

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
7812 S. Rt 31 Richmond, IL

September 11, 2019 7:00 PM

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

PRESENT: Trustees Connie Gradt, Adam Metz, Marge Stermer

ABSENT: Trustee Bob Roth

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kate Hellmann, Road District Commissioner Chris Gumm

Hain called the meeting to order at 7 PM and introduced Chris Gumm who in addition to being the Road Commissioner is also a Firefighter and Paramedic. Gumm presented a very touching pictorial remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001.

Roll Call: Hain, Gradt, Metz, and Stermer were present. Roth was absent from the meeting.

Presentations: Hain introduced Jack and Judy Speer from Small Waters Education, a nonprofit organization based in Alden. They presented a slide show on pollinator insects and encouraged native plantings to provide for the needs of the native pollinators which are necessary for our food, among other things. If the Township wishes to get involved in any way (providing land for plantings etc.) they can provide assistance in the form of references, resources and recommendations. Stermer will contact the Rotary to see if they are willing to participate.

Minutes: Metz moved to approve the minutes of the August 14th meeting. Seconded by Gradt and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment; None

Treasurer's Report: Hain presented the reports for August. The approved Transportation grant has still not been received. Metz moved to accept, seconded by Stermer and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Road Warrant 19-9R in the audited amount of \$23,690.39 was presented. Metz moved to approve payment. Seconded by Hain and passed with Hain, Gradt, Metz, and Stermer voting yes. Roth was absent.

Town Warrant #19-9T in the audited amount of \$36,814.98 was presented. Metz moved to approve payment. Seconded by Gradt and passed with Hain, Gradt, Metz, and Stermer voting yes. Roth was absent. Bank balances were reviewed.

Correspondence: Thank you note was received from the Transportation participants.

Reports:

Supervisor: Hain presented his thoughts on 9-11 and remarked how the world has changed. He reminded the Board that elected officials must remain neutral in their official capacity, regarding political matters, e.g. possible referendum on the future of Townships. However, they can be involved as private citizens. Board reviewed the rules for officials and

Hain stated that he will seek professional advice. Employees, drivers, also must be careful and not get involved in discussions. Hain plans to have the building exterior cleaned this fall and lighting and electrical are on the short list. Money for computer replacement is in the budget and Hain is waiting for a proposal. He has met the new Burton Township Supervisor, John Flood. Burton would like to have someone present when decisions on Transportation are discussed.

Road District: Gumm updated that board on current and ongoing activities. The Department will participate in the McHenry Township “Touch-a-Truck”

Assessor: Absent. Hain reported that the Assessor is hearing some late appeals.

Clerk: Hellmann distributed copies of the Annual Treasurer’s Report.

Trustee: Metz provided information on recycling costs. McHenry County Defenders could provide the service on October 26th. It would take place at the Township and it will be up to the Township to charge participants, or not. Metz recommended including Burton Township in the program. Board was in favor of the plan and discussed ways to advertise. Metz will find out if a rain date can be provided, how much space is needed and what the Defenders financial goal is. This could be provided as a free service to Richmond/Burton residents. More information will be discussed at the October meeting.

Gradt requested a copy of the County rules for the Transportation Grant, specifically the criteria for dispersing the funds. Hain stated that his submissions are all on line and he has no hard copies but he will look for the specific regulations. Gradt asked if the bus bids have been let. Hain has not advertised yet and the Board discussed the advantages of purchase vs lease.

Senior Transportation and Services: Board discussed additional trips, specifically the October Fall fest and upcoming bingo at the Fire Department. Stermer moved to approve the fall fest in downtown Richmond on Saturday, October 19 from 10-1, and Richmond Fire Dept. bingo, provided a minimum of 5 people are participating. Seconded by Gradt and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Unfinished Business: Annual Audit report. Metz moved to accept the report from GRA and approve for publication. Seconded by Gradt and passed by unanimous voice vote.

New Business: a. Updated transportation brochure was reviewed. Changes in layout were recommended and Metz moved to approve the brochures as amended. Seconded by Gradt and passed by unanimous voice vote.

b. Transportation Handbook amendment was reviewed. The only change is the addition of the second shopping trip to McHenry for the Elm Street stores, and the change in pickup time for the Friday shopping trip (changed from 9 am to 8 am). Gradt moved to approve the amendment. Seconded by Metz and passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. The Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry Township for casework was reviewed. No changes have been proposed. Stermer moved to approve. Seconded by Metz and passed by unanimous voice vote.

d. Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County for PACE (McRide) transportation was reviewed. No fee schedule for the 2020 program has been proposed and no report or feedback on the number of participants from Richmond Township has been received. Discussion ensued. No action will be taken and Hain will request a report from PACE or the County.

e. Landscape program, as presented earlier, was discussed. Gumm will follow up and agreed that the program would be ideal for right of ways, however he has no money in his budget for the plants or seeds. Stermer will ask if the Rotary would participate.

f. 2020 Tax Levy. Hain stated that he will present a levy request that remains flat and will not exceed \$277,000. Truth in Taxation hearing will not be required.

Public Comment. Metz stated that he attended a meeting with Jack Pease regarding roads impacted by the Burgett Gravel Pit.

Closed Session. None

There was no other business. Stermer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Metz. 9:25 pm.

Township Clerk

Approved:_____