

Minutes Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS

LAKE COUNTY

TOWN OF NEWPORT

December 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 Regular Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:03 p.m.

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, Jim Rock.

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 November 16, 2015 Special Meeting. No discussion.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Crittenden to approve the minutes as presented from November 16, 2015.

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

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Whitmore reported the township has received \$2,000 from Dave Richards, for the farming of the township property. He also noted a check has been received from the Village of Wadsworth for snowplowing.

Whitmore noted he and Trustee Kirschhoffer continue to work on an agenda for collaboration with Wetlands Research, Inc.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

No report.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor Berens presented his FY2016 budget proposal to the board. Berens commented on his proposal, which represents a 6.7% reduction from the previous year.

Clerk Comments:

No report.

Trustee Comments:

Beth Hartford – No report.

Ron Miller— No report.

Diane Crittenden—No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer—Kirschhoffer heard the township road district may need to have a budget line item related to the plan she and Whitmore are working on with Wetlands Research, Inc. Commissioner Edmonds noted further investigation is required on how maintenance costs will affect the district.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Jim Rock mentioned the State of Illinois recently released MFT Funds to taxing bodies.

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore brought forth the annual levies (township and road district) for adoption. He requested a motion to adopt the road district levy in the amount of \$387, 516 representing a 4.95% levy.

Motion by Crittenden; seconded by Kirschhoffer.

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

Whitmore requested a motion to adopt the township levy in the amount of \$163,193 representing a 4.95% levy.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

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

The levies were signed by the board.

Finances:

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 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 Crittenden; seconded by Kirschhoffer.

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

Public Comment:

Mildred Corder—Resident Millie Corder asked Supervisor Whitmore how many employees are included in the General Town Fund salaries—4. She additionally inquired about the line item “contractual services” and the supervisor’s bookkeeper, Nancy Lech.

Mrs. Corder also asked Highway Commissioner Edmonds about the number of employees in the road district—3.

Corder inquired about attorney’s fees and the locations in the township and road district Budgets where these expenses are accounted for.

Unfinished Business:

Highway Commissioner briefly explained the board-up process used by the fire department after two residents complained about cronyism at a previous meeting. Newport works with Gurnee, who maintains a rotation list of licensed service operators. He also noted residents can hire any service they choose.

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 7:27 p.m.

Dated the 16th day of December, 2015.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk