

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 February 17, 2021

Members Present:

J. Daryle Spiller, 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 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2021 by Zegar, second by Wells.

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

Motion passes, 4-0.

Trustee Stan Williams joins the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Reports:**Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Whitmore reintroduces a previous discussion on the possibility of offering CPR, First Aid and AED training classes for township professionals and residents. A brief discussion occurs on the feasibility of opening training up to all residents, and the challenges it may pose. Further investigation and coordination with the fire district is needed.

Whitmore indicates the new budget cycle is underway. Preliminary budgets will be up for consideration at the next regular meeting.

Highway Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Edmonds says the district has handled 19 snow removal events since December 29, 2020. Edmonds has placed the last seasonal order for salt (100 tons). He additionally notes that the Village of Wadsworth owes the district 177 tons of salt, resulting from the townships' contractual plowing of village streets. Edmonds has concerns about the village's practice of replacing salt only at the end of the winter season, which requires the township to store it over the off-season. He is working with the village to obtain replacement salt on a more regular basis. A brief discussion occurs on salt usage & capacity of the township trucks.

The commissioner indicates the highway department's updated building lease is ready to go and says he is finalizing a 5-year lease period.

Edmonds says the district is receiving \$53,457 in REBUILD ILLINOIS Funds over the 3-year total of the program. Expenses must pertain directly to road work. He asks the board of trustees to suggest projects. He additionally comments the township has \$167,000 in MFT Funds available for ditching, road repairs and the possible paving of Kelly Road during the upcoming year.

Finally, Edmonds notes that counsel, Ancel Glink, has not submitted a monthly bill in over two months.

Assessor's Report:

No report.

Clerk's Report:

The clerk indicates the monthly board audit report is circulating for signatures.

She inquires if any further word has been received from legal counsel, or the county, regarding the road district/highway commissioner's status.

Supervisor Whitmore says the township's legal counsel advises if he [Edmonds] makes it through the May seating of officers, the highway commissioner would be allowed to complete the new 4-year term. Edmonds indicates he received similar advice from counsel, and to date, has not been notified by the county of a status change.

Trustee Comments:

Daryle Spiller—No report.

Stan Williams—No report.

Mike Wells—No report.

James Zegar—No report.

Township Business:

Budget line-item transfers, as requested by Bookkeeper Nancy Lech, are available for board review. Supervisor Whitmore advises these are general housekeeping transfers of individual line items within the Road & Bridge and Gravel budget, however, such changes do require board approval.

Whitmore requests a motion to approve the road district budget line-item transfers, as presented.

Motion by Williams, second by Spiller.

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

Motion passes, 5-0.

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 Zegar, second by Wells.

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 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/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 Wells; second by Spiller.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 5-0.

Meeting adjourns at 7:29 p.m.

Dated the 17th day of February 2021.

_____s/Debbie Spurgeon_____

Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk