

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL

March 20, 2024

7:00 pm

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

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

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

Hain called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

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

MINUTES: Hain moved to approve the minutes of the regular March 13, 2024 meeting, seconded by Freund and passed with unanimous voice vote.

Freund moved to approve the minutes of the regular February 14, 2024 meeting, seconded by Dickens and passed with unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Bridgette Saunders and Joe Miller were present, but had no comments.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain presented the reports and balances. He stated the Township and Assessor accounts are under budget, Senior Transportation is expected to be at or above the budget by the end of March. The General Assistance Fund is healthy with a lot of activity. Freund asked if the report could include the previous month amounts in a column next to current month amounts. Iftica arrived at 7:17pm.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: none

REPORTS:

Supervisor: Hain advised the board of two proposed bills in Springfield. One proposed bill is to abolish road districts and the other proposed bill regards the General Assistance funds, in that if they are not used, the township can not levy for more funds the follow year. He advised everyone to contact the local legislators. He stated he typically prepares the budget for the April meeting and since most of the accounts are under budget, they need to be reevaluated and compressed.

Road District: Gumm handed out the Highway Commissioner's Financial Report draft. He elaborated on the proposed bill 5050, and stated it is not limited to road districts and allows the county supervisor to disband and take over townships and other governmental entities, though It is designed to

target road districts. Previous bills addressed how to take over, how services would continue and if they would continue. However, this bill does not address these concerns. He explained Tom Weber and Steven Reick are the legislators of Richmond Township. Gumm stated he has not taken delivery of 600 tons of salt as it has been a mild winter. He is currently looking at options of where to store the delivery. He stated the brine solution works great by preventing ice binding to the roadway and by increasing traction and braking. The brine solution tank needs a dedicated vehicle that would hold solid or liquid salt, because the current setup will not be transferrable if the truck breaks down. Gumm announced the 2024 summer paving projects, which include 2.5 miles of roadway of the following; Squires Green, Hillshire Dr., Falcon Dr., Fox Borrow Ct., Bonnie Brae Dr., and Hideaway Ln. Projected expense out of the fund balance is \$288,000.00. The Hill Rd. project has been paid and reimbursement has been received from the Village of Richmond. The Village of Richmond is planning to repave Kuhn Rd., with the Road District having 1063' of the roadway included in the project. Gumm expressed his appreciation to Joe Miller and team for rebuilding the backhoe engine and saving the Road District from having to replace the machinery. Hain asked if North Solon Rd and West Solon Rd. are considered feeder roads, to which Gumm replied that any 2 state routes that connect can be made a feeder road. North Solon Rd is a feeder.

Assessor: O'Neill stated Kensington Manor is under new owners. Of the 200 units, 55 are rentals. She is working on the assessment. She stated this is the last summer that Tory and Hailey will be working for the Assessor's office. She is looking for a high school junior or senior, preferably with a driver's license, to start training.

Clerk: none

Trustees: Lotz asked if flowers could be planted around the township building. She explained her daughter is in the National Honor Society and would like to do the project. Hain stated the township would welcome the project and would pay for supplies.

Senior Transportation: Hain reported there were 83 rides given, 1060 miles driven, 95 gallons of gas used with a monthly fuel cost of \$290.58, with most rides going to the McHenry/Johnsburg area. Hebron has been utilizing the bus for shopping, with 12 riders at once. They are reimbursing the township for the service.

Cemetery Board: Hain stated that last month he had a potential trustee, but that has not worked out. It was suggested to reach out to local churches for a candidate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Kay explained the agenda is pretty straight forward with no surplus equipment for sale, the need to approve last year's meeting minutes, and to set the date for the 2025 meeting. Iftica moved to approve the Annual Town Meeting Agenda of April 9, 2024, seconded by Lotz and passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

CLOSED SESSION:

Lotz moved to go into closed session for personnel matters, seconded by Dickens and passed by unanimous voice vote.

8:03pm

Iftica moved to leave closed session, seconded by Lotz, and passed with unanimous voice vote.

9:35pm.

ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION: Freund moved to approve the Assistant Supervisor as discussed, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Freund mentioned the Decennial Committee needs to finalize the project at the April meeting. Hain stated he will meet with the Assistant Supervisor about the budget and felt it would be easy to discuss at the April meeting.

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

9:40pm.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____