

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

October 12, 2022

7:00 pm

**PRESIDING:** Supervisor Paul Hain

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Road Commissioner Chris Gumm, Assessor Patricia O’Neill

**ABSENT:** Clerk Tammy Kay, Administrative Assistant Diana Benitez

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

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

**MINUTES:** Freund moved to approve the minutes of the regular September 14, 2022, meeting, seconded by Hain and passed by unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Hain presented the reports and balances. Most of the property tax monies have been received. Senior Transportation received a check from McHenry County.

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

Town Warrant #22-10T in the audited amount of \$3,770.89 was presented. Lotz moved to approve payment, seconded by Iftica and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

Road Warrant #22-10R in the audited amount of \$18,931.06 was presented. Freund moved to approve payment, seconded by Dickens, and passed with Dickens, Freund, Iftica, Lotz, and Hain voting yes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The facility use request to Richmond Burton Community High School was approved for the Santa and reindeer event December 10,2022. Permission was granted for Santa to be in the vestibule entrance.

**REPORTS:**

**Supervisor:** Hain stated there will be a county wide Supervisor’s meeting at the end of the month. Local legislators that are up for election will be there for a question-and-answer forum.

**Road District:** Gumm reported the Vista Ridge Subdivision on Hill Rd. is in the final stage of three roads to be accepted by the Richmond Township Road District. He stated he has been compiling data

from the electronic speed limit signs to share with the McHenry County Sheriff's office. The individual that crashed into the Road District parking lot is working on an agreement with the State's Attorney's office and compensation for the damages should be received soon. Gumm is still waiting for a response from the state of Illinois for CDL training site authorization. Gumm proceeded to hand out documents to the board. He stated he had a conference call with TOI Director Jerry Crabtree regarding rules/regulations for warrants as in their design or what is to be included. Crabtree stated townships use different layouts and suggested seeking legal advice for further answers. Gumm referenced a warrant handout from 2018 showing the exact wording as current warrants. He referenced the letter from Hain dated September 29, 2022 and stated the spreadsheet simply keeps track of accrued expenditures and the bank statement end balance and the warrant end balance will not match. He stated he felt the letter was inflammatory, threatening, and inaccurate as he presented documents that have been used for years. At the last meeting, when he pointed out an improper payment, he believes the letter from Hain is retaliation for doing the right thing. He believes he has a positive and very professional relationship with the board and until the letter from Hain arrived, felt he had a good relationship with the Supervisor.

**Assessor:** O'Neill said Napa in Richmond is waiting for a sprinkler system approval on a new building that will be three times the size of the current building, Dunkin Donuts is waiting for storm water sewer inspection and St. Joseph Church applied for permits to remove two vacant homes on the property with plans to erect a gazebo/garage for community events. She stated Casey's in Spring Grove will open October 20, 2022 and that Meier Fencing is going out of business and a new fencing company has purchased the building. Freund stated he would like to see the board formulate a plan for an assessor's office for when O'Neill retires in 2025. He believes the township building is not ideal for an addition and would like to search for office space.

**Clerk:** none

**Trustees:** Freund stated a special meeting should be planned for discussion of Senior Transportation after attending the McHenry County Transportation meeting in November. Suggested the board should plan to attend the county meeting. He will email the meeting date, time, and location. He also wondered what will happen with the Senior Transportation Gary Lang car since the business has been sold.

**Senior Transportation:** Hain referred the board to the Senior Transportation Report in the packet. He stated the cost per mile is the lowest we've seen in months. Freund stated it costs \$44 to transport someone to McHenry and adjustments still need to be made. The program is finding ways to utilize the van and car in addition to the bus to decrease the bus trips and costs. Freund suggested a meeting with PACE to discuss ways to partner with their program. He also said the budget needs to be amended, as we cannot keep running at a deficit. Iftica discussed again the idea of placing a donation option on the township website.

**Cemetery Board:** Hain stated permits are in the works for exhuming a grave of an infant to be reburied in a family plot in Twin Lakes, Wisconsin. There will be an approval of costs needed and documentation signed by witnesses to the exhumation. He said many years ago a headstone was stolen from the south end of Richmond Cemetery. Recently a historian from Spring Grove contacted him and stated the stone was found in a private family cemetery in Spring Grove. Steve Wilkins was able to

recover the stone. The Cemetery Board will have a monument company remount the stone on its proper location.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Hain stated the high school principal is happy to work with the township for the Santa and reindeer event. Santa will be inside the entrance to the school and a backdrop, chair, and Christmas tree décor is needed. Gumm stated the road district has a tree that can be used.

8:15 Trustee Lotz left the meeting

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hain presented the 2022 Levy. The township has not been close to the 5% tax cap amount since the early 2000's. There is approximately \$330,000 in new construction which will bring in an additional \$3944. A hearing will be required, public inspection, and notice published in the Northwest Herald newspaper. Freund moved to adopt a resolution: Be it hereby resolved that the Township of Richmond, Illinois, sets the 2022 township estimated tax levy to be collected in 2023 for the town Fund and the General Assistance Fund at \$318,358 which is 6.24% over the tax cap limit. Be it further resolved that a Truth in Taxation Hearing be held on December 14, 2022, at 6:45 pm. And to instruct the Township Clerk to publish required documents. Seconded by Hain and passed with a roll call vote, all in favor, Lotz was absent.

Gumm presented the 2022 Levy for the Road District. General Road; \$96,660, Permanent Road; \$476,962, Building & Grounds; \$52,000, a total of \$625,623 which is 4.5% of the tax cap limit and a hearing is not required. Iftica moved to adopt a resolution: Be it hereby resolved that the Township of Richmond, Illinois, sets the 2022 Road District estimated tax levy to be collected in 2023 for the General Road & Bridge, Permanent Road, and Building & Equipment fund a total of \$625,623 which is 4.5% of the Tax Cap Limit and a hearing is not required. Seconded by Freund and passed with a roll call vote, all in favor, Lotz was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**CLOSED SESSION:** Iftica moved to go to closed session, seconded by Dickens and passed by unanimous voice vote, Lotz was absent. 8:35pm.

Freund moved to come out of closed session, seconded by Hain and passed by unanimous voice vote, Lotz was absent. 9:10pm.

Freund moved to make salary adjustments as discussed in closed session, seconded by Iftica and passed by unanimous voice vote, Lotz was absent.

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

9:12 pm.

Transcribed from Sony recorder- #220609\_206.mp3 by Tammy Kay.

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Township Clerk

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