

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 November 16, 2015.

Members Present:

Beth Hartford, Trustee

Ronald Miller, Trustee

Diane Crittenden, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore called the Special Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. The Regular November meeting was cancelled.

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

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

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 October 21, 2015 Regular Meeting. No discussion.

Motion by Kirschhoffer, seconded by Hartford to approve the minutes as presented from October 21, 2015.

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

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore stated the need to establish an estimate of levy for all township and road district funds, and to adopt resolutions regarding same. He proposed the establishment of the General Township levy at \$162,192 plus \$1,000 for General Assistance. Whitmore requested a motion and a second to adopt a resolution establishing the estimate of levy for the township funds.

Motion by Crittenden; seconded by Kirschhoffer.

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

Supervisor Whitmore proposed the adoption of an estimate of levy for the road district funds as follows: \$50,350 for Road & Bridge, \$7,037 for Insurance, \$327,629 for Permanent Road (Gravel) Fund, and \$2,500 for Equipment & Building Fund.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

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

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Whitmore reviewed the township's General Assistance policy, a flat grant system, which was established with a \$500.00 maximum one-time benefit allowed, with proof of need.

Whitmore also indicated he met with the North Shore Sanitary District, Lake County Public Works, and Wetlands Research, Inc. – Lake County Forest Preserve was not present. Whitmore says they are going ahead with water quality credits and mitigation banks, indicating it is a big deal with the State of Illinois. North Shore Sanitary can buy credits to offset the building or refurbishment of existing sanitary plants. Whitmore says the group has some great ideas, and says this will be a great deal for Wadsworth and Newport Township. He suggests using water quality credits to prevent the Lake County Forest Preserve from obtaining property in the Newport area. Trustee Kirschhoffer suggests not calling attention to the group's plans, in order not to alert the forest preserve.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

Edmonds reported the road district is now located in the new shop, located next door to the commissioner's home. He additionally reported Edwards Road work has been completed, while Delany Road requires additional shoulder work. The districts' winter salt supply is now being stored at Campanella's, and Edmonds indicated the district paid \$65.90 per ton. The Highway Commissioner noted the Ford 550 truck bought a few years ago, is in the shop for repair and he may consider replacing it in the Spring, along with the GMC truck owned by the district.

A brief discussion was held on the State of Illinois's delinquency regarding taxing bodies' receipt of motor fuel tax (MFT) funds.

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—No report.

Attorney's Report: No report, but Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer briefly commented on recent Illinois Legislature budget activities as researched on her tablet device during the meeting.

Finances:

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

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 Assessor/General Town 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 Road District bills.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

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

Public Comment:

Jim Davila & Matt Marcinkus—Residents Davila and Marcinkus raised their concerns about the Newport Fire District’s use of emergency board-up services from out-of-state, rather than using local businesses such as his and Mr. Marcinkus’s. Mr. Davila & Mr. Marcinkus alternately went on to explain to the board about emergency board up services and what they feel are ongoing unfair business practices. They also expressed concern about national companies’ treatment of residents who are at their most vulnerable when they have just experienced a home fire, perhaps in the middle of the night. Mr. Davila suggests the township may not need a fire district at all, and Newport should consider outsourcing these services as other communities have. He says he no longer supports the fire district, indicating there is too much cronyism within the Newport Township Fire District.

Executive Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Motion by Hartford; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passed 5-0.
Meeting adjourns at 7:31 p.m.

Dated the 16th day of November, 2015.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk