

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 March 18, 2020

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller

Mike Wells, Trustee

Stan Williams, Trustee

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore calls the Regular Township Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Whitmore leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: In attendance, Daryle Spiller, Stan Williams, Rodger Edmonds, Mike Wells, Debbie Spurgeon and Randy Whitmore. Absent, Assessor Jerome Berens.

Approval of Minutes: Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion and a second to approve the February Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 19, 2020 by Spiller, second by Williams.

Roll call vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 4-0.

Reports:

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Whitmore says the township will use General Assistance funds if necessary, for residents in need of help during the Covid-19 emergency.

Additionally, the supervisor notes the Village of Wadsworth may want to partner with the township in the future on the senior ride service plan.

Highway Commissioner

No report.

Assessor's Report:

No report.

Clerk Report:

The clerk advises board members be aware that Economic Interest Statements have been sent out electronically and via mail by the county. Statements are due to be filed with Lake County by May 1, 2020.

The board is requested to review and sign the monthly Board Audit Report from Bookkeeper Nancy Lech.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller – No report.

Stan Williams— No report.

Mike Wells—No report.

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore introduces the Annual Town Meeting agenda, requiring adoption at the March meeting. The clerk briefly reviews the agenda for the board, noting no new business items were received by the March 1, 2020 deadline. Whitmore requests a motion to adopt the Annual Town Meeting agenda as presented.

Motion by Spiller; second by Williams.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none. Motion passes, 4-0

Whitmore introduces an IGA with Benton Township for paratransit/senior ride services. Under the agreement, Newport will contribute \$1,800 plus \$50 per month (\$2,400 total) to partner with Benton Township for the service extension to Newport Township residents who are at least 60 years of age, or have a disability. The supervisor requests a motion and second to pass the IGA as presented.

Motion by Spiller; second by Wells.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none. Motion passes, 4-0

The presentation of the Assessor's proposed budget is postponed due to Beren's absence.

The supervisor additionally postpones the approval of tentative budgets for the township and highway, indicating tentative budgets will be ready for the April Regular Meeting.

Whitmore notes the township has received two resumes from candidates interested in the trustee vacancy created when Corey Kirschhoffer resigned. The interested parties are present at the meeting to answer any questions from the board. He asks the clerk to begin the process. The clerk invites candidates to confirm their names/addresses for the record. Candidates Lynn Schlosser and James Zegar state their individual information. As advised for due diligence, the supplied information is compared with the current Newport voter registration list. It is discovered candidate James Zegar is registered to vote a different address, rather than the address he provided as his current legal residence. Zegar says he moved, and has not registered to vote at his current address. The supervisor comments the appointment process can be postponed until next month. A brief discussion occurs on how to proceed, noting a candidate with current voter

registration status is in attendance. The supervisor says to be fair to all candidates, any candidate discussion and appointment should be postponed. He determines he will seek advice of counsel and schedule an emergency meeting to move forward with an appointment prior to the 60-day deadline. No action is taken on an appointment.

Finances:

Supervisor Whitmore indicates the warrants for the monthly bills are available for trustee review.

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

Motion by Williams; second by Wells.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 4-0.

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

Motion by Spiller; second by Williams.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 4-0.

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

Motion by Wells, second by Williams.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Williams, Wells, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 4-0.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Closed Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Williams; second by Wells.

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

Meeting adjourns at 7:12 p.m.

Dated the 18th day of March 2020.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk