

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL

June 14, 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

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: Freund moved to approve the minutes of the regular May 10, 2023, meeting, seconded by Lotz and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Dickens moved to approve the closed session minutes of the regular April 12, 2023, meeting seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote.

FY2024 TOWNSHIP AND ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING: Hain explained the Township Budget. He stated the fund balance will be low but will progressively increase as tax dollars are collected. There were no comments or questions. Gumm explained the Road District Budget. He stated that funds have been set aside for bridge repairs as 2 bridges in the township are failing and are slated to be replaced by McHenry County in 2024. There were no comments or questions. The hearing was closed at 7:15 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain presented the reports and balances. He stated that property tax monies are starting to trickle in. The budget is where it should be at this point. He explained Line #593 TOIRMA is large, as 97% of that cost for the year has been paid. Hain said the Senior Transportation budget income is misleading, as it is based on grant money that is issued in different fiscal years. Freund questioned line #462, Medicare in that 94.3% of the budgeted amount has been used. Hain will investigate the numbers.

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

Township Warrant #23-6T in the amount of \$4,499.55 was presented. Lotz moved to approve payment, seconded by Hain and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, Dickens and Hain voting yes.

Road District Warrant #23-6R in the amount of \$10,638.58 was presented. Dickens moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica, and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, Dickens and Hain voting yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: Hain stated a FOIA request was received from the Better Government Organization requesting financial information regarding salaries. The request was fulfilled.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: It has been a busy month preparing the budget and completing the first part of the Senior Services Grant requirement, which was a letter and filling out their form. The 2nd part comes due in July.

Road District: Gumm reported he has hired 3 people to work for the Road District. 2 full time and 1 part time/seasonal. He has been working with the county on standardizing road signs and speed limits. Some neighborhoods are lacking speed postings. Road patching is in full swing. Hill Road paving project is expected to start in July. The new Hot Box will be delivered in August. He stated conversation has started with an engineer regarding extending the salt shed. With proper permit approval, the work can be done in-house. Freund inquired about the double cost of the street lighting bill from Com Ed. Gumm replied it is very difficult to communicate with Com Ed, though he has tried to get an agreement with them for free electricity in exchange for permit waivers. Apparently, the Village of Richmond has such an agreement.

Assessor: O'Neill was absent, but Hain reported that the Assessor has been published and will be in the paper soon.

Clerk: none

Trustees: Freund stated he has nothing to report on the recycle program yet. He said he had a phone conversation with Illinois Representative Steven Reick about properties that are taken off the tax rolls, ie. Open Lands Act, MCCD, which leads to less property taxes to the township, yet services still must be provided. Reick stated that this has not been thought about before and he will give it serious consideration.

Senior Transportation: Hain and Benitez have interviewed 5 potential drivers. A final decision will be made soon. The new electronic sign had a message about job openings for the Road District and Township, which generated lots of interest.

Cemetery Board: Hain reported there have been many inquiries about relatives buried in the cemeteries and their location. There were many inquiries about gravesites for purchase, but no sales.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Iftica moved to adopt the Township Budget for FY2024, seconded by Freund and passed with roll call vote. Freund moved to adopt the Road District Budget for FY2023, seconded by Dickens and passed with roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Greg Thurow, Richmond, IL, inquired about the Hill Road repair. Gumm informed him the road will be repaved from N. Solon to Rt. 12, with a start and finish date in July, 2023. He also inquired about what services the township provides. Hain explained about General Assistance, Senior Transportation rides and events, ownership/maintenance of 4 cemeteries, and upkeep/maintenance of township roads.

Joe Miller, Road District employee commented about the amount of garbage trucks daily, on township roads. He stated he lives in McHenry Township and garbage pickup is 1 day a week. Freund would like to

get a question on the April ballot regarding consolidating garbage service for township residents. Hain stated the board would need to make a resolution to do this, thus it will be put on the July agenda.

CLOSED SESSION: none

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

8:30pm.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____