

Minutes Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS

LAKE COUNTY

TOWN OF NEWPORT

February 17, 2016

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 7:00 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.

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 January 20, 2016 Regular Meeting. No discussion.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Hartford to approve the minutes as presented from January 20, 2016.

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

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Whitmore stated he met with America Transmissions Company (ATC), indicating they are going to be bringing power lines down from Wisconsin into Illinois, adding this is the initial stage. Whitmore says the best location is where there are already existing lines (behind Trustee Hartford's street) and that the lines will ultimately end at a power storage facility. Whitmore says ATC has identified four different quarters, including Kilborne Road and along the railroad tracks by Route 41, but says it would have to go through the forest preserve and calls other locations a no-brainer. Whitmore states ATC is planning to purchase 25-35 acres at the north-east corner of Delany and Route 173, and comments ATC is the same company that built 'Wispark', along with the coal-burning plant. He adds that ATC purchased 5,000 acres which was developed into the current Pleasant Prairie industrial park. Supervisor Whitmore further indicates ATC will leave frontage remaining along Route 173 for retail and commercial development by the Village of Wadsworth. Whitmore says ATC will come to a meeting soon, to explain the plan to the township board. Trustee Kirschhoffer questions why ATC would leave frontage for development by Wadsworth. Whitmore replies they are good people. He notes a switch-line by the existing Zion peaker power plant, and says ATC is coming right down this line. Kirschhoffer believes ATC will need approval from Zion, but Whitmore indicates they already have it. Whitmore says he requested the peaker plant de-annex from Zion and come into Newport.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Edmonds reports he is still in negotiations with Peter Baker on a resolution surrounding the collapse of a culvert installed on Old Mill Creek's portion of Edwards Road.

Edmonds comments on the district's financial position, noting finances are in good shape and he expects to be able to reduce the road district budget for FY 2016/17.

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.

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore detailed line item transfers on tonight's agenda for approval---

- 1) General Town line item transfers from Legal to City Connect (\$670.00), from Equipment to Membership & Dues (\$240.00) and from Utilities to Equipment & Maintenance (\$700.00), totaling \$1,610.00
- 2) Road District line item transfers from Gravel/Road Improvements to Salaries & FICA, totaling \$10,700

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to approve the General Town/General Town Assessor line item transfers totaling \$1,610.00.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Hartford.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Hartford, Miller, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passed 5-0.

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to approve road district line items transfers in Gravel totaling \$10,700.

Motion by Crittenden; seconded by Miller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Hartford, Miller, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passed 5-0.

In other business, Whitmore indicates tentative budget proposals will take place at the March Regular Meeting.

Finances:

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

Motion by Crittenden; seconded by Kirschhoffer.

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

Public Comment:

No public wishing to comment.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Executive Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Motion by Miller; seconded by Hartford.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passed 5-0.
Meeting adjourns at 7:16 p.m.

Dated the 17th day of February, 2016.

 s/Debbie Spurgeon

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk