

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for March 18, 2025 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, Attorney M. Neal Smith, 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 FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve the minutes of February 25, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

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

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #031825 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$938.50 to be paid.

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

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #2/28/25, #3/3/25, and #3/18/25 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$9,536.91 to be paid.

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

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #2/27/25, #2/28/25, #3/3/25, #3/12/25 and #3/18/25 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$165,577.37 to be paid.

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Lorri Grainawi: NW Community Hospital decided not to close the Mental Health Unit for now.

OFFICIALS' REPORT

ASSESSOR: Assessor Jochum reported:

- **TAX YEAR 2024**
- We are currently in the midst of the EXEMPTION period, handling a steady volume of taxpayers.
- As I mentioned last month Homeowner, Senior and Disability exemptions automatically renew.
- If the Senior Freeze or Veteran exemptions were on the 2023 bill a renewal application will be mailed in late March.
- The Board of Review result letters for 2024 appeals have been sent to taxpayers. Any reductions in assessed value will be reflected on the 2024 2nd installment bill.
- **TAX YEAR 2025**
- We will begin accepting pre-file appeals with the County Assessor in June.
- **CAUTION**
- In an attempt to persuade some senior voters to vote for the D23 referendum some individuals have been telling seniors that if they have the Senior Freeze their taxes will not increase as a result of the referendum. THIS IS INCORRECT INFORMATION. A property owner who has the Senior Tax Freeze will have increases in their taxes as a result of referenda as well as ordinary levies from taxing bodies. Only their assessed value is frozen.

- **ILLINOIS REAL ESTATE TAX ARTICLE**
- See attached article.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- The newsletter is at the Post Office to be delivered to residents; if you have not received yours, you should within the next couple of days.
- A bus rider called today to tell us how happy she is with our Transportation Department. She has been using the Township buses for four years after she had to give up driving. John, Todd, and all the drivers are so nice and helpful.
- Last month, I said the Secretary of State Mobile Unit would be here in April to renew driver's license and process the REAL ID. Unfortunately, they canceled to bring all employees into the facilities to help process the REAL ID workload.
- The Township now has a translation service. We have been trained on Translate Live.
- The Annual Town Meeting is on April 8, 2025, at 8 pm.
- Statistics for February 2025:
 - 1,548rides – 777 non-medical, 771 Medical (Disabled 214 rides)
 - 806 - meals delivered
 - 528 - visits to the Food Pantry – 1,133 people, 250 Children and 499 - Seniors
 - 7 – Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group
 - 22 –(VIP) Visually Impaired Support Group Holiday Party

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #5: APPROVAL OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AGENDA

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Kozicki to approve the Annual Town Meeting Agenda.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

2025-26 TENTATIVE BUDGET DISCUSSIONS:

The FY24-25 Road Fund budget was \$994,630, but the Township was able to do the work for \$768,461. It is expected about \$500,000 will be needed for FY25-26. The Town Fund budget for FY25-26 will be about \$3,785,000. The budget includes installing an automated system for scheduling the senior rides and building improvements. The tentative budget also reflects salary increases of 4 to 5% for employees. A capital improvement plan will also be created. The budget will be voted on next month.

MOTION #6: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Penner seconded by Trustee Kozicki to adjourn.

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

The meeting for Tuesday, March 18, 2025, was declared adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk