

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for November 22, 2016 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 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 Highway Commissioner Scott Saewert, Wheeling Township Attorney Nanci Rogers, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Josephine Stellato.

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Penner led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF AMENDED MEETING MINUTES – October 22, 2016

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve the amended minutes of September 27, 2016, in removing 'the' on page 5, under Old Business, before the last sentence after the word 'However'.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, O'Connell, Hoban, Domrzalski, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion #1 Carried.

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Hoban, seconded by Trustee Domrzalski, to approve batch #592, #593, #594 and #595 against the Town Fund, in the amount of \$100,600.60 to be paid.

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

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Hoban, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve batch #112216 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$950.00 to be paid.

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

DISCUSSION OF ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Supervisor Penner stated that Road District is over budget for the first time in many years. We have over a quarter left of fiscal year, and as a result we need to amend the budget. Commissioner Saewert stated that the snow contract is outstanding and may still have some retention bills. Trustee O'Connell asked Commissioner Saewert why some of the bills presented for payment tonight go back as far as April. Commissioner Saewert answered that he didn't get the bills until October.

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Motion by Trustee Domrzalski, seconded by Trustee Hoban, to approve batch #395, and #396 against the Road and Bridge Fund, in the amount of \$327,123.93 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Domrzalski, Hoban, O'Connell, Penner
NAYS: Schultz....Motion #4 Carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None.

OFFICIALS' REPORTS

ASSESSOR: Assessor Sadler reported:

- The Board of Review appeal period for Wheeling Township should be opening soon since the Cook County Assessor has certified and published the new assessments. Assessor's Office is already busy helping constituents with finding comparables and instructions for filing an online appeal with the Board of Review. Many taxpayers filed an appeal with the Cook County Assessor, but weren't happy with the results, as some did not receive a reduction, or they expected a larger reduction.
- The Assessor's Office continues to file permits for the 2017 assessment year. The Cook County Assessor annually requests that permits be submitted by the middle of December to ensure assessment of the work the following year. Local taxing bodies' revenues are, in part, dependent on timely permit processing.
- Visits: 228
- Phone Calls: 339

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Commissioner Saewert reported:

- 2016 Road Projects:
- 2016 Anita Ave., west of Lee St. Road Resurfacing- Project completed.
- Meetings and Activities:
- Worked with Cook County Building and Zoning, Forest River Sanitary District and MWRD to review projects being done and permit violations in the unincorporated areas.
- Working on obtaining alternate snow contracts to replace the one formally done with Northfield Township.
- Commissioner Saewert read a November 18, 2016 letter that was addressed to Supervisor Penner and the Wheeling Township Board about the snow removal in unincorporated areas. The snow removal contract was annually renewed with Northfield Township, except now for the 2016-17 season. The Northfield Township may not wish to come into an agreement at this time, and Commissioner Saewert does not want the residents of unincorporated areas to be left without a snow removal for the upcoming winter and wants the Board to make a priority to help the residents with the snow removal. Commissioner Saewert stated that the Board needs to create a 6 month season contract for the snow removal. Attorney Rogers stated that Commissioner is responsible for everything until the end of his term, which is until the end of December. On January 1st, the Board will take over the responsibility. Administrator Stellato stated that Wheeling Township has already spoken to couple of contractors, the Village of Arlington Heights, and the Village of Mount Prospect. However, the Board has no authority to enter into contract for snow removal until January 1. There needs to be a joint discussion with Highway Commissioner and Board about arranging snow removal until January 1 and after January 1.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Administrator Stellato reported:

- The annual Make A Difference Day Fun Fair for children with disabilities and their families took place on Saturday October 29, 2016 at Riley School in Arlington Heights. 41 children participated accompanied by 45 adults. 70 local volunteers ran games, helped with registration, and served food.
- The second Generation2Generation, sponsored by the Senior Advisory Council, held a program on Monday October 24. This is joint program between Wheeling Township, the AVID program students at Wheeling High School and senior citizens from Lexington nursing home. The purpose is to encourage teens to gain exposure to senior citizens in a non-threatening, relaxed atmosphere.
- Medicare Part D Open Enrollment is in full swing. Wheeling Township's four SHIP volunteers are totally booked and have added many days to keep up with the demand for appointments. They are geared up to see between 400 and 450 people before the December 7 deadline.
- The A1C machine is up and running and available should residents request a reading. The charge is \$12 per reading.
- All flu vaccines have been given; there are no more available through Wheeling Township.

- Administrator Stellato met with Mr. Lepse from Salvation Army on November 1, 2016. They have notified staff that the Township counseling office will close in June 2017.
- Statistics for the month of October 2016:
 - 2,172 bus rides; 958 Dial-a-Ride, 1,244 Medical Van rides
 - 1,202 Meals Delivered
 - 483 Visits to the Food Pantry - 1,148 people fed
 - 92 office visits to the Nurse
 - 59 home visit by the Nurse
 - 215 LIHEAP applications processed

NEW BUSINESS

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Bill Bradish presented the Board with the Health Insurance renewal. Annual renewal with Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) is on December 1st. We have been with BCBS for 3 years. The companies that are offering insurance coverage for small groups at this time are Aetna, Humana, United Health Care, and Blue Cross. All insurance companies were compared, and Mr. Bradish recommends that Wheeling Township stays with BCBS, with the 7% increase. Humana was significantly more and United's quote had a higher deductible. Bill Bradish responded that Obamacare unlikely to be changed immediately so likely will see changes in the future. Blue Cross the least expensive of choices.

VEHICLE INSURANCE

Bill Bradish told the Board that because we transport infirm older passengers, the premium costs for 11 passenger vehicles are a challenge. The Township received a 5% reduction this year. The risk and payment of a \$250,000 claim four years ago means only two insurers willing to consider insuring. Bill also stated that self-insured risk pools may not be interested.

MOTION #5: BCBS HEALTH INSURANCE APPROVAL

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve BCBS Insurance that renews on December 1st 2016 that has a 7 % increase.

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

OLD BUSINESS

2016 LEVY DISCUSSIONS- TOWN, GENERAL ASSISTANCE & ROAD

The estimated expenses for the levy includes a small reduction for Salvation Army leaving at the end of June 2017. Board members felt some agency leaders salaries are

high and noted that salaries for three of the agencies exceed a total of \$500,000 for their top three executives. The Board previously reduced Omni and Clearbrook \$10,000 each for this same issue. Little City and Countryside just merged so we may see a difference in executive salaries there as well. The budget has only \$20,000 for legal expenses and the Township has spent \$14,800 to date. The estimated levy expenditures do not include the purported \$91,000 savings for abolishing the Road District referred to in a news article. The Township has consistently dropped reserves and a 10% tax levy reduction will leave an approximate \$3.7 million reserve, or \$500,000 less than the current amount. A Board member said that when Schaumburg Township dropped its reserves too low, it had to go to taxpayers to support a \$2 million bond because of a claim for a vehicle accident. Trustee Hoban proposed a 40% reduction in the Town Fund Tax Levy, which would still leave the Board with over one year in reserves. Trustee O'Connell thought that this was irresponsible.

Major medical claims in the General Assistance Fund are insured but there is a \$25,000 deductible per claim. There always is a risk of multiple claims.

The Road District Fund levy is \$727,000. Highway Commissioner had planned about \$200,000 to \$225,000 for the retention properties, but these monies are no longer needed. Reserves are almost \$600,000. Expenditures of about \$447,900 are planned. The Commissioner suggested a levy of \$550,000. So looking at a 40% tax levy reduction is possible.

MOTION #6: TOWN FUND LEVY REDUCTION TENTATIVE APPROVAL

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to tentatively approve 10% Tax Levy Reduction for 2016 Town Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, O'Connell, Schultz, Domrzalski
NAYS: Hoban....Motion #6 Carried

MOTION #7: GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND LEVY TENTATIVE APPROVAL

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to tentatively approve 10% Tax Levy Reduction for 2016 General Assistance Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, O'Connell, Schultz, Hoban, Domrzalski
NAYS: None....Motion #7 Carried

MOTION #8: ROAD DISTRICT FUND LEVY TENTATIVE APPROVAL

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to tentatively approve 40% Tax Levy Reduction for 2016-17 Road District Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Domrzalski, Schultz, O'Connell, Hoban, Penner
NAYS: None....Motion #8 Carried

MOTION #9: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Schultz seconded Trustee Domrzalski, to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes....Motion #9 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, November 22, 2016, was declared adjourned at 9:25 p.m.
The next regular scheduled board meeting is set for Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at 8:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk

