

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for October 24, 2023 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Supervisor Penner called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present: Supervisor Kathy Penner, Trustee Jeanne Hamilton, Trustee Patricia Kozicki, Trustee Joseph Murglin, Trustee Darrel Talken and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Assessor Ken Jochum, Wheeling Township Attorney Kenneth Florey, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Penner led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton, Penner
NAYS: None.... Motion #1 Carried.

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #9/27/23, #10/13/23 and #10/24/23 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$83,018.30 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton, Penner
NAYS: None.... Motion #2 Carried.

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #10/13/23 and #10/24/23 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$775.52 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton, Penner
NAYS: None.... Motion #3 Carried.

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #102423 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$3,321.03 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton, Penner
NAYS: None... Motion #4 Carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: None

OFFICIALS' REPORT

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

- Tax Year 2022: Tax bills are currently available on line and should be in the mail at the beginning of November due at the beginning of December. Taxpayers are beginning to call our office regarding the increase in their taxes, no concern has been expressed about a decrease in taxes. We continue to encourage taxpayers to appeal their assessments.
- An analysis of the 2022 tax year will be forthcoming in the next few months.
- Both the Cook County Assessor and the Board of Review appear to be moving faster in tax year 2023 than previous years.
- Tax Year 2023: We concluded the Assessor appeals session on October 2, 2023. We experienced fewer appeals than any recent year. The Cook County Assessor received 21% fewer appeals than the previous year.
- We anticipate the Board of Review to open for appeals in the next few months. Our office has already accepted 20 pre-files and will continue this practice until the Board opens
- The major efforts in our office at the moment are handling tax bill issues as well as certificates of error.
- Other Initiatives: We have a seminar scheduled for November 2 for taxpayers who have purchased their first home. This will be a customized review of their tax bills as well as an introduction to the entire tax process and how they can influence the system. Seminar requires registration. See attached flyer.
- Our staff continues to receive the top score of 10 for all customer service surveys.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- Our new Food Pantry Assistant/ Custodian started September 27, 2023.
- One part-time bus driver completed PACE training and has started driving for the Township. We have another part-time driver starting at the end of November after he completes the PACE training class.
- SHIP open enrollment started October 16, 2023; we have a new counselor, Dhun Mehta. She will be taking appointments on Thursday.
- The Mental Health Board will hear presentations from prospective companies for the Needs Assessment on November 1, 2023 at 7 p.m.
- The Forestview Drive Project is scheduled to start next Monday.
- Statistics for September 2023:

1,657 rides – 645 non-medical, 1,012 Medical
1,008 - meals delivered
448 - visits to the Food Pantry – 942 people fed

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #5: APPROVAL OF THE 2023-2024 AUTO INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Kozicki to approve the 2023-2024 Auto Insurance Renewal.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton
NAYS: None.... Motion #5 Carried.

MOTION #6: APPROVAL OF THE TOWNSHIP PARKING LOT AND CEMETERY 2023-2024 SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Kozicki to approve the Township Parking Lot and Cemetery 2023-2024 Snow Removal Contract.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton
NAYS: None.... Motion #6 Carried.

MOTION #7: APPROVAL OF FORESTVIEW DRIVE 2023-2024 SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Kozicki to approve the Forestview Drive 2023-2024 Snow Removal Contract.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Kozicki, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton
NAYS: None.... Motion #7 Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

2023 Levy Discussions: The board noted that Township's health insurance has increased some \$9,500, the Mental Health Needs Survey will cost \$25-\$30,000 and attorney Florey also has to attend the Mental Health Board meetings, inflation costs have increased operating expenses, and building maintenance costs are rising. A draft levy will be prepared for the November meeting and for tentative approval. The final levy approval will be during the December meeting.

Attorney Florey stated that proposed Illinois Senate Bill 690 would prohibit a referendum on tax levy for a Mental Health Board in a primary election in 2024. The bill is special legislation and courts usually strike down laws targeted at one entity. In addition, the bill is retroactive in effect and as previously discussed, courts generally disapprove of such retroactive laws. The referendum could be rescinded by the Board until about mid-January.

MOTION #8: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #8 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, October 24, 2023, was declared adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 8:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk