

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 October 21, 2015.

Members Present:

Beth Hartford, Trustee

Ronald Miller, Trustee

Diane Crittenden, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Roll Call: In attendance, Beth Hartford, Ron Miller, Jerome Berens, Diane Crittenden, Corey Kirschhoffer, Randy Whitmore and Debbie Spurgeon. Absent, Rodger Edmonds. Also present, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, PC attorney, Tiffany Nelson-Jaworski.

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 the September 23, 2015 Special Meeting. No discussion.

Motion by Hartford, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes as presented from September 23, 2015.

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

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Whitmore reported he and Trustee Corey Kirschhoffer met with Wetlands Research, Inc., on a project they are working on at Russell Road and Kilborne. Whitmore stated he wanted to ensure if they did these projects the properties will not come off the tax roll and they will not. He says they are working on water quality credits for sanitary districts, which he called a win-win, the goal being to prevent the Lake County Forest Preserve from securing more area properties. Trustee Kirschhoffer added that testing is in process for Kelly's property.

Whitmore received information from Storm Water Management which indicates the agency is redoing its watersheds and plans to include the Newport Ditch.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

No report - Commissioner Edmonds absent.

The commissioner's wife, Toni Edmonds remarked township paving of Edmonds Road and a small portion of Delany Road (just south of Russell Road) have been completed with the exception of striping. She also spoke about township employee Michael Albers, stating he is on medical leave for knee replacement and that if it goes well Albers intends to additionally have the other knee replaced while he is off. Mrs. Edmonds says the road district expects to be without Albers for approximately 4 months. Edmonds says Albers is not being paid while he is on leave. Edmonds added that a temporary employee, Steven Beer, has been hired without benefits, until Albers is able to return. Mrs. Edmonds indicates if Albers is unable to return to his job, Beer could be hired permanently.

Mrs. Edmonds briefly commented on a situation with tree service hired by the district and also remarked on an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Old Mill Creek, indicating that it has now been signed.

Lastly, Mrs. Edmonds commented that Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner has ordered a government agency survey, slated to begin in Lake County. The road district has to respond to the survey.

Assessor's Report:

No report.

Clerk Comments:

No report.

Trustee Comments:

Beth Hartford – Trustee Hartford reminded Supervisor Whitmore of General Assistance policies, including that utility bills must be paid in full and the identities of assistance recipients is confidential. Hartford noted that documentation being passed around to the board contains the name of the recipient and that the bill Whitmore paid was only partially fulfilled. Whitmore admits the recipients’ gas was ultimately turned off despite the township’s assistance. Hartford notes the result underscores the reason for the policy.

Ron Miller— No report.

Diane Crittenden—No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer—No report.

Attorney’s Report: No report.

Township Business:

No new business.

Finances:

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

Trustee Corey Kirschhoffer says she reviewed the bills online prior to the meeting. Hartford questioned the supervisor’s expenses for printer supplies, for two different printers.

Motion 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 Road & Bridge Fund bills.

Motion 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 General Town Fund bills.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Hartford, Miller. Motion passed 3-2.

Public Comment:

Tom Hartford-- Mr. Hartford commented on Governor Rauner's government consolidation survey.

Millie Corder-- Mrs.Corder questioned the need for the presence of an attorney at the meeting.

Executive Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Motion by Hartford; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passed 5-0.
Meeting adjourns at 7:23 p.m.

Dated the 21st day of October, 2015.

s/Debbie Spurgeon

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk