

# Minutes Board of Town Trustees

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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 20, 2021

**Members Present:**

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

James Zegar, Trustee

Mike Wells, Trustee

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

Rodger Edmonds, Highway Commissioner

**Call to Order:** Trustee James Zegar, acting meeting chair, calls the Regular Township Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Trustee Zegar leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Trustee Zegar requests a motion and a second to approve the December Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from December 16, 2020 by Wells, second by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 3-0.

**Supervisor's Report:**

Trustee Zegar provides Supervisor Whitmore's report in his absence. The supervisor is working with the Newport Fire District to schedule a 2-day course in First Aid and CPR. The class is expected to be open to all Newport residents. Arrangements are pending.

**Highway Commissioner Report:**

Commissioner Edmonds reports the snow season has been quiet thus far. The district has ordered 100 tons of road salt. Edmonds says the ~\$7,000 road salt bill is included in the monthly road district's bills for payment.

He additionally notes the road district is seeking a suitable township project in order to utilize the REBUILD ILLINOIS funds it has received. He would ideally like to use the monies for the remaining payment on the new truck, however projects must be directly road related. The district has 2 years to use the state provided funds, which to-date amounts to \$28,000.

**Assessor's Report:**

No report. [Assessor Berens is absent.]

**Clerk's Report:**

The clerk reports the township's ballot certification to the county for the April 2021 Consolidated Election is complete. After daily checks of the Lake County Clerk's ballot certification list over the past couple of weeks, Newport's candidates are now listed as certified. The clerk asks Highway Commissioner Rodger Edmonds whether he has heard any additional information from the township legal counsel regarding the viability of his candidacy for a new term. [He has not.] Edmonds notes he is aware of other township road districts in the same situation as Newport, who have also been advised by counsel to submit Highway Commissioner candidate nominations and let the counties sort it out for the April Election.

Finally, the monthly board audit report is being held for signatures until such time as the board is able to hold an in-person meeting.

Trustees inquire on whether the February Regular Meeting will be held in-person or via Zoom. The clerk notes that Supervisor Whitmore makes the decision on a month-by-month basis and no decision has been communicated regarding February thus far.

**Trustee Comments:**

Daryle Spiller—No report.

Stan Williams—No report. [Trustee Williams is absent.]

Mike Wells—No report.

James Zegar—Trustee Zegar comments that IL Governor Pritzker is expected to move Lake County to phase 3 COVID-19 restrictions. With this in mind, it is possible the February meeting could be held in-person.

**Township Business:**

The meeting schedule for the new fiscal year is presented.

Acting chair Trustee Zegar requests a motion to approve the new meeting schedule for FY 2021-2022.

Motion by Spiller, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 3-0.

**Finances:**

Acting chair Trustee Zegar indicates the warrants for the monthly bills are not available for trustee review due to the virtual meeting format; however, township statute requires bills to be paid within 30-days. The Board Audit Report identifies all bills being paid/checks being issued each month.

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

Motion by Williams, second by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 3-0.

Zegar requests a motion to approve the General Town Fund /Assessor's bills.

Motion by Spiller, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 3-0.

Zegar requests a motion to approve the Road District's bills.

Motion by Spiller, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 3-0.

**Public Comment:**

No public comment.

**Closed Session:**

No closed session.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Acting chair, Trustee Zegar requests a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Wells; second by Spiller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 3-0.

Meeting adjourns at 7:25 p.m.

**Dated the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2021.**

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s/Debbie Spurgeon

**Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk**

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