



Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
Held at Winfield Township Office
130 Arbor Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
3/08/2021

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Prater.

Clerk Guglielmi called roll call. Trustee Voelz, Trustee Halley, Trustee Alekna, Trustee Konewko and Supervisor Prater were present.

Also present: Assessor Mark Malay, Highway Commissioner John Dusza

Others present: Shawn Hacker

Supervisor Prater led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Prater entertained a motion for approval for the Minutes of the Budget Workshop Meeting held February 8, 2021. Motion made by Trustee Konewko. Second by Trustee Alekna. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye	Trustee Voelz-Aye	Trustee Halley- Abstain
Trustee Alekna- Aye	Supervisor Prater- Aye	

Supervisor Prater entertained a motion for approval for the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held February 8, 2021. Motion made by Trustee Halley. Second by Trustee Konewko. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye	Trustee Voelz-Aye	Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye	Supervisor Prater- Aye	

Supervisor Prater entertained a motion for approval for the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting held February 8, 2021. Motion made by Trustee Konewko. Second by Trustee Alekna. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye	Trustee Voelz-Aye	Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye	Supervisor Prater- Aye	

Audience participation: No audience participation.

Correspondence: John Dusza brings constituent correspondence.

Board Audit Report:

Town Fund: \$633,109.46	General Road Fund: \$23,511.22
General Assistance: \$5,176.80	Permanent Road Fund: \$98,751.08
Equipment & Building Fund: \$90,655.00	IMRF Road District Fund: \$4,067.02
Social Security Road Fund: \$3,029.58	Liability Insurance Fund: \$0.00
Total of all Funds: \$858,300.16	



Motion made by Trustee Halley to approve the Board Audit Report. Second by Trustee Alekna. Trustee Voelz asking about lawyer expenses. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye Trustee Voelz-Aye Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye Supervisor Prater- Aye

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Monthly Financial and Investment Reports - For information only

Approval of CERT Agreement 2021-22 Supervisor Prater entertained a motion to approve. Motion made by Trustee Halley to approve Ordinance 2021-01. Second by Trustee Alekna. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye Trustee Voelz-Aye Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye Supervisor Prater- Aye

Approval of Selden Fox Letter of Agreement for Audit Services Supervisor Prater entertained a motion to approve. Motion made by Trustee Konewko. Second by Trustee Halley. Motion carried on roll call vote.

Trustee Konewko-Aye Trustee Voelz-Aye Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye Supervisor Prater- Aye

Supervisor Prater made changes to the Emergency Assistance Fund effective March 1st, 2021. If anybody came into the office they would be approved up to \$800 per case rather than the previous \$200 per case. Trustee Konewko inquired about eligibility requirements.

Discussion and approval of Annual Town Meeting Agenda. Trustee Voelz immediately stated that he did not receive the agenda until the day of the meeting. Questioned what the \$40,000 intergovernmental agreement for the Sheriff K-9 program was about. Trustee Halley informed him of the individual discussions he had with other members of the board and then asked Clerk Guglielmi to place it on the agenda. Trustee Voelz states it must be placed by 15 signatures from eligible voters. Supervisor Prater informed Trustee Voelz this is not the case, the Township Board sets the agenda per the advice of legal counsel. Trustee Halley makes a motion to approve the Annual Town Meeting Agenda. Seconded by Trustee Alekna. During discussion. Trustee Voelz states it is illegal, he will look it up and that "we blew it on the CARES Act". Trustee Halley states to Trustee Voelz to take his time to look it up. Supervisor Prater states per the township attorney it is legal as the township board sets the agenda and she would prefer the constituents be able to vote for it at the All Town Meeting.

Trustee Konewko-Aye Trustee Voelz-No Trustee Halley- Aye
Trustee Alekna- Aye Supervisor Prater- Aye

Ongoing Business:

Ride DuPage – 1 rider 2 rides in December 2020.

Township bus – 40 riders 103 stops in February 2021.

Tax Objections – no update from previous month.

CARES Act Total – \$23,252.13

Prior to Supervisor Prater being appointed the total was \$12,946.00, she is currently working with Sheila Rutledge from the County Board



Trustee Alekna states that over the period of all year last year the previous Supervisor spent roughly the same amount as Supervisor Prater in 3 months without a credit card. Thank you Supervisor Prater.

Department Reports:

Supervisor Prater – Hiring a temporary employee for GA. Happy International Women’s Day.

Trustee Voelz – Is unhappy with the brochure that he was unable to read it before it was approved due to not being able to get into his email. He looks at it as a campaign piece. The new board comes after the election. This is just the way he looks at it.

Trustee Halley – Enter verbatim record below:

Recently some of the candidates running in the upcoming election created videos and statements requested by the League of Women Voters. Since we are in a pandemic there was no open discussion, and some of the candidates used this format to in my opinion, attack the township board. In this statement I want to clarify a few items that I feel were presented incorrectly. In a video the candidate running for the position of Supervisor, stated that Township government does not make sense since we no longer have a Township that is very rural. I find this to be false and believe the Township has a very large role to play when it comes to local government. He also stated he wanted to slash his salary as supervisor and cut taxes. We as a board have done both. I am proud of the fact that we have increased services to our constituents while also lowering the township levy and budget by almost 20% over the last four years.

Another candidate who is running for a trustee position made several accusations when she created her video for the League of Women Voters. I would like to refute some of her statements. She states that we are severely lacking in general assistance aid for our township. I find this to be insulting to our hard-working General Assistance Director, Claudia Gabrels. Since Claudia took over as the Director of General Assistance, she has worked tirelessly to help the citizens of Winfield township. On many occasions she has gone above and beyond her duty to help those who may not qualify for Township aid. Claudia in many instances will direct those needing assistances to other programs within the county that may be a better fit for their circumstances. The candidate also stated that we spent very little of the allotted money the board approved in December for Covid relief. Supervisor Prater worked very hard to purchase everything she could for the local food banks, while not having access to Township credit cards or checks since she had just been appointed to the position. The candidate is also advocating for open discussion within the meeting. Every person at every meeting has 5 minutes of time to make public comments. According to the TOI Laws and Duties handbook, while public must be given ample time to speak it does not require any official to engage in a debate or provide on-the-spot answers. She also claims that the meeting minutes should be posted within 24-48 hours. I believe that anyone running for an elected position should understand the procedures of a regular board meeting. Minutes must be approved by the board before they are presented to the public. This must occur within 30 days or at the public body’s second subsequent regular meeting. Only then must the minutes be made available for



public inspection within 10 days of said approval. She claims the Township Board voted to remove candidates from the ballot. This is false. The electoral board ruled on this item, not the Township board. Additionally, to ensure there was no conflict of interest, the electoral board was made up of judges who were not running for any of the elected positions in question. For example, no candidate running for Supervisor was on the Supervisor Electoral Board. The same designation was made for the Trustee Electoral Board challenge. Lastly, I'm going to be 30 years old this July and I am my own person. What my father does in his own time has nothing to do with me or the job that I do within my capacity of Township Trustee.

Trustee Alekna – Happy Easter!

Assessor Mark Malay – IT rewiring upcoming. We send that newsletter out every spring. The assessor has vital information in there that goes out. It goes out every year.

Highway Commissioner John Dusza – Purchasing salt done through County IGA. We were approached by the county to increase our mowing. Working on tree removal. Wrapping up the budget.

Trustee Konewko – The newsletter was very positive and got normal feedback from constituents.

Clerk Guglielmi – Happy St. Patrick's Day. Same response from constituents about the newsletter. At the time it was sent that was the board in place. Very impressed with the leadership of Supervisor Prater on the CARES Act.

Motion for Adjournment was made by Trustee Halley Second by Trustee Voelz. No further discussion. Motion carried on voice vote.

Trustee Halley-Aye

Trustee Alekna- Aye

Trustee Konewko – Aye

Trustee Voelz- Aye

Supervisor Smith-Aye

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Guglielmi", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Guglielmi, Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Prater", written over a horizontal line.

Nicole Prater, Supervisor