

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 December 16, 2020

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

Stan Williams, Trustee

James Zegar, Trustee

Mike Wells, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

Call to Order: Supervisor Whitmore calls the Regular Township Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:05 p.m.

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

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

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

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 18, 2020 by Zegar, second by Williams.

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

Motion passes, 5-0.

Reports:**Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Whitmore reports he met with Larry Booth of Benton Township, regarding continuation of the current PACE Dial-A-Ride service. The current cost sharing arrangement appears to be working well. The plan is to continue the service for residents into 2021.

Highway Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Edmonds says the district has completed road striping for the season.

He additionally reports Newport is making an \$83,000 payment this month to Lake County for the round-about project at Wadsworth and Dilly's Road. The remaining balance of \$27,000 will be due in Spring 2021.

Edmonds indicates the IGA with Benton Township for snow-plowing this winter is complete and ready for the clerk's attestation.

The commissioner plans to put together a patching & paving plan for next Spring over the next month, and will present the plan to the board at a future meeting.

Highway Commissioner Edmonds says Mount Rest Cemetery, a privately owned area cemetery, is poorly maintained and running out of funds. Recently, the Village of Wadsworth contributed some monies and the township contributed labor to make some initial repairs. Edmonds suggests the township take over the maintenance of the cemetery, and potentially ownership. Admitting there are legal ramifications to consider, especially with ownership, Edmonds states legal counsel, Ancel Glink, will need to advise the township on the matter before any action can potentially occur. Trustee Zegar recalls from his accounting expertise and previous work with cemeteries, that Illinois cemeteries are required to pay into a state perpetual care fund in order to avoid such outcomes as is the current situation with Mount Rest. Toni Edmonds, a Mount Rest board member, says the cemetery has a small CD investment, however it is not a state perpetual care fund.

Assessor's Report:

No report. [Assessor Berens is absent.]

Clerk's Report:

The clerk reports petition filing is underway for the April 2021 Consolidated Election. There are two remaining posted times for candidates to file nomination papers. Per Illinois Election Code, the filing period concludes on December 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Information is available on the message boards both at village hall and the township offices, and also on the township website. Additional questions can be directed to the clerk.

The monthly board audit report is being passed for trustee's signatures.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller—No report.

Stan Williams—No report.

Mike Wells—No report.

James Zegar—No report.

Township Business:

No new business.

Finances:

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

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

Motion by Williams, second by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 5-0.

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

Motion by Wells, second by Zegar.

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

Motion passes, 5-0.

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

Motion by Zegar, second by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 5-0.

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 Spiller; second by Williams.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 5-0.

Meeting adjourns at 7:25 p.m.

Dated the 16th day of December 2020.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk