

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 October 25, 2017

The Newport Township Board met for a Special Township Board Meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with Section 80-10(b) of the Illinois Township Code, 60 ILCS 1/80-10(b). Said meeting was called by Supervisor Randy Whitmore.

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

Stan Williams, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Mike Wells, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore called the Special Township 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, Daryle Spiller, Stan Williams, Jerome Berens, Mike Wells, Corey Kirschhoffer, Debbie Spurgeon and Randy Whitmore. Also, present Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, PC attorney Kurt Asprooth. Highway Commissioner, Rodger Edmonds, absent.

Approval of Minutes: Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion and a second to approve the September 20, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the September 20, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes by Wells, seconded by Spiller.

Voice vote: Ayes, Spiller, Wells, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Abstain, Williams. Motion passes, 4-0 with 1 abstention.

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Whitmore introduces a proposal for a non-profit, 'Fat Cats' cat rescue facility at the former Paul Bush property on Route 173 (west of Kilbourne Road, east of the railroad tracks, on the northside of Route 173). The proposal includes an indoor and outdoor fenced-netted area where the animals will be allowed. No cats will be allowed to run wild outside of the facility. Board members had no comments, no objections. The supervisor will advise the petitioners that the township supports the facility.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Edmonds is absent. Mrs. Toni Edmonds provides the following updates:

Russell Road railroad tracks (east of Delany Road) will be closed for 2 days while the railroad makes repairs to the rough crossing.

The township's work on Hickory Road is complete. The township ended up performing more extensive shoulder graveling than initially anticipated.

The permit for the mushroom farm has been issued with a \$50,000 road bond requirement. Mrs. Edmonds says the bond has yet to be received.

Road district trucks are being winterized. Road salt usage for 2017 by the district was 185 tons. The district has salt remaining and isn't certain how much will be purchased for the 2018 snow season.

J&B Tree Removal was again hired to perform tree work for the township. The district expects to engage the tree removal service for one additional day of trimming in the upcoming week.

The road district is looking for a hanging furnace, if someone has one they would like to donate. The supervisor suggests he may have one he is willing to donate.

Lastly, ditch work for the Village of Wadsworth has been completed, however the village has not yet paid the township for the work.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor Berens reports the relocation of the township offices (first floor - assessor and clerk) has been completed on time. The assessor and clerk are in the process of getting settled within the

new space. He thanks Trustee Spiller and the road district employees who assisted on moving day.

Berens notes that Trustee William's project of re-boxing old township records currently located in the Hunt Club garage is not progressing. The township has been granted another month to vacate the Hunt Club garage. Berens asks Trustee Spiller to assist Williams in preparing the boxes for moving no later than the end of October. Spiller indicates he will assist. Trustee Williams doesn't know when he'll be able to devote time to do the work.

Clerk Comments:

The clerk reports on the relocation and thanks Assessor Berens, Trustee Spiller and the road district employees who assisted on moving day. The township has tables, chairs and some odds and ends remaining in the basement of the Hunt Club facility. The clerk asks about mid-term and long-term storage space and the process for access at the new facility. She notes that a meeting space at the new facility will need to be defined sooner rather than later, as there are times during any given year when meetings are not able to be held at village hall.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller – No report.

Stan Williams— No report.

Mike Wells-- No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer— No report.

Attorney's Report:

No report.

Township Business:

The supervisor introduces the adoption of an estimate of tax levies for both the township and the road district, indicating the township is getting an earlier start than in year's past. Attorney Asprooth will check and advise on the process for the levy and whether it can be voted on at the November meeting rather than December meeting. Whitmore notes the township is

levying the most it can by law, 104.9% No discussion.

Whitmore requests a motion to adopt the General Town estimate of tax levy as presented.

Motion by Williams; second by Kirschhoffer.

Voice vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Motion passes, 5-0.

Whitmore requests a motion to adopt the Road District estimate of tax levy as presented.

Motion by Williams, second by Wells.

Voice vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Motion passes, 5-0.

Supervisor Whitmore introduces consideration of the Illinois Bicentennial Resolution. Spurgeon advises the resolution is provided by the Illinois Municipal League (IML) for Illinois governmental entities who wish to support and recognize Illinois's upcoming bicentennial year in 2018, along with inclusion in the State historical record.

Whitmore requests a motion to adopt the Illinois Bicentennial Resolution as presented.

Motion by Spiller, second by Wells.

Voice vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Motion passes, 5-0.

Finances:

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

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Williams.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Kirschhoffer, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 5-0.

Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion to approve the Road & Bridge Fund bills.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Kirschhoffer, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 5-0.

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

Motion by Kirschhoffer; seconded by Spiller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Kirschhoffer, Wells, Whitmore; Nays, none.

Motion passes, 5-0.

Public Comment:

Mildred Corder – Mrs. Corder comments on the re-location of the Newport Township Offices out of Newport Township and into Lake Villa Township. She asks whether the attorneys advise this is acceptable.

Assessor Berens says he discussed the issue with Marty Paulson, Lake County Assessor and Paulson advises the scenario is not ideal. Berens however, notes the new location is not that far into Lake Villa and is within the Village of Old Mill Creek. He comments the decision was primarily based on economics.

Mrs. Corder is concerned about how such a move appears to the Newport taxpayer and voter. She notes that with all the conversation out in the public regarding merging and eliminating townships, perhaps moving the township offices outside of the district isn't an appropriate move.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

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

Meeting adjourns at 7:38 p.m.

Dated the 25th day of October 2017.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk