

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for November 14, 2023 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 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: Trustee Patricia Kozicki

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 OCTOBER 24, 2023

Motion by Trustee Hamilton, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

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

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Talken, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #10/31/23 and #11/14/23 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$142,082.48 to be paid.

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

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Talken, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #111423 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$1,100.00 to be paid.

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

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Talken, seconded by Trustee Murglin, to approve batch #10/26/23, #10/31/23, #11/3/23 and #11/14/23 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$184,128.07 to be paid.

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Kathy Motto: I was thrilled the referendum for mental health board is going through and is looking forward to getting funding.

Leslie Weber: Mental health affects many in society and needs the support of society. All of society benefits when mental health services are available.

Jean Wood: Wants \$1.5 million to be included for Mental Health agencies when the board does its budget.

Unidentified Speaker: Support of funding for mental health is a valuable use of funds.

Suzanne Nice: Thanked Wheeling Township for providing community services. The need for funding for mental health services is urgent.

Linda Waisy: This is time to come together for Mental Health funding.

Jody Draut: Citizens are concerned that the referendum is delayed. Wants the Mental Health Agencies to be funded at least \$1.5 million.

Hugh Brady: There was a strong support for the Mental Health levy. Those who knew voted for \$1.5 million in funding for mental health.

Janice Ferris: Voters voted for the referendum and board should not deny the will of the voters.

Teri Lynn Pacion: I have two sons with mental illness. There is a lack of good doctors. We cannot ignore mental health illness.

Connie Stewart: Requested \$1.5 million for Mental Health agencies.

OFFICIALS' REPORT

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

- Tax Year 2022:
- Tax bills have been mailed and we are dealing with the fallout of the highest tax in 30 years in the northern suburbs with a median tax increase of 15.7%.
- Our office has been handling approximately 100 cases a day with each case taking between 15 to 30 minutes on average to resolve.
- In addition to the high levy the Cook County Assessor's office did not enter and/or dropped hundreds of senior exemptions, senior freezes, homeowner and veteran exemptions. All these exemptions required resolution and, in many cases, new bills.
- The CCAO was so swamped they were giving out suburban township phone numbers to city residents, in the hope that we could solve their problems. No Township has any city information hence taxpayers were not being serviced
- Many taxing bodies have taxed to the max in a reassessment year causing the perfect storm for taxpayers. We have been distributing the phone numbers of school districts and elected officials so that can directly answer taxpayer questions.
- You have a copy of Treasurer Maria Pappas' analysis of tax year 2022 and I would like to highlight some of her comments. The assessor than discussed the analysis. In cook county, property taxes rose \$909 million to \$17.6 billion. In Wheeling Township, the average property tax increase was 15.7%, the largest in 30 years. School districts sought the highest increase. The tax increase also hit seniors hard. People have called in tears talking how they received large tax increases like a \$7000 tax increase to be paid in 2 weeks. For another example, a senior citizen couple stated they could not pay the increase and lacked food in their home.
- Tax year 2023:
- The Board of Review has not yet opened for appeals so we have been accepting pre-files, thus far we have 150 pre-files. We encourage everyone to appeal.
- Other activity:
- We conducted our first seminar for first time homeowners. We had 5 homeowners attend as well as the Palatine Township Assessor. The program was well received and next year we will combine our efforts with at least one other Township.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- The Township will distribute 300 Thanksgiving Baskets with a \$25 gift card on Saturday, November 18.

- The Mental Health Board heard the presentations for the Needs Assessment from Harper Business Solutions and Northern Illinois University Governmental Studies on November 1, 2023. Administrator Stapleton is doing a great job with limited resources assisting the Mental Health Board.
- The holiday season is upon us, and the food pantry donations, food and monetary are increasing. We want to thank the community for their continued support.
- Statistics for October 2023:
 - 1,741 rides – 812 non-medical, 929 Medical
 - 1,027 - meals delivered
 - 507 visits to the Food Pantry – 1,068 people fed

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION #5: APPROVAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ELK GROVE TOWNSHIP FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Elk Grove Township for General Assistance Services.

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

MOTION #6: APPROVAL OF ROADWAY LINES CORPORATIONS

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to approve the Roadway Lines Corporations.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Murglin, Talken, Hamilton
NAYS: None.... Motion #6 Carried.

MOTION #7: APPROVAL OF 2023 TENTATIVE LEVIES FOR GENERAL ASSISTANCE AND TOWN FUND

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to approve the Tentative Levies for the General Assistance and Town Funds for a total of \$2,661,365.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Murglin, Hamilton, Talken
NAYS: None....Motion #7 Carried.

MOTION #8: APPROVAL OF 2023 TENTATIVE ROAD LEVY

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to approve the Tentative Levy for Road Found for a total of \$723,109.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Murglin, Hamilton, Talken
NAYS: None....Motion #8 Carried.

MOTION #9: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Penner, seconded by Trustee Murglin to adjourn.

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

The meeting for Tuesday, November 14, 2023, was declared adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 8:35 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk