

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 15, 2015.

Members Present:

Beth Hartford, Trustee

Ronald Miller, Trustee

Diane Crittenden, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

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 were Beth Hartford, Ron Miller, Rodger Edmonds, Jerome Berens, Diane Crittenden, Corey Kirschhoffer, Debbie Spurgeon and Randy Whitmore.

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

Approval of Minutes: Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion and second to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from June 17, 2015. No discussion.

Motion by Hartford, second by Miller, to approve the minutes from June 17, 2015 as presented.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Hartford, Miller, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, none. Motion passed 5-0.

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

No report.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

No report.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor Berens briefly reports on a residents' question from a prior meeting, regarding taxation of county forest preserve property which is being farmed. In correspondence to Berens, Marty Paulson, Lake County Tax Extension Office, indicates the assessment of such property represents the same type of assessment a farmer would receive on land that they are actively farming, if they owned the property themselves.

Berens additionally notes this is the year in the assessment cycle that Newport will be undergoing a re-assessment. The familiar 'blue sheets' will be received by taxpayers at the end of July; residents will have 30 days to address any concerns with the Assessor's Office.

Clerk Comments:

The clerk reports on a senior ride program funded by grants and sponsored by Catholic Charities. Seniors who utilize the service are asked to make a \$6 donation to defray costs. Trustee Hartford offered to include the information on the township's website.

The clerk inquires about the status of the township's annual financial audit. Supervisor Whitmore and the highway commissioner's wife aren't certain when the final audit will be available, but indicate they have exchanged paperwork with the auditor in recent days.

Trustee Comments:

Beth Hartford— No report.

Ron Miller-- No report.

Diane Crittenden—No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer— Trustee Kirschhoffer expresses her desire to bring sewer and water to the township. Supervisor Whitmore adds that he and Tim Smith want to do so as well, but want to ensure the sewer will go through Tim Smith's property. Kirschhoffer offers that during the prior weeks' Wadsworth Village Hall meeting, the results of a recent survey by the village showed

residents have no interest in municipal water. Kirschhoffer suggests the township purchase property to proceed with her plan anyway.

A brief conversation between Kirschhoffer and Whitmore occurs on non-township, Wetlands Research, Inc. property.

Lastly, Kirschhoffer notes her concerns over over-weight charges to trucks.

Attorney's Report:

No report.

Township Business:

No new business.

Finances:

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

Motion by Kirschhoffer; second by Crittenden.

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

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

Motion by Crittenden; second by Kirschhoffer.

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

Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion to approve the Road District bills.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; second 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 requests a motion and a second to adjourn.

Motion by Hartford; second by Miller.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Dated the 15th day of July, 2015.

 s/Debbie Spurgeon

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk