker (Ancel Glink) look into this matter. Smith thanks Edmunds, noting his appreciation for Newport's willingness to do so, indicating there is no benefit to Old Mill Creek to maintain Edwards Road. Hartford states there is no benefit for Newport either. Smith says someone needs to do it. A brief discussion on the adjoining forest preserve property resulting in Whitmore suggesting Newport reach out to the forest preserve. Edmunds inquires with Mayor Tim Smith on why Old Mill Creek annexed the roadway in the first place. Smith says they didn't think about the fact they would be accepting responsibility for the road when they annexed the area property, which they have reasons for wanting. Smith says they do receive tax monies to maintain the road, but claim his village cannot afford to maintain the road. Hartford notes the estimate Newport received a couple of years ago to do this work was in excess of \$100,000. Supervisor Whitmore concludes Newport will look into the de-annexation for Smith and asks if Old Mill Creek will pay the de-annexation costs. Smith replies that his village will "chip in whatever they can."

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

The supervisor states he and Edmunds are meeting with a gentleman about putting up a salt dome, adding the township is not going to be able to use Wadsworth anymore. Edmunds interjects that he is trying to find his own set-up, indicating that cooperating with Wadsworth is

proving to be too difficult. Edmunds says he already has a dome in mind and the township still owns the blocks purchased by then highway commissioner Dan Dziekan.

Whitmore says he met with Wetlands Research Incorporated, indicating they obtained grant money to do the Newport Ditch. Whitmore says no money is being spent by the township. He says Wetlands Research is waiting on Lake County to pass waste water quality credits, indicating it is close to passing and then the project will begin right away.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Edmunds indicates Mill Creek Road has been paved and his workers are now in the process of stoning the gravel shoulders. He notes Wadsworth has paved the road in front of Ryckman's house, indicating this has been taken care of. Newport will finish up striping of Dilly's and Mill Creek in August. Edmunds states Old Mill Creek has already paid for the patching work Newport did on Edwards' Road.

Commissioner Edmunds has received a call from a person along the toll way who wants sound barrier wall installed. Edmunds says she claims to have done testing along with the toll way indicating noise barrier wall is needed. Edmunds says his wife contacted the toll way authority on his behalf and the IL Toll Authority indicated they are not going to install barrier wall, explaining this is typically accomplished with a municipal cost-sharing arrangement. The cost to install noise barrier wall is 2 million dollars per mile, which does not include ongoing maintenance costs. Edmunds recognizes the caller built a house near the toll way, but nonetheless she has been persistent in contacting him regarding installation of the sound barrier wall. Several board members share sentiments that a person cannot build near the toll road and expect not to hear vehicle noise. Edmunds indicated he wanted to make the board aware of the situation.

Assessor's Report:

No report.

Clerk Comments:

No report.

Trustee Comments:

Beth Hartford—No report.

Ron Miller-- No report.

Diane Crittenden—No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer—Trustee Kirschhoffer indicates she heard the 75-acre property and 9th and Kilbourne has been sold. Whitmore says it has not sold and he knows who is looking at. He adds Wetlands Research Inc. is looking at the parcel.

Attorney's Report: No report.

Finances:

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to approve the General Town Fund bills.

Motion made by Crittenden; seconded by Kirschhoffer

Voice Vote: Ayes, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Hartford, Miller. Motion

Passed 3-2.

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to approve the General Town Fund (Assessor) bills.

Motion made by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Hartford, Miller. Motion

passed 3-2.

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to approve the Road & Bridge Fund bills.

Motion made by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Hartford, Miller. Motion passed

3-2.

Public Comment:

No public wishing to comment.

Executive Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion and a second to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Motion by Hartford; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Dated the 23rd day of July, 2014.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk