

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 May 20, 2020. ¹

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

Stan Williams, Trustee

Mike Wells, 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 announces forgoing the Pledge of Allegiance since it was said at the preceding public budget hearing

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

Also present, Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, PC.

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

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 15, 2020 by Spiller, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

1 ¹ Due to the Covid-19 Emergency Shutdown Order in effect, this meeting was held virtually.

Reports:**Supervisor's Report:**

The supervisor reports requests for general assistance have been low.

Highway Commissioner

The commissioner reports the Lake County bid for the Dilly's and Wadsworth Road round-about has been awarded to Campanella & Sons. With the early closings of area schools due to the Covid crisis, work on the roundabout will get underway earlier than initially planned. The intersection of Dilly's, N. Dilly's and Wadsworth roads will be closed for approximately 3 months, while the work is underway. Access west to the Old Mill Creek area will be affected during the construction. Discussions are underway with the County and Newport Fire District regarding emergency access to the west side of the district during the closure.

In conjunction with the round-about project, Newport will begin grinding, ditch and shoulder work on N. Dilly's and Mill Creek up to Foxglove Lane. Grindings will be temporarily stored, then reused to widen the shoulder on Mill Creek to improve safety for area pedestrian and horse traffic.

Edmonds says he replaced steering tires on 2 tractors, which were showing signs of wear.

Lastly, Edmonds is bidding on an auction 6-wheel truck to replace the district's aging International. The vehicle he is interested in procuring is a similarly equipped Peterbilt. Edmonds expects the truck to sell for ~\$35,000. Trustees indicate general support to move forward. Edmonds isn't certain where the monies will come from in the short-term, but will discuss options with Bookkeeper, Nancy Lech.

Assessor's Report:

No report.

Clerk's Report:

The clerk notes arrangements will need to be made with the voting trustees, supervisor and road commissioner to sign the budgets, which must be filed with the county by no later than June 19, 2020.

The supervisor is currently out of town. He states he will contact the clerk as soon as he is back in the area and make arrangements to sign the documents.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller—No report.

Stan Williams—No report.

Mike Wells—Trustee Wells comments the Governor of IL is looking into alternative tax plans for 2021 and says that his pension may be taxed.

James Zegar—No report.

Township Business:

Supervisor Whitmore introduces the appointment of Jim Belli to the Newport Fire Protection District. Whitmore says Belli will replace outgoing trustee Joe Stanonik. *[Correction: The Supervisor contacted the clerk following the meeting to correct the name of the outgoing trustee. The outgoing trustee is Steve Garris, not Joe Stanonik.]* Whitmore notes he was contacted by Mr. Belli, expressing interest in the position. Trustee Wells says Jim Belli holds a fundraiser for the fire district each year, and shows interest in the department.

Whitmore requests a motion to confirm the appointment of Jim Belli to the Newport Fire District, replacing outgoing fire district trustee Steve Garris.

Motion by Spiller; second by Wells.

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

Whitmore introduces the Township Budget for FY 2020-2021.

No discussion.

Whitmore requests a motion to approve the Township Budget for FY 2020-2021, beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2021.

Motion by Spiller; second by Williams.

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

Supervisor Whitmore introduces the Tentative Road District Budget.

No discussion.

Whitmore requests a motion to approve the Road District Budget for FY 2020-2021, beginning March 1, 2020 and ending February 28, 2021.

Motion by Williams; second by Wells.

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

Finances:

Supervisor Whitmore indicates the warrants with the monthly bills, although not available for review due to the nature of the virtual meeting, must be paid. Mrs. Toni Edmonds indicates the inclusion of an additional bill for 2 months of legal services rendered by Ancel Glink in the amount of \$3,727.50.

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

Motion by Wells; second by Spiller.

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 Williams; second by Spiller.

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 Williams, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Public Comment:

Rick Neal – Resident Rick Neal shares concerns regarding local resident access in the vicinity of the proposed round-about during construction.

Highway Commissioner Rodger Edmonds says access for area residents will not be affected at all.

Closed Session:

No closed session.

Motion to Adjourn:

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

Motion by Wells; second by Spiller.

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

Meeting adjourns at 7:23 p.m.

Dated the 20th day of May 2020.

 s/Debbie Spurgeon

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk