

WHEELING TOWNSHIP ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

**1616 N. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROAD
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60004**

PAULA ULREICH MEETING ROOM

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015
8:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

IV. ELECTION OF A MODERATOR

V. OFFICIALS' REPORTS

VI. JULIE VILLARREAL - GENERAL ASSISTANCE

VII. HONOR DONORS

- A. Clerics of St. Viator**
- B. Elite Soccer**

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Time of Annual Town Meeting**
- B. Social Services Funding**
- C. Authorize Township Board to Purchase Liability Insurance**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**Wheeling Township
Annual Town Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER The 166th Annual Township meeting, held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at the Wheeling Township Hall, Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois, was called to order by Clerk Joanna Gauza at 8:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The American Legion Post 208 posted the colors and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Gauza introduced Mr. Greg Padavoni from American Legion Post 208 in Arlington Heights. Mr. Padavoni shared a few words with the audience about the planned May 25 Memorial Day parade and celebration to honor veterans. About 3000 signs thanking veterans will be displayed along the Memorial Day parade route as a thank you to our veterans for their service.

READING OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE Clerk Gauza read the Public Notice which stated that notice is hereby given to Wheeling Township in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town meeting of said Township will take place on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the hour of 8:00 p.m., at the Wheeling Township Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois; with Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance; Election of a Moderator; Pass Resolutions for the Time of the next Annual Town Meeting, Senior Citizen Services, and to Authorize the Township Board to Purchase Liability Insurance; Official's Reports; and adjournment. The Public

Notice was posted in two locations as well as on Wheeling Township's Website.

MEETING PROCEDURES Clerk Gauza asked the audience if Wheeling Township residents had signed the "Voters Affidavit" and if guests had signed in on the official "Guest List". Upon signing in, each Wheeling Township resident received an official blue card to use when voting on any issue brought up at the meeting. It was also pointed out that agendas and Wheeling Township Annual Reports are available in the back of the room.

INTRODUCTIONS The Clerk introduced the Wheeling Township elected officials present at the meeting: Supervisor Michael Schroeder, Clerk Joanna Gauza, Assessor Jerry Sadler, Highway Commissioner Scott Saewert (who was absent from the meeting), Trustee Ruth O'Connell, Trustee Kathy Penner, Trustee Domrzalski, and Trustee Robert Hoban.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT Because of a new law, the Clerk did not have to read the Wheeling Township Annual Report. A hard copy of the Annual Township Financial Statement as part of the Annual Township Report was available for each elector to review.

NOMINATION OF A MODERATOR Clerk Gauza asked for nominations from the floor, to elect a moderator. A motion was made by Thomas Gauza, 410 East Sunset Drive, Arlington Heights, seconded by Ruth O'Connell, 3123 N. Windsor Drive, Mt. Prospect, to nominate Ken Jochum as moderator. Clerk Gauza asked, "Are there any other nominations for moderator?" Hearing none, motion was voted upon and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jochum was then sworn in as moderator by Clerk Gauza.

The first order of business was Official's Reports:

OFFICIALS' REPORTS The Supervisor, Clerk, and Assessor presented their annual reports. Each elected official outlined the highlights for the fiscal year ending February 28, 2015. Moderator Jochum introduced Joanna Gauza to give the Clerk's report.

CLERK Clerk Gauza highlighted services provided by the Clerk's Office, including, voter registration, the deputy registrar program, early voting and the sale of vehicle stickers for unincorporated Wheeling Township. She further explained how the deputy registrar program works and how the Clerk's Office provides vehicle stickers for unincorporated areas of Cook County.

She thanked staff members Deputy Clerk Jo Stellato, Assistant to the Clerk Lorrie Huber, Linda Hallett and Bonnie Niedert for their assistance throughout the year.

Next, Moderator Jochum introduced Jerry Sadler to give the Assessor's report.

ASSESSOR Assessor Sadler noted that with the closing of Cook County's Rolling Meadows Assessor's office, the Wheeling Township Assessor's office assisted some 4000 visitors and an additional 4000 telephone callers with their tax issues. The Township Assessor's office has two full-time and two part time staff. Assessor Sadler introduced Deputy Assessor Jane Bernard, Mary Sebastian, Julie Lipka, Barb Brasman, and Cathy Sloan. Assessor Sadler noted that Wheeling is the second largest Township in Cook County with some 153,000 residents and only Thornton Township is larger. In assessed value, Wheeling Township is second only to Northfield Township. Assessor Sadler also stated that tax bills will be out on time for third year in a row.

SUPERVISOR Supervisor Schroeder welcomed everyone in the audience and expressed his appreciation for their attendance this evening. He introduced the Wheeling Township staff and thanked them for their efforts throughout the year.

Supervisor Schroeder noted that every few years someone suggests consolidating Township government until educated about the services and benefits provided by Township government. Wheeling Township held the line on taxes, spent down the reserve, and continued to provide high quality services to the disabled, low income, and needy of Wheeling Township. By partnering with other Townships and using volunteers, Wheeling Township increased services without increasing costs.

For example, Wheeling Township assisted American Legion Post 208 by transporting sailors from Great Lakes to the Legion Post to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner. Jo Stellato and Chris Freeman were instrumental to putting that program together. Supervisor Schroeder then had representatives from all the social service agencies that the Township funds introduce themselves and briefly describe the services they provide to Township residents.

Supervisor Schroeder noted that the Township in a time of fiscal difficulties as the State of Illinois and municipalities struggle with budget cuts is necessary. For example, Arlington Heights can only allocate \$52,000 of State block grants to social services. The Township provides about 20 times that amount to meeting the critical need for social services. The Township is also known for its senior transportation program that last fiscal year provided about 24,800 rides to seniors. About 55% of the rides were for medical services. Supervisor Schroeder then introduced and thanked the dispatchers and drivers that provide transportation services to seniors.

JULIE VILLAREAL, head of general assistance gave an overview of the 12 different programs the department handles. The Township and General Assistance department work to provide one stop service to customers to access all eligible services such as welfare, food stamps, emergency assistance, mobile dental clinic, life threatening assistance funds, and access to care programs. Persons exhausting unemployment or waiting for disability often come looking for help and the Township assists in providing these benefits. For services the Township cannot provide, like substance abuse, the Township refers clients to outside agencies for services. The Township food depository does not use Township funds, but uses entirely donated food and the depository is staffed entirely by volunteers. The food pantry serves about 400 residents a month. No request for food is ever denied.

Supervisor Schroeder then presented two awards thanking donors to the food pantry. Father Daniel Hall received the award on behalf of the clerics of St. Viator. They grow garden fresh vegetables and have donated over 50 fifty times to the pantry. An award was also given to the Elite Soccer organization for donating 127 Thanksgiving baskets during the last year and 516 baskets over the last six years.

RESOLUTIONS were presented at this time.

SET THE TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING A resolution was read by Lorrie Huber, 302 Neil Avenue, Mount Prospect, to set the time for the next annual town meeting, as follows: "It is hereby resolved and ordered by the electors present at the Annual Town Meeting of Wheeling Township held this 14th day of April, 2015, that the time of the next Annual Town Meeting shall be held on the second Tuesday of April, 2016, at 8:00 p.m., at a place to be designated by the Wheeling Township Board of Trustees.

MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION 2015-02 A motion was made by resident at 1528 Richmond Street, Arlington Heights, seconded by Mike Domrzalski, 1330 Indigo Drive, Mount Prospect, to adopt Resolution 2015-02, as read. Motion carried unanimously (43-0).

The next resolution brought before the electors for approval was for the Township to provide social services.

SOCIAL SERVICES A resolution was read by Kathy Penner, 1002 W. Marion Road, Arlington Heights, stating: "Whereas, the electors assembled at this Year 2015 Annual Town Meeting of Wheeling Township believe it is in the best interest of the Township and its residents that the Township contract with for-profit, not-for-profit or non-sectarian organizations to provide services for children, teens, seniors, disabled and low-income families. Now therefore, be it hereby resolved, by the electors present at this Annual Town Meeting of Wheeling Township that the Wheeling Township Board of Trustees is authorized to contract with for-profit, not-for-profit, or non-sectarian organizations to provide funds for services for children, teens, seniors, disabled and low-income families during the 2015-2016 fiscal year."

MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION 2015-03 A motion was made by Mike Domrzalski, seconded by Robert Hoban, 1830 Camp McDonald Road, Mt. Prospect, to adopt Resolution 2014-02 as read. Motion carried unanimously (44-0).

Moderator Jochum then asked for a resolution to be brought before the electors authorizing the board to purchase liability insurance.

LIABILITY INSURANCE A resolution was read by Tom Gauza, 410 E. Sunset Drive, Arlington Heights, which stated: "Whereas, the electors are

empowered under 60 ILCS 1/30-42, as amended, to provide for the purchase of insurance, any loss or liability of any officer, employee or agent of the Township resulting from any wrongful or negligent act of any such officer, employee or agent while discharging against or engaging in his duties and functions and acting within the scope of his duties and functions as an officer, employee or agent of the Township; and whereas, it is in the best interests of the Township to provide for such insurance; it is, therefore, resolved by the electors assembled at an Annual Meeting as follows:

1. That the Township Board is authorized to purchase insurance against any loss or liability of any officer, employee or agent of the Township resulting from the wrongful or negligent act of any such officer, employee or agent while discharging or engaging in his duties and functions as an officer, employee or agent of the Township.
2. That the term "insurance" herein shall include traditional insurance policies and programs as well as any self-administered insurance funds, risk management associations, risk retention groups, which are in the nature of insurance and provide for the protection anticipated herein.
3. That this resolution shall not be construed to limit any of the Township Board's powers under 745 ILS 10/9-101, et seq.
4. That this resolution shall remain in full force and effect unless and until modified amended or repealed at a subsequent Annual or Special Meeting of electors."

MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION 2015-04 A motion was made by Kathy Penner, seconded by Ruth O'Connell, 3123 N. Windsor Drive,

Arlington Heights, to adopt Resolution 2014-03. Motion carried unanimously (45-0) with a copy attached.

Moderator Jochum asked if there was any other business to present. Being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION TO ADJOURN A motion was made by Kathy Penner, 1002 W. Marion, Arlington Heights, and seconded by Joanne Schultz, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Moderator Jochum thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Upon adjournment, a reception followed, including cake and coffee.



Joanna M. Gauza

Wheeling Township Clerk