

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL

December 8, 2021

7:00 pm

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

PRESENT: Trustees, Scott Freund, Mike Gullifor, Kosta Iftica, Kara Lotz

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Tammy Kay, Assessor Patricia O'Neill, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez, Bridgette Saunders, 6 guests

ABSENT: Road Commissioner Chris Gumm, he did participate by phone during the PowerPoint.

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

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

MINUTES: Freund moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021, regular meeting, seconded by Gullifor, and passed by unanimous voice vote. Freund moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021, special meeting, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

DELEGATIONS: A proposal, handout and PowerPoint program was presented by the following:

Adam Metz, 5204 Nippersink Dr. Richmond, IL. President W.A. McConnell Foundation

Cindy Skrukrud, 4209 w. Solon Rd. Solon Mills, IL. Secretary: Friends of Hackmatack

Kurt Begalka, 2612 Dunham Woods, Harvard, IL. McHenry County Historical Society

The group is interested in purchasing the Solon Mills Train Depot building, commonly known as The Depot Restaurant, and relocating it to township property. The building 20' x 48' was originally built around 1902, located in Solon Mills and moved to its present location, 8612 Rt. 12, Richmond in 1958. The usage plan includes community events, meeting hall, educational programs, and bicycle pit stop along the trail. A handout with grant opportunities and contact info was given. Freund asked if movers/engineers have been contacted. Skrukrud stated the building is structurally sound and a rough estimate of \$30,000 was given to move to township property. Lotz asked if there was a deadline to move the building, Skrukrud stated the owner is very accommodating. Saunders inquired if any grants have been applied for. Metz stated not yet as a new location needs to be secured first. Metz proposed joint ownership of the building with the township, with the new Depot foundation responsible financially for moving and restoring the building. Gullifor asked for clarification of what the township's role would be. Basically, they are looking for a location to place the building at this time. Hain stated the septic field is located where the proposed new site would be. Iftica mentioned that parking would be a

concern. Freund proposed attaching to our existing building on the south side. There were many questions and concerns regarding liability, future upkeep, financial responsibility and building codes. The group left the meeting. Discussion ensued about the proposal and each trustee feels it would be a costly process with too much financial and legal liability. Hain will inform them that the township is not interested in being a partner in this endeavor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain presented the reports and balances. The funds are healthy and ok per Hain. The General Assistance account is seeing a slight increase. Gullifor moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Freund and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Town Warrant #21-12T in the audited amount of \$7,052.25 was presented. Gullifor moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica and passed with Freund, Gullifor, Iftica, Lotz and Hain voting yes.

Road Warrant #21-12R in the audited amount of \$22,679.21 was presented. Lotz moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica, and passed with Freund, Gullifor, Iftica, Lotz and Hain voting yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: There were 2 cards received. A Thanksgiving card from Franks, Gerkin, Ponitz & Greeley and a \$100 donation to Senior Transportation from Irma Penner.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: Hain stated he will check on delivery date of the new sign.

Road District: Saunders reported that things are slow due to no snow. Asphalt patching is still happening though the plants will be shutting down soon. The salt bid is complete with salt cost of \$61 a ton. There are 2 new hires, Garrett McInnes, part time and Joe Miller, full time certified mechanic.

Assessor: O'Neill stated new construction permits are still being issued with several new buildings starting in April.

Clerk: Kay shared a notice from TOI of a Trustee seminar in Bloomington.

Trustees: Iftica stated the new emails have been set up. Gullifor informed the board he will be moving to Wisconsin in April. Thus, a trustee position will be open.

Senior Transportation: Hain reported there were 38 rides given last month.

Cemetery Board: Discussion for closed session. Gullifor moved to go into closed session, seconded by Iftica and passed with unanimous voice vote. 8:43pm

Gullifor moved to go out of closed session, seconded by Lotz and passed with unanimous voice vote. 8:52pm

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Santa and Reindeer event is this Saturday, Dec. 11. All should be at the township building at 9:00 am for setup. The Spring Grove Fire Department will deliver Santa to the high school parking lot with lights and siren. Lotz will confirm porta pot pick up time. Freund will bring garbage cans and bags. Benitez and Kay purchased bottled water and candy canes. Lotz stated the Richmond email blast had a link to the Santa event PDF. She will deliver fliers to Richmond Grade School and Spring Grove Grade School to send home with the children. Benitez stated Joe MacLachlan will be at the event representing the Toys for Tots Program. Saunders stated she will have cones and barricades for the event placed next to the salt barn for us to pick up.

NEW BUSINESS: Freund moved to adopt Resolution 2021-2 Richmond Township Regular Meeting Dates 2022, seconded by Gullifor and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Hain suggested renaming the Senior Transportation Program. The county is considering eliminating transportation grant funding. Perhaps combining with Hebron transportation would help the Richmond Township program. He asked the board to consider a new name and description of services.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

CLOSED SESSION: There was no action taken from the closed session.

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

9:04 pm.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____