

# 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 17, 2024

**Members Present:**

J. Daryle Spiller, Trustee

Corey Kirschhoffer, Trustee

Randy Whitmore, Supervisor

Debbie Spurgeon, Clerk

**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, Corey Kirschhoffer, , Debbie Spurgeon and Randy Whitmore. Absent, Mike Wells, Frank Kaiser, and Jerome Berens.

Also present, Rodger Edmonds, Highway Department Director.

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

Motion by Spiller, second by Kirschhoffer to approve the December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 3-0.

**Reports:**

**Supervisor's Report:**

Supervisor Whitmore intends to schedule a meeting of the Decennial Committee in the near future. He will provide details and the committee's agenda with ample time for posting. The supervisor and highway department director have been collecting information regarding monies saved. Reducing attorney fees and purchasing fuel direct are two

**Highway Department Report:**

Highway Department Director Rodger Edmonds reports that the guardrail on Edward's Road has been replaced. TOIRMA covered \$4681.00 in repair costs. Through the claim process, Edmonds learned that guardrails need to be registered and recorded with photographs, measurements, location details, etc.

Edmonds has ordered 200 tons of road salt to replace what has been used this season. 100 tons of additional availability remains on the annual salt contract through Morton.

The director comments on tree damage caused by recent icing, noting a crew will need to be hired. Additionally, Benton Township has damages, which will be addressed via the inter-governmental agreement with Newport.

A brief discussion occurs on the new state mandate, Paid Leave for All Workers Act. Townships are not exempt from the mandate, which requires 40 hours of paid leave to employees on an annual basis. Under the act, townships will be required to maintain records documenting hours worked, paid leave accrued and taken, and the new paid leave balance for each employee. Edmonds says the mandate creates a nightmare of record keeping and hurts small entities. Seasonal employees Ritchie and Paul in the highway department, and Maureen in the assessor's office, will be eligible according to Edmonds. Other responsibilities also apply, such as posting a physical notice on the act in the workplace.

**Assessor's Report:**

No report.

**Clerk's Report:**

Newport's approved final levy was filed with Lake County in December as required.

The new fiscal year meeting schedule is provided and will be considered tonight in New Business.

**Trustee Comments:**

Daryle Spiller—No comments.

Corey Kirschhoffer—No comments.

Mike Wells—No comments.

Frank Kaiser—No comments.

**Township Business:**

Supervisor Whitmore introduces the township’s new fiscal year calendar. The schedule continues with the third Wednesday of each month for Regular Township Meetings. No discussion or comments.

Motion by Kirschhoffer, second by Spiller to adopt the FY 2024-2025 meeting schedule, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 3-0

**Finances:**

Supervisor Whitmore requests a motion to approve the township’s bills.

Motion by Kirschhoffer, second by Spiller to approve the monthly bills.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes, Spiller, Kirschhoffer, Whitmore. Nays, none.

Motion passes, 3-0.

**Public Comment:**

No public comment.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

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

Motion by Spiller, second by Kirschhoffer.

Voice Vote: Ayes, all. Nays, none.

Meeting adjourns at 7:24 p.m.

**Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.**

          s/Debbie Spurgeon          

**Debbie Spurgeon, Township Clerk**