

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for September 24, 2024 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 AUGUST 27, 2024

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Talken, to approve the minutes of August 27, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

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

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #08/22/24 and #9/23/24 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$1,926.53 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 #8/29/24, #9/13/24, and #9/23/24 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$4,835.70 to be paid.

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

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Kozicki, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #8/29/24, #9/13/24, #9/23/24, and #9/24/24 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$210,632.85 to be paid.

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Hugh Brady-708 referendum passed. He argued for Wheeling Township to fund the 708 board and that there was no plan to raise \$8 million. Urged funding of \$1.5 million.

Lorri Grainawi- Elk Grove Township has about the same budget as Wheeling Township. They spend for social services about a million dollars.

Mike Domrzalski- When the referendum was proposed, the flyers said \$1.5 million on the low end and \$10 million on the high end. He suspects the levy will go to the high end and will be four times what the township levy is to run the township. Questions to consider is the township government the best to deliver Mental Health Services? What will be the consequences? Extra staff? We will have to carry insurance?

John Saleta- Commends the Township Board for the courage to follow the law. The legal opinion shows the referendum was not legally done.

Amy Somary- Encourages to live stream the meetings. Appreciates that more information is on the township website. Wants to have more board packets to show as she knows that the board has been good with our money. Not asking the township to provide the 708 services but to tax and collect money and distribute to agencies.

Steve Polit- Only some 6.7% of some 1,400 Townships have done 708 boards. Let's not jump in with large amounts, but see what others have done with 708.

Dan Patlak- The needs assessment is so expansive even if we doubled the budget, the costs would not be covered. He asked property tax increase proponents why they do not

ask the State to increase funding rather than create a new bureaucracy. Respects the vote if it was fair, transparent and legal, but the referendum was none of those things.

OFFICIALS' REPORT

ASSESSOR: Assessor Jochum reported:

- TAX YEAR 2024
- The Cook County Assessor is open for appeals from Wheeling Township until October 7, 2024. Thus far we have handled over 750 appeals and anticipate hitting 800 by the ending of the filing period.
- The Board of Review should open for Wheeling Township in three to four months.
- Both the Assessor and the Board are on track to provide timely tax bills for 2024.
- As a reminder tax year 2025 will be a reassessment year.
- PROPOSED LEGISLATION
- BoR-1 Commissioner George Cardenas proposing Property Tax Relief Fund Statewide.
**See attached article. Implications for Wheeling Township

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- General Assistance is now taking appointments for LIHEAP; it opens on October 1.
- Medicare Open Enrollment begins October 15. We are filling up fast.
- The Township helped 192 children start the new school year right with a backpack loaded with supplies.
- REMINDER: The October 22, 2024, Board will begin at 6 pm with Agency Funding Hearings and end with a Decennial Meeting.
- Statistics for August 2024:
 - 1,761 rides – 824 non-medical, 937 Medical (Disabled 275 rides)
 - 972 - meals delivered
 - 513 - visits to the Food Pantry – 1,084 people, 477 seniors, 247 children
 - 7 – Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group
 - 19 –(VIP) Visually Impaired Support Group

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #5: APPROVAL OF NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP; VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK SNOW AND ICE CONTROL AGREEMENT 2024-2025

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to approve the 2024 - 2025 Northfield Township and Village of Northbrook Snow and Ice Control Agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Murglin, Kozicki, Hamilton, Talken

NAYS: None.... Motion #5 Carried.

LEVY DISCUSSIONS:

Township attorney Ken Florey informed the meeting that the recommendation from the needs survey had just been received but the 708 board has not yet made a recommendation so the levy discussion tonight will not include the 708 board.

Supervisor Penner: proposed we keep Levy flat.

Trustee Hamilton: I am in logistics and the industry is in depression. Lots of companies are going out of business. The labor market is cooling and there are few raises because company cannot afford to give raises.

Trustee Talken: I am in heavy equipment for food services. Orders are way down.

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, September 24, 2024, was declared adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 8:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk