

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
7812 S. RT 31 RICHMOND, IL
June 15, 2022, 7:00 pm

PRESIDING: Supervisor Paul Hain

PRESENT: Trustees, Tracy Dickens, Scott Freund, Kostian Iftica, Kara Lotz

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

ABSENT: Clerk Tammy Kay

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

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

Lotz moved to suspend the regular board meeting and open the Township and Road District FY2023 Budget and Appropriation Hearing, seconded by Iftica. Passed with unanimous voice vote.

Hain explained the budget does have deficits. He and Benitez have cut the budget as much as possible. He is hoping the Senior Transportation Grant for \$20,000 will be approved. For the past 4 years there has been a \$40,000 deficit every year and going forth with this deficit is an uncomfortable prospect. Hain proposed passing the current budget, even though it is unbalanced, and then immediately take steps to reduce the budget and file an amended budget. He believes time should be devoted at each board meeting to find ways to trim the budget.

Iftica moved to close the Township and Road district FY2023 Budget and Appropriation Hearing and return to the regular meeting, seconded by Lotz. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

MINUTES: Freund moved to approve the minutes of the regular May 11, 2022, meeting, seconded by Hain and passed by unanimous voice vote. Iftica asked about approving the special meeting minutes of June 9, 2022, Hain replied that will happen at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hain explained that Trustees should review the bill folder during the week of the meeting, acting as auditors for the township.

Township Warrant #22-6T in the amount of \$5,092.23 was presented. Freund moved to approve the payment, seconded by Lotz and passed with Hain, Dickens, Freund, Iftica and Lotz, voting yes.

Road Warrant #22-6R in the audited amount of \$20,955.03 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica and passed with Hain, Dickens, Freund, Iftica and Lotz, voting yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: The McHenry County Historical Society sent a letter with operation times of the museum, a decal and passes to view the museum.

Reports:

Supervisor: Hain reported the Senior Services Grant application will be turned in June 16, 2022. He stated the application has not changed from previous years. He has had 4 General Assistance requests in the last 2 days. The applicants are very behind on utility, rent and vehicle payments. Emergency Assistance of a once-a-year payment of \$315.00 can be given. To receive monthly assistance, they need to meet specific qualifications.

Road District: Gumm reported the cost of oil has doubled from previous years. He is waiting for Fall and will re-evaluate the cost then. He stated a new part time employee, Joe has been hired. The Lakeview Subdivision paving is delayed due to weather. Peter Baker & Sons has the contract and intended to start at the beginning of Spring, though the rainy weather has caused a delay. Hot patch repairs will commence with cooler weather. Dickens gave him compliments about the Road District employees.

Assessor: O'Neill reported the Thread & Gage building in Spring Grove has new owners, BMB Auto. The Dollar General in Richmond is slated to open for business the last week of July. Casey's gas station has broken ground in Spring Grove. 783 permits have been issued so far this year for fences, pools, decks, etc. She stated her email was hacked and she has a new email address. She will be checking properties on Clark Road for Ag exemptions, to make sure they qualify. She welcomed all to visit her office.

Clerk: no report

Trustees: Freund presented a rough draft letter to Representative Steven Reick. He asked for any recommendations or additions to the letter. Lotz asked him to include information about the grant money amounts that have been received in the past. Freund stated he is available to meet with whomever he can, to help get funding for the Senior Transportation Program. Iftica stated he will set up an email address for new Trustee Dickens. He also researched the cost of security cameras, both hardwired and remote. Dickens stated the best deterrent is lighting.

Senior Transportation: The Senior Transportation bus is now being stored at the Richmond Burton Bus complex after having the stolen catalytic converter replaced.

Cemetery Board: Hain asked if any of the board members have met Steve Wilkins, the President of the Cemetery Board. He stated that Wilkins is very efficient and kind.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Iftica moved to approve Richmond Township Budget & Appropriation Ordinance T2023-1, seconded by Freund, with Hain, Dickens, Freund, Iftica and Lotz, voting yes.

Lotz made a motion to approve Richmond Township Road District Budget & Appropriation Ordinance R2023-1, seconded by Freund, with Hain, Dickens, Freund, Iftica and Lotz, voting yes.

Public Comments: O'Neill asked if the Junior Trustee Program is still active. Hain stated yes, though the high school has not sent any applicants. O'Neill stated she has an interested person.

Closed Session: None

There was no other business. Freund moved to adjourn, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote 8:18 pm.

These minutes were transcribed from the Sony voice recorder, 220210_0210.mp3.

Township Clerk

Approved: _____