

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for April 25, 2017 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 8:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present: Supervisor Penner, Trustee Michael Domrzalski, Trustee Robert Hoban, Trustee Ruth O'Connell, Trustee JoAnne Schultz, and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Assessor Jerry Sadler, Wheeling Township Attorney Kenneth Florey, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Josephine Stellato.

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Domrzalski led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Domrzalski requested that March 28 Minutes be amended to indicate Christine Ross asked about his leaving the Board. He also asked that the Minutes be amended to show that he voted "No" on Motion 8. The changes will be made. Trustee Hoban read a substantial number of quotes from the prior meeting and Attorney Florey reminded the Board that the Minutes are a summary. Attorney Florey advised the Board that the Clerk could review the tape of the meeting and the Board could approve the Minutes at the next meeting. The Clerk stated the Minutes were an accurate summary and the Minutes are not a transcript. Attorney Florey asked Trustee Hoban if his comments were in writing. Trustee Hoban stated the proposed changes were in writing and that he could submit the comments to the Clerk for review.

MOTION # 1: TO TABLE APPROVAL OF MARCH 28 MEETING MINUTES UNTIL MAY MEETING

Motion by Trustee O'Connell, seconded by Trustee Domrzalski, to table the approval of the proposed minutes of March 28, 2017 to the May meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: O'Connell, Domrzalski, Schultz, Penner
NAYS: Hoban....Motion #1 Carried.

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve batch #042517 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$1,113.12 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, O'Connell, Hoban, Domrzalski, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion #2 Carried

MOTION # 3: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Domrzalski, to approve batch #410 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$17,470.05 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Domrzalski, O'Connell, Hoban, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion #3 Carried.

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Domrzalski, to approve batch #614 and 615 against the Town Fund, in the amount of \$136,114.40 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Domrzalski, O'Connell, Hoban, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion #4 Carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Robert Boros, 1808 Azalea Lane, Mount Prospect stated that he was here representing citizens versus Patriot Acres LLC, a company that wants to put a composting center at Central Road. He is not against composting, but Patriot Acres has no experience with composting and the site is already an environmental hazard. Patriot Acres is owned by two individuals with no experience. Other similar composting sites using the same proposed treatment of compost as Patriot Acres plans to do, have been cited for odors. He indicated that food composts not properly handled and treated, the greater the odor issues. The impact will be on quality of life for the citizens of Wheeling Township and the diminished property values that will reduce tax collections. The environmental impact study indicates some 70 semi-trucks coming to the proposed site each day. The site will be 35 feet tall and winds will catch the odors. He is hoping that Wheeling Township will join the City of Des Plaines, Maine Township, and other municipalities to send a letter in opposition to the compost center to the Cook County Board. If Patriot Acres was not a new company, but had a record of success with composting, perhaps he would favor giving the company a chance. However, there is no record to indicate this proposed compost site will be well run.

Trustee Domrzalski stated that perhaps the citizen could ask the County to have a “prove it” law like Wisconsin where any such proposal would have to demonstrate two other successful businesses to receive a license. Trustee Domrzalski also noted that the company seems not to have a lot of capitalization. Trustee Hoban indicated that a similar composting operation in Wisconsin was shut down because of odors. Currently the site is a dump and the EPA has already come in to demand that liners be installed on the current dump. So the site already has environmental issues. The site is next to the Des Plaines River so any issues could impact the River.

Supervisor Penner, while citizens were still present, thanked Trustees Domrzalski and Trustee Hoban for their service on the Board.

Supervisor Penner when she first heard of the compost center issue, contacted Trustee O’Connell who has a relationship with the two Cook County Commissioners that represent the area to indicate the concerns just raised. Trustee O’Connell has already contacted the Commissioners to express these concerns. Next month, the Board will consider a Resolution opposing this compost center. The concerned citizen thanked the Board.

OFFICIALS’ REPORTS

ASSESSOR: Assessor Sadler reported:

- The Cook County Assessor annually provides each Township a property class report with all classes of property as well as the total parcel count. The 2016 total parcel count for Wheeling Township is 60,269. This makes Wheeling Township, by parcel count, one of the largest in Cook County. Assessor’s Office is slightly up from last year.
- Assessor’s Office is still helping taxpayers who haven’t filed for exemptions that they are entitled to. At this point, they need to file a Certificate of Error in order to receive either a revised tax bill, or a refund if they or their mortgage company pays the full amount. They are able to go back to 2012 for refunds on any missed exemptions. This is longer than in most counties.
- The Cook County Board of Review has invited Assessor’s Office to tour their downtown office this month and learn about new procedures for filing an appeal through their office.
- The Township sends 64,000 newsletters, but the lower parcel count indicates that condominiums and other multiple housing units are on one parcel.
- Phone calls: 365
Visitors: 408

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Administrator Stellato reported:

- Administrator Stellato has met regularly with Highway Manager Neitzke and Engineer Toberman regarding road matters. The Morrison Avenue/Lee Street Project is in the design stage and negotiations with homeowners for the flood prone property buy outs with Cook County are proceeding.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 25, 2017

- Tom Neitzke has met with Cook County Building and Zoning, Forest River Sanitary District and MWRD to review projects being done and permit violations in the unincorporated areas.
- Two new construction permits, as well as one for a home & garage addition, are pending. Once permit fee checks clear our bank, the engineer begins reviewing the plans and an order for Cook County to proceed with their permit process is issued.
- Annual Employee Performance Reviews are scheduled to begin Tuesday May 2, 2017.
- The April meeting of the Metropolitan Township Association took place on Wednesday April 5, 2017 at Leyden Township. Election of officers took place and the new officers are: Mary Wroblewski, President; Sharon Langlotz-Johnson, V.P.; James Barr, Secretary; and Paul Pioch, Treasurer. From this day forward, MTA will pay for meals provided at meetings by the hosting Township. A training program on immigration will be hosted by Palatine Township in the near future. Wayne and Addison Townships in DuPage County will be joining MTA. Besides discussing the services Townships provide, a list of funded agencies and amounts funded by each Township is being prepared for our next Legislative dinner. It's important to ensure Legislators are aware of the impact Townships have on social services. The next scheduled MTA meeting will be on July 5, 2017.
- The 2016-17 audit field work has been completed and we expect a draft in late May.
- The Volunteer and Donor Appreciation Luncheon took place on Friday April 21, 2017 at Astoria Banquets in Buffalo Grove. A total of 195 individuals attended.
- Administrator Stellato has received a number of calls from residents who oppose the Patriots Acres Landfill Project. A Mount Prospect resident will speak at tonight's meeting in the hopes of getting the Board to agree to oppose the project and write the Cook County Board of Commissioners.
- We wrapped up the Spring 2017 Newsletter yesterday. It should be delivered to home by the third week in May.
- The Swearing-in ceremony for the new Board will take place here at the Township on May 11, 2017 at 7:30 PM. One Trustee may need to be sworn in later.
- Statistics for the month of March 2017:
 - 2237 bus and medical van rides
 - 1,164 Meals Delivered
 - 91 In Office Visits to the Nurse
 - 33 Home Visits by the Nurse
 - 350 tax returns prepared by volunteers
 - 446 Visits to the Food Pantry – 1,052 people fed
 - 34 LIHEAP Applications processed
 - 17 new Mobile Dental Clinic applications processed
 - 41 Easter Baskets distributed

NEW BUSINESS

Prospect Heights Fire Protection Trustee is re-appointed. Mr. Shawn Clisham was first appointed in 2009 to a part of a term and then re-appointed for a full term. The term would run three years until May 1, 2020. The Fire Protection board runs well.

MOTION # 5: APPROVAL RE-APPOINTMENT OF PROSPECT HEIGHTS FIRE PROTECTION TRUSTEE

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Schultz to approve re-appointment of Shawn Clisham as Prospect Heights Fire Protection Trustee for a three year term.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Schultz, O'Connell, Hoban, Domrzalski, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion # 5 Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

2017-18 Budget was discussed at last month's meeting and tentatively approved. Trustee Domrzalski indicated that the Board consider giving an additional \$5 to 10 thousand to Behavioral Health to address addiction issues. Because the budget already allocated \$45,000 to Behavioral Health, the Board will add \$5000 to make it \$50,000. Because Salvation Army is leaving, \$20,000 was reserved to address future needs previously served by Salvation Army. The \$5000 for Behavioral Health will come from this reserve so the reserve will be \$15,000 to meet the services Salvation Army previously provided. Trustee Domrzalski suggested the \$15,000 be used to reduce any other budget deficiencies. Letters will go to agencies with high executive salaries expressing the Board's concern with these salaries.

Trustee O'Connell indicated that Wheeling Township has one of the highest teen pregnancy rates in the State. Kindred Life Services provides about \$10,000 in services to residents, but receives about \$2000 from Wheeling Township. They can provide services for 7 women and three males at a time. Their requirement is that the teens remain in school and maintain a part-time job. The agency provides mentorship and guidance. They are the only agency providing such services. Trustee O'Connell requested the Board consider giving the agency the \$4000 they requested or \$5000. Other Trustees indicated giving the \$4000 requested was perhaps better than the \$5000 which is more than the agency requested.

Trustee Hoban asked about the reason for the difference between \$2,747,712 for the Town budget this month compared to \$2,716,972 for the annual Town budget listed last month. Administrator Stellato will check the line items from the draft budget and send the information. The reduction is either about \$30,800 or about \$35,000. The deficit therefore will be about \$787,000 or \$783,000. Supervisor Penner stated this was a planned reduction of the reserves from being about twice the budget. Trustee Hoban

indicated that during the December meeting there was a discussion that no reduction of the reserves was necessary. Administrator Stellato stated that the Board agreed to reduce the levies by 15% expressly to reduce the reserves. Administrator Stellato indicated that the reserves will be at about 1.5 after this reduction. Trustee Domrzalski added that the new board will have the option of a three year look back. No vote on the budget is needed.

MOTION #6: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee O'Connell, seconded by Supervisor Penner, to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes....Motion #6 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, April 25, 2017, was declared adjourned at 8:51 p.m. The next regular scheduled board meeting is set for Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 8:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk