

# Minutes Board of Town Trustees

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STATE OF ILLINOIS

LAKE COUNTY

TOWN OF NEWPORT

November 16, 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 7:01 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, 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 Regular Meeting minutes from October 19, 2016. No discussion.

Motion by Hartford, seconded by Miller to approve the Special Meeting minutes as presented.

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

## **Reports:**

### **Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Whitmore reports the township was paid the \$10,000 owed by Old Mill Creek.

**Highway Commissioner's Report:**

Commissioner Edmonds reports the GMC truck was in the shop for repairs and the International truck was also in the shop for an emissions issue. Salt is scheduled for delivery to the road district on Monday and the Village of Wadsworth has asked if the township can put another truck on for village snowplowing. Edmonds indicates he is considering the old GMC, which would put three township trucks on duty for the village this season.

**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:**

Attorney Tiffany Nelson-Jaworski reports that the board cannot make the decision regarding the township lease of property by American Transmission Company (ATC) itself. This is a decision the electors must make. A special meeting needs to be called and the Special Meeting must be called between 14-45 days of the date of the call for the meeting. Due to time constraints, Ms. Jaworski-Nelson suggests tabling tonight's agenda item and including it on the December agenda so the Special Meeting can be held just before the January Regular Meeting. The Special Meeting cannot begin earlier than 6:00 p.m. She suggests perhaps a 7:00 start and stacking the agenda of the 7:00 Regular Township Meeting to follow immediately after the Special Meeting.

**Township Business:**

Supervisor Whitmore introduced a resolution defining a township travel policy, which the IL General Assembly has decided all units of government must adopt a travel policy before January. Attorney Tiffany Jaworski-Nelson reviewed the policy with the board. The board defined \$71.00 per day for meals, \$300 per trip for airfare, \$200 per night for lodging and reviewed the IRS requirements for personal automobile mileage as stated by Ms. Jaworski-Nelson.

Motion by Hartford, seconded by Miller to adopt the travel policy resolution (Resolution No. 111616A) as presented and defined tonight.

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

Supervisor Whitmore proposed an Estimate of Levy in the amount of 104.99%, with 105% being the maximum allowed. The Estimate of Levy amount is \$171,336 for the General Town Fund and 0% for the General Assistance Fund. Attorney Nelson-Jaworski noted the levy will be officially adopted at the December meeting. Whitmore requested a motion to adopt the Estimate of Tax Levy for Newport Township as presented.

Trustee Miller asked for clarification on the General Assistance Levy--- the levy for General Assistance, which could potentially go to help those who need it, is now being shifted into the General Town Fund for operational purposes. Supervisor Whitmore says there is plenty of money available in the G/A Fund.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Hartford, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Miller. Motion passes 4-1.

Supervisor Whitmore introduced the Estimate of Levy for the Road & Bridge Fund.

Hartford questions whether the Road & Bridge Levy is in addition to the reinstated Special Gravel tax.

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Crittenden.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Crittenden, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore; Nays, Hartford, Miller. Motion

passes 3-2.

Levy estimates were passed around for signatures.

**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.

**Unfinished Business:**

Supervisor Whitmore requested a motion to table the Call for a Special Town Meeting of Electors to the December 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting.

Motion by Hartford, seconded by Crittenden.

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

**Public Comment:**

**Mildred Corder--** Mrs. Corder asked for more details on the Special Meeting of Electors and the tabling of the call.

Whitmore briefly explained the meeting under discussion revolves around the private company

ATC and their desire to run high voltage power lines through the Village of Wadsworth and Newport Township.

**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 7:29 p.m.

**Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016.**

\_\_\_\_\_s/Debbie Spurgeon\_\_\_\_\_

**Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk**