

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

May 10, 2023

7:00 pm

**PRESIDING:** Trustee Scott Freund

**PRESENT:** Trustees, Tracy Dickens, Kosta Iftica, Kara Lotz

**ALSO PRESENT:** Highway Commissioner Chris Gumm, Clerk Tammy Kay, Assessor Patricia O’Neill, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez, 3 RBCHS Civic’s class students, Senior Transportation driver Marcia King

**ABSENT:** Supervisor Paul Hain

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

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

**MINUTES:** Lotz moved to approve the minutes of the regular April 12, 2023 meeting, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote. Iftica moved to approve the closed session minutes of the April 12, 2023, meeting, seconded by Freund and passed by unanimous voice vote. Hain was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Freund presented the reports and balances. He explained a large bill, PAM/MLS, was just paid thus explaining why half of the budget line #500 has already been spent. Part of the Senior Services Grant has been received and the Road District budget lines show 0 or 100% as the budget amounts have not been entered.

Iftica moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Dickens and passed by unanimous voice vote. Hain was absent.

Township Warrant #23-5T in the amount of \$18,860.24 was presented. Lotz moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, and Lotz voting yes. Hain was absent.

Road District Warrant #2353R in the amount of \$38,420.27 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Dickens, and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, and Lotz voting yes. Hain was absent.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** none

**REPORTS:**

**Supervisor:** Kay gave the report submitted by Hain. He stated a ZOOM meeting was held with Chase Bank regarding commercial credit cards for the township. The original cards were tied to Hain personally

and are now linked to the township. Every purchase has to be verified by either Hain or Gumm along with the statement and receipts attached before payment by the board.

The Senior Service Grant Commission held a ZOOM kickoff meeting for the 2023 grant competition. The process was reviewed and nothing new was presented.

The books and paperwork have been turned over to the independent auditors. He stated we should take pride in our past audits as they are proof positive that we have been faithful fiduciaries of taxpayer funds.

**Road District:** Gumm reported repairs to the facilities have been done. In house personnel have provided the labor on rainy days. Everyone is invited to come and check out the improvements. He stated he has been investigating where to place funds for investing, primarily CD's, which was suggested at the Annual Town Meeting. He has met with experts in the banking industry and other local townships and has received sound advice. An ordinance would need to be created and passed. He stated current rates are about 4% which would generate around \$30,000.00 in annual interest with an ultimate goal of providing taxpayer relief. Lotz thanked him for pursuing this in such a timely manner.

**Assessor:** O'Neill gave two handouts. The first generated by McHenry County showing the tentative factor for 2023, which will be about 11.06%. She stated median sale prices from January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 have seen a 10.5% increase thus affecting the market. The second handout referenced the McHenry County Government site allowing property owners to review their exemptions, a pie chart to show where funds go and other important data.

**Clerk:** Kay stated minutes were typed for the first Decennial meeting held during the regular board meeting on April 12, 2023. The approval of those minutes will be placed on the June 14, 2023 regular board meeting agenda.

**Trustees:** Freund contacted Elgin Recycling regarding information for an event to be held at the township facilities. If Elgin Recycling held the event for us, it would cost \$3,000. We can handle it on our own and charge for TV's and monitors and then take those items to the Crystal Lake recycling center. He will also contact the McHenry County Defenders. The event may take place in the fall or spring. He stated Gumm, Hain and Freund met to talk further about future facilities and Assessor's office space. They feel we need to make the best of what we have. They need to check with the county's office about the current septic placement of the township office building

**Senior Transportation:** Freund stated the Senior Service Grant process starts soon. The second installment of the Community Grant of \$10,000 will arrive in July.

**Cemetery Board:** Kay gave the report submitted by Hain. On May 6, 2023, Paul Hain, Steve Wilkins and Wally Solinski met with student volunteers who placed American Flags beside the graves of our veteran heroes. They started in Richmond Cemetery and placed 144 flags until they ran out. On May 13, 2023, more flags will be available to complete the project. The flags will remain up until July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This was a great opportunity for the students to see and recall history. There are veterans from the Civil War, The Spanish-American War, WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam buried in our cemeteries.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** The Township Tentative Budget for April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024 was discussed. Freund would like to see the 2022-2023 budget to compare side by side.

Iftica moved to approve the Township Tentative Budget for April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024 and place it on public display in the Town Hall, seconded by Lotz and passed by unanimous voice vote. Hain was absent.

Gumm presented the Road District Tentative Budget for April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024. He stated salaries and insurance have seen healthy increases. He believes the budget is fiscally responsible.

Freund moved to approve the Road District Tentative Budget for April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024 and place it on public display in the Town Hall, seconded by Dickens and passed by unanimous voice vote. Hain was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** O'Neill stated the Homestead Exemption and Senior Exemption on property tax bills will be going up from \$5,000 to \$8,000 respectively. Marcia King asked O'Neill if the current tax bill shows the tax increase. She stated next year will show the increase.

**CLOSED SESSION:** none

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

7:50pm

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Township Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_