

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL

August 9, 2023

7:00 pm

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

PRESENT: Trustees, Scott Freund, Kosta Iftica, Kara Lotz, Tracy Dickens

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Tammy Kay, Road Commissioner Chris Gumm, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez, 3 members of the public; McHenry Township Supervisor Gary Barla, McHenry County Board Member Karl Kominski, Jean Bolash-Richmond, IL

ABSENT: Assessor Patricia O'Neill

Hain called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Freund, Iftica, Lotz, Dickens and Hain were present. Quorum established.

MINUTES: Iftica moved to approve the minutes of the regular July 12, 2023, meeting, seconded by Lotz and passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain presented the reports and balances. He stated the assessor's budget is heavier this month due to labor costs. General Assistance is busy giving small amounts for food shortage, prescription needs, and utility needs.

Iftica moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Dickens, and passed with unanimous voice vote.

Township Warrant #23-8T in the amount of \$7,431.75 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Lotz and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, Dickens and Hain voting yes.

Road District Warrant #23-8R in the amount of \$9,378.08 was presented. Dickens moved to approve payment, seconded by Freund, and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, Dickens and Hain voting yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

REPORTS:

Supervisor: Hain reported one FOIA has been received from bettergov.org and has been answered. He has been busy with meeting the requirements of 2 grants for Senior Transportation. He elaborated on the General Assistance activity. There are about 30% more requests than normal for help with utility turn off notices/payments, and the need for food and gasoline. Freund asked for an update about the family with their electric shut off from last month's meeting. Hain stated it was resolved the day after

the meeting by another advocacy group that worked to restore Com Ed service. He spoke to the McHenry County Clerk's office about placing a referendum regarding garbage pickup on the ballot. January 2, 2024 is the deadline.

Road District: Gumm reported the Hill Road repaving project will start August 10, 2023. The bridge has been determined to be structurally sound, though retaining walls are failing. There is no official word as to how this will be fixed. The new asphalt hot box is expected to be delivered soon and winter preparations have started.

Assessor: O'Neill was absent but working on the last of 51 appeals, meeting with constituents tonight.

Clerk: none

Trustees: Freund gave a handout with information about the potential garbage collection consolidation of services. He had examples of other townships and the way they handled this type of situation. He stated one subdivision has 8 garbage trucks a week. Discussion ensued about informing the public via newsletter/township website and how the billing would work. Freund stated he will work on a potential township newsletter for the September meeting.

Dickens asked for clarification on the Decennial Committee requirements and what each member will be researching.

Senior Transportation: Hain reported ride amounts, costs, and destinations for the previous month. He stated the program is running well and will be looking to add additional events before the weather changes. Currently there are 47 riders with an average age of 80+. He will be attending a meeting with the county on August 10, 2023 to discuss how the PACE and McRide model do not work well in the township as the length of rides are generally twice as long and the call center is difficult for the seniors to navigate.

Cemetery Board: Hain reported there have been a couple burials and the cemeteries are now in good shape. For Memorial Day weekend, American flags were put up by local students/township and taken down by members of the American Legion. Next year is hoped to be a combined effort between the groups. Hain is researching solar powered cameras for the Richmond Cemetery.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Iftica asked about the working document that was created for the Decennial Committee. It does not seem to be working and he will continue to create an easily accessible document. One citizen member was recruited by Gumm for the committee, Jean Bolash of Richmond. Hain requested the trustees to work on mission statements for the township for next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Hain gave handouts of new board table chairs he will be ordering.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Gumm asked if McHenry Township has garbage pickup. McHenry Township Supervisor Barla stated they follow the McHenry County program. Bolash mentioned that a mailed newsletter would be good for the senior citizens in the area with information about the transportation program. Representative Kominski asked if the township currently has a newsletter to which Hain stated no. Freund stated the creation of a newsletter would be an improvement that could be reported to the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency.

CLOSED SESSION: none

There was no other business. Iftica moved to adjourn, seconded by Freund and passed by unanimous voice vote.

7:56pm.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____