

Minutes - Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
WILL County
Town of New Lenox

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ss. REGULAR MEETING

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the office of the Town Clerk at 1100 South Cedar Road on February 11, 2010.

PRESENT:	William McCollum	Supervisor
	Annette Boyd	Clerk
	Mike Hickey	Trustee
	Martin Boban	Trustee
	Barbara Kaupas	Trustee
	Larry Wennlund	Trustee

The following official business was transacted:

I. CALL TO ORDER

The New Lenox Town Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order on February 11, 2010, at 7:00 p.m by Supervisor McCollum.

II. ROLL CALL

Also present:
Highway Commissioner McPartlin
Marlene Batson, Executive Assistant
Attorney Wennlund

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Boban, seconded by Trustee Hickey, to approve the minutes of the January 7th, 2010 Special Meeting. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried. Motion by Trustee Hickey, seconded by Trustee Wennlund to approve the minutes of the January 14th, 2010 Regular Meeting. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

IV. SPECIAL GUESTS/ PUBLIC COMMENTS

Juanita Pearce and Michelle Boyle – Harris Bank

Ms. Pearce and Ms. Boyle appeared before the board to present a \$200.00 check to the New Lenox Food Pantry from a fundraiser held during the Proud American Days in which Harris Bank had made a matching funds contribution. Ms. Pearce and Ms. Boyle noted they would like to continue to volunteer and do more to help the New Lenox Food Pantry.

V. BOARD ISSUES – ACTIONS

A. Resolution 2010-03 Resolution Providing for Compliance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act

Motion by Trustee Boban, seconded by Trustee Kaupas, to adopt resolution 2010-03. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

VI. REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

A. SUPERVISOR

1. FY 2010-2011 Budget Preparation

Supervisor McCollum presented the proposed budget and invited discussion from the Board. The Fire Marshal had informed the Township the building had previous reviews, however during the current review the Fire Marshal proposed a comprehensive list of improvements that would be needed. One of which being an enhanced sprinkler system in the community room.

Supervisor McCollum noted plans to have the budget to pass at the Regular Board meeting in April.

2. Personnel Policies and Benefits Program

Supervisor McCollum reported that there was an anticipated 30-40% increase in insurance premiums for the employee health insurance benefits and noted that the Township had begun discussions with the employees regarding payroll deductions to help offset the increases.

Trustee Hickey noted that the rising costs were going to continue to be a problem.

3. Chamber of Commerce Spring Business Expo

Supervisor McCollum reported that the Township again planned on having a booth, and encouraged everyone to volunteer a couple of hours to help man the booth.

4. Township Officials of Illinois "Topics Day"

Supervisor McCollum encouraged anyone able to attend to join him on April 20th for "Topics Day."

B. TRUSTEES

1. Trustee Hickey

Trustee Hickey reported that 4 more plots had been sold at Marshall Cemetery.

Trustee Hickey inquired into whether the Vacation Policy had been finalized. Supervisor McCollum reported that the Township was advised to formalize a Vacation and Leave Policy, and that the Township was advised this is required for the Assessor's office also.

Attorney Wennlund noted that the Assessor having 5 employees, is now required to develop a Vacation/Leave policy, but is only obligated to file it with the Township Clerk.

Trustee Hickey noted he would have a discussion with both the Highway Commissioner and the Township Assessor regarding their policies, as well as their positions regarding Major Medical insurance for their employees.

Attorney Wennlund noted that both the Assessor and the Highway Commissioner are separately elected officials and control their own budgets. The Assessor could elect to pay 100% of the increase for her employees from her budget, if the Assessor has the monies in the budget, given the Board only has discretion over the Assessor's overall budget. The Board does not have the authority to determine where it is spent. Attorney Wennlund also advised the Board that the Highway Commissioner sets his own budget and as such, those policies are set by the Highway Commissioner, and the Township Board has no authority to direct the Highway Commissioner on what he can and cannot do. Attorney Wennlund noted however, as was agreed, the more participants in a medical policy, the less expensive the policy coverage is.

2. Trustee Boban

Trustee Boban reiterated for the board that Nuway has agreed to honor the contract prices and services from last year for this year's Annual Clean Up Day.

Trustee Boban again suggested that the Township consider limiting the latex paint recycling to Township residents. Trustee Hickey suggested the Township consider adding a fee for nonresidents if they chose to bring their latex paint in for recycling.

Trustee Boban suggested the Township consider adding the oil collection service again with the previous vendor who has all the contacts in place. Trustee Boban said he felt this would be beneficial to offer this to the residents of the Township while not incurring any costs to the Township.

3. Trustee Kaupas

Trustee Kaupas reported the TRIAD will be having a meeting with Frankfort, Manhattan, and New Lenox.

Trustee Kaupas also attended the Paratransit meeting at the County. The County is investigating the possibility of instituting 24/7 coverage of Pace transit systems over the entire county. One of the proposals would be to have the buses coordinated through a central location, and then distributed to the Townships through leasing. However, it was unclear whether the Township could even keep their current drivers under this arrangement.

Trustee Hickey noted that the Township used to have an arrangement with Pace, however, control was always a difficulty.

Trustee Kaupas reported Manhattan was currently considering using New Lenox Township's service. The additional problem being the cost is \$1.00 plus \$1.00 per mile for a ride on Pace.

Trustee Hickey pointed out that a majority of the Township's riders are seniors, and the goal has always been to keep the transportation affordable so that they may utilize the service.

Trustee Kaupas noted the Paratransit policy will be up next month for a final review by the board.

4. Trustee Wennlund

Trustee Wennlund reported that the plans for a spring Newsletter are going forward and encouraged everyone to complete their submissions by next month's meeting. Trustee Wennlund also pointed out the Township should highlight the Food Pantry given the tough economic times, and acknowledge the contributions made to the Food Pantry.

Trustee Wennlund also noted the Township should continue to focus on the fiscal oversight, while striving to enhance the auditing and financial procedures. Trustee Wennlund also suggested the Township undertake a review of the Township's cost

containment measures to ascertain if the expenses reflect fiscal responsibility. Trustee Wennlund asked that an engagement letter for these services be added to next month's agenda.

- C. CLERK
Township Clerk Boyd gave a brief overview of the changes to the FOIA laws and the reasoning for differentiated FOIA response officers for the Township, the Road District and the Assessor's office.
- D. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
Highway Commissioner McPartlin only noted a large amount of salt was used this winter.
- E. ASSESSOR
None
- VII. REPORT FROM ATTORNEY
None.
- VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS
Motion by Trustee Hickey, seconded by Trustee Kaupas, to accept all bills and late bills as presented and approve for payment (\$34,698.51 for the Township General Fund, \$300.00 for General Assistance Home Relief, \$56,546.65 for the Road District General Fund). No further discussion; Trustee Hickey, Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.
- IX. OTHER BUSINESS:
None.
- X. ADJOURNMENT
Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Kaupas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Annette Boyd
Township Clerk