

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 January 16, 2019

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Mike Wells, Trustee

Stan Williams, Trustee

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Jerome Berens, Assessor

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

Call to Order: Trustee Kirschhoffer called the Regular Township Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. stating Supervisor Whitmore is out of town.

Pledge of Allegiance: Trustee Kirschhoffer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: In attendance, Daryle Spiller, Stan Williams, Rodger Edmonds, Jerome Berens, Corey Kirschhoffer, Mike Wells, and Debbie Spurgeon. Randy Whitmore is absent.

Approval of Minutes: Trustee Kirschhoffer requests a motion and a second to approve the December 19, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the December 19, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes by Spiller, seconded by Williams.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

No report.

Highway Commissioner's Report:

Highway Commissioner Edmonds indicates the road district has ordered 120 tons of salt, which arrived last week. The township road district has now met its 80% minimum bid requirement. The district has additional salt in stores, received through reimbursement from the Village of Wadsworth.

Edmonds reports the road districts' 6-wheel, which recently required repairs is still ailing. The 1997 vehicle has rust concerns on the undercarriage. Edmonds says he is attempting to develop joint ventures with other entities to justify the road district and possibly the expenditure of a new vehicle.

The legislative bill eliminating township road districts with less than 15 miles of road was not signed by Governor Rauner before his term expired. The bill is dead. Newport's road district is on the state's list for possible elimination.

Assessor's Report:

Assessor Berens notes he presented a FY 2019-2020 budget proposal to the board at the December meeting. Berens expresses that he hopes to receive board feedback at the February meeting, as he has not received feedback to date.

Berens reiterates previous comments regarding the township assessor's office taking on additional computer-related expenses previously bore at the county level as the county divests itself of township assessor expenses.

Clerk Comments:

The clerk will discuss the upcoming fiscal year meeting schedule during new business.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller – Trustee Spiller comments on a 40-acre parcel within the township that has recently come on the market. A brief discussion occurs on the ownership (Maxwell) and general location (Delany Road) of the parcel.

Stan Williams— No report.

Mike Wells—No report.

Corey Kirschhoffer— Trustee Kirschhoffer states the October 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes should be amended to include the mention of the appointment of Steve Garris to the Newport Fire District. Board members remind Kirschhoffer the appointment she refers to did not occur at the October 17, 2018 Regular meeting, but rather at a Special Meeting called by Supervisor Whitmore for August 22, 2018.

Kirschhoffer wants to post minutes reflecting the Garris appointment. A brief discussion occurs on who took minutes of the Special Meeting (Trustee Spiller) and whether a recording was made (no) and the proper process for approval of minutes before they can be posted.

Spiller will provide minutes of the August 22, 2018 Special Meeting for review at the February 20, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Attorney's Report: No report.

Township Business:

In the absence of Supervisor Randy Whitmore, the highway commissioner's wife, Toni Edmonds, reports on her conversation with township legal counsel, Kurt Asprooth regarding the resolution for clerk's signature on checks. The latest information is that the state's new requirement, Public Act 100-0983, formerly known as Senate Bill S2923, is so unclear that until the state further clarifies the cryptic language regarding attesting to certain payouts of funds, no additional action is necessary. (If the legislation was intending to require township clerks to witness the township supervisor's signature and endorse every check, it should have said that--- but that is not what it says.) Newport Township already uses a warrant process to approve and attest bills. Attorney Asprooth advises Mrs. Edmonds that the township's warrant process follows current policy. No additional action required, and no vote on the matter took place.

The clerk introduces the fiscal year 2019-2020 meeting schedule, noting the schedule proposal follows Newport's long-established monthly meetings, occurring the third Wednesday of each month. The current fiscal year schedule is good thru February 28, 2019.

A motion is requested to approve the fiscal year 2019-2020 meeting schedule as presented.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Finances:

Trustee Kirschhoffer indicates the warrants for the monthly bills are available for review.

Trustee Kirschhoffer requests a motion to approve the Road & Bridge Fund bills.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Trustee Kirschhoffer requests a motion to approve the Assessor/General Town Fund bills.

Motion by Spiller; seconded by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Trustee Kirschhoffer requests a motion to approve the General Town Fund bills.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Public Comment:

None.

Closed Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Trustee Kirschhoffer requests a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Williams; seconded by Spiller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all; Nays none. Motion passes, 4-0

Meeting adjourns at 7:30 p.m.

Dated the 16th day of January 2019.

 s/Debbie Spurgeon

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk