

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL

July 13, 2022

7:00 pm

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

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

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Tammy Kay, Road Commissioner Chris Gumm, Assessor Patricia O'Neill, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez

Hain called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

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

MINUTES: Lotz moved to approve the minutes of the special June 9, 2022, meeting, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote. Lotz moved to approve the regular June 15, 2022 meeting, seconded by Hain and passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain presented the reports and balances. Hain stated he asked for \$62,500 from the Senior Services Grant, but expects \$15,000-\$20,000. Freund clarified the Senior Transportation Budget is more than the township currently has. Hain stated a large number of people have applied for general assistance recently. He believes the economy is creating a lot of hardship. Iftica questioned budget line 999 on page 2-2. Benitez explained it reflected the transfer of funds from Blackhawk Bank to new accounts at Chase Bank. Hain stated the computer program is not able to clarify that.

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

Town Warrant #22-7T in the audited amount of \$7,070.95 was presented. Iftica moved to approve payment, seconded by Lotz and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

Road Warrant #22-7R in the audited amount of \$29,520.43 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Hain, and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you card to the Road District was received. The sender was pleased with clean up efforts on Penny Lane. An anonymous letter was received regarding loud noise at a residence/business on Rt.173.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: Hain stated some landscaping of new bushes, flowers, mulch and power washing was recently done on/around the office building by Kara Lotz and crew.

Road District: Gumm reported the Road District has been busy patching potholes and pavement. A labor shortage/strike is causing asphalt supply problems. This will also delay contractors doing Richmond Township projects. He drove a grater in the Spring Grove 4th of July parade, which was well received. He is working on security projects around the township property. The individual doing community service at the township office is not welcome back for safety and security reasons.

Assessor: O'Neill reported the Dollar General in Richmond opened July 3. The Casey's in Spring Grove is scheduled to open October 1. The Assessor's crew has been having trouble following up on permits. By law they may enter a property, but are continuously threatened, harassed and asked to leave. She stated there is 3 million in new construction now and 8 new permits for new homes have come in this week. She handed out a parcel and population count sheet with a short explanation of Richmond Township being 7th largest in the county and 5th largest with industrial and commercial.

Clerk: Kay stated the Budget & Appropriations were filed at the County building along with 3 oaths of office. She informed the board of new legislation signed by the governor regarding townships in Illinois. They must form a committee and study the efficiency, need and value of such township, with a report created and filed. The first report is due by June 23, 2023 and every 10 years after.

Trustees: Freund reported he spoke to Mary McCann about the Senior Services Grant. She referred him to Mary Donner, who he has not been able to connect with. He also called the McHenry Township to inquire about their recycling and shredding event which involves the McHenry County Defenders group. Benitez stated she has looked into hosting a similar event. She was told truck availability would be ½ of what was provided previously. Freund is very concerned about the Senior Transportation service and feels riders should be contacted to inform them if the program will be discontinued which would allow them to make alternative plans. He has not sent the letter to Representative Steven Reick. He would like to get more information about the situation before sending.

Senior Transportation: There was a lot of discussion regarding the budget concerns and future of the Senior Transportations program. Each year the program runs about \$40,000 in the red. Fundraising ideas were presented by Lotz and Iftica, of a golf outing and a website donation page. Hain believes the Villages of Spring Grove and Richmond have not participated in the program and should be asked to contribute. Uber and PACE options were discussed, with the possibility of selling the bus and partially paying for rides on the services mentioned. Trustees offered to volunteer driving days to help cut payroll costs. The Senior Services Grant decision will come around the end of October. It was mentioned that a new grant has been found and is currently being pursued. Hain stated a decision about the future of the program will be made by January 1, 2023.

Cemetery Board: A new Cemetery Board member Wally Solinski has been learning to locate and mark graves. Ideally 1 more trustee is needed. The Richmond Cemetery had unusable land. It has recently been graded, weeded, and soon to be seeded and available for purchase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Iftica made a motion to change the year from 23 to 22 of the June 2022 warrants, seconded by Freund and passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

Freund moved to recess the regular meeting and go into closed session for the semi-annual review of closed minutes, seconded by Hain, and passed by unanimous voice vote. 8:37 pm.

CLOSED SESSION: Lotz moved to leave closed session, seconded by Freund and passed by unanimous voice vote. 8:54 pm. There was no action taken from closed session.

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

8:55 pm.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____