

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

April 13, 2022

7:00 pm

**PRESIDING:** Supervisor Paul Hain

**PRESENT:** Trustees, Scott Freund, Kosta Iftica, Kara Lotz

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk Tammy Kay, Road Commissioner Chris Gumm, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez

**ABSENT:** Patricia O'Neill

Hain called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance recited by all.

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

**MINUTES:** Freund moved to approve the minutes of the regular March 9, 2022, meeting, seconded by Hain and passed by unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Hain presented the reports and balances. The fiscal year ends March 31, 2022. He explained why line 572 of the Administration report was 152% over budget. Purchase decisions were made after the budget was set: Office 365, email accounts, and new website costs. He stated it does not affect the bottom line. The Assessor's budget was about 50% less than projected. Freund asked if those monies can be used for future office concerns. Hain stated the funds can be put to use in next years budget. Senior Transportation was also under budget because Covid closed down services and caused a modified schedule when reopened. General Assistance was also under budget. General Road & Bridge, line 351 had a 2,423% increase. This was due to Commonwealth Edison pulling permits for work.

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

Town Warrant #22-4T in the audited amount of \$2,572.55 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Lotz and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

Road Warrant #22-4R in the audited amount of \$45,371.87 was presented. Lotz moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica, and passed with Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A notice of public hearing regarding a variance permit was received.

**REPORTS:**

**Supervisor:** Hain stated that budget discussion has started. There are many variables to consider when creating the budget. One of those variables is the inflation rate. The aspects of inflation can affect

the township's operating costs. The law states a governing body can levy up to 5%, though expenses are expected to rise more than that rate. The preliminary budget will be prepared for the next meeting.

**Road District:** Gumm reported he has approximately 836 tons of salt on site. This places the Road District in great financial shape for the next winter season.

**Assessor:** Hain reported that O'Neill told him there are 12 new homes to be built in Sunset Ridge Subdivision.

**Clerk:** Kay reminded the board to file their Economic Interest Statements with McHenry County and to forward a copy for the township files. She also expressed concern for security and safety at the office. Benitez had a threatening encounter with an individual looking for emergency assistance that was buzzed into the office. It was suggested that an intercom window system would be an important safety feature. Freund will look into pricing tomorrow and offered to install the window/intercom system in a timely manner. Gumm stated that he has been looking into security features for the Road District Office as well. This might include cameras, alarm system and panic button. He will report on this at the next meeting.

**Trustees:** Iftica stated he has fixed the sign with the replacement tile. He has been working with the software of the sign and with setting up new emails for the township. Freund stated there were no costs on his end to install the sign.

**Senior Transportation:** Hain stated he has been in discussion with the McHenry County Planning & Development Department in regards to the Senior Transportation Grant. He and Diana Benitez have been invited to discuss with the grant commission the needs of the township program and why the grant is necessary to implement the program. Freund feels we should involve the Villages of Hebron and Spring Grove and local political representatives to further our cause.

**Cemetery Board:** Hain reported the levy is about \$30,000. He stated the grass cutting budget has been increasing with current bids of \$26,000 - \$32,000. The board will be looking at a couple more companies and hope to have a contract soon.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Freund stated it was nice to see the public at the Annual Town Meeting last night. Kay stated a possible township email blast would be a way to let the public know about road closures, events and senior transportation. Gumm stated on 3 separate occasions people approached him with concerns regarding the many different garbage truck companies and potential road damage. Discussion ensued about 1 company collecting garbage through a township contract. An ordinance would need to be drafted to accomplish that. Lotz is willing to garner interest in her neighborhood. There was a suggestion of a sign at subdivision entrance to direct residents to take a survey on the township website. There are currently 4 applicants for the vacant trustee position.

**CLOSED SESSION:** none

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

8:31  
pm.

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Township Clerk

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