

Minutes - Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
WILL County } ss. REGULAR MEETING
Town of New Lenox }

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the office of the Town Clerk at 1100 South Cedar Road on September 8, 2011.

PRESENT:	William McCollum	Supervisor
	Annette Boyd	Clerk
	Michael 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 September 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor McCollum.

II. ROLL CALL

Also present:

Bonnie Hernandez, Township Assessor
Attorney Cass Wennlund

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Supervisor McCollum requested that the minutes from August be changed to reflect the name of Mr. Miner to reflect Mr. John Patrick Miner, not Mr. Patrick Miner.

Trustee Hickey requested that the last line on page to be changed to insert the word "he" in the line.

Clerk Boyd noted for everyone that the Alphabetical listing for Trustees should be changed from A to B.

Motion by Trustee Boban, seconded by Trustee Hickey, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2011, Regular Meeting as amended and corrected. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

IV. SPECIAL GUESTS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

V. BOARD ISSUES – ACTIONS

A. Contract with US Veteran Energy for Electricity and Natural Gas Expenses

Attorney Wennlund had questions, ergo Supervisor McCollum suggested that the Board table any decisions until the outstanding questions were resolved.

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Hickey to table the issue for 30 days. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

B. Resolution 2011-03, Adopting 1,000 Hour Standard for IMRF Participation

Supervisor McCollum reported that the legislation was signed the day after the August meeting, Supervisor McCollum wished to clarify again that the changes only effects future employees and does not affect past employees, Board Members, etc.

Motion by Trustee Hickey, seconded by Trustee Boban to adopt Resolution #2011-03 which establishes 1,000 Hour Standard for IMRF Participation. No further discussion; Trustee Hickey, Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

C. 2011-12 Employee Medical Benefits Package

Supervisor McCollum reported that there had been meetings between Township Assessor Hernandez, and Highway Commissioner McPartlin and Trustee Hickey in order to decide which program would be the best package for the Township. The target date for the packages to go into effect is October 15th. Supervisor McCollum advised the Township should adopt the program and move forward to determine how to handle employer contributions for HSA (Health Savings Accounts) along with determining the "opt out" amounts at a future date.

Trustee Hickey said that while the Township would like to try to make \$1,300.00 contributions, the cost to the Township would be substantial. Trustee Hickey suggested the Township should try to encourage the HSA accounts with a contribution of \$800.00, and then the PPO would stay the same contribution level to keep the plan the same as last year. Anyone with the HMO plan would be covered as well.

Supervisor McCollum noted that the Township required additional deliberations on the contribution rates of the Supervisor's office.

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Hickey to adopt the 2011-02 Employee Medical Benefits Package as presented with deliberations over the next 30 days on how to handle the Supervisor's office contribution rates. No further discussion; Trustee Hickey, Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

VI. REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

A. SUPERVISOR

1. 2011 Sharefest: Township Environmental Program Activity

Supervisor McCollum reported that the Township would be bringing the Township's earth machines and rain barrels to the event on Thursday. Electronics would be collected and be brought back to the Township for recycling. Some of the Township staff would also be involved in the event.

There is also a food collection event scheduled.

2. FY 2010-2011 Audit

Supervisor McCollum noted that an inconsistency was noted in the August, 2010 minutes and the changes to the August 2010 minutes would be addressed in the October meeting.

B. TRUSTEES

1. Trustee Hickey

Trustee Hickey commented on Kathy Johnson's report on the remarkable increase in the number of visits to the Food Pantry.

Trustee Hickey also noted for the record that he and the Supervisor had met regarding employee concerns. Trustee Hickey believes the new process whereby the employees can submit letters to the Supervisor has improved the situation.

2. Trustee Boban

Trustee Boban reported that the Township has 2 new staff members from the Transitional Vocational Program (formerly known as the Assisted Vocational Program). Trustee Boban also reported that a previous participant in the program had located a position utilizing the skill set used in the Senior Housing Kitchen facilities.

Trustee Boban also reported that mosquito spraying continued through Labor Day. Trustee Hickey remarked that a Blue Jay in New Lenox had tested positive for West Nile virus.

Trustee Boban reported that the Household Hazardous Waste event part of Sharefest would be on Saturday, and has been posted on the Township's web site the last 4 weeks.

October 1st, Leaf Stickers would be available at the Township and their availability would also be posted on the website.

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization would like to address the Board in October.

Trustee Boban also suggested that the Township should consider a Job Bulletin Board on the Township's website. The Township could offer the Job Board to local employers to use, and provide a link to help the residents of the Township.

Trustee Boban noted that the Household Hazardous Waste portion of Sharefest next year would need some additional money from possible participants as the County would probably not be a co-sponsor next year.

Supervisor McCollum reported that the Food Pantry received a donation from the vendor who collected recycled batteries.

3. Trustee Kaupas

Trustee Kaupas reported that Kathy Johnson was in the hospital but was expected to be back the following week.

Supervisor McCollum reported that the Township was still keeping up with the Jewel Food pickups for the Food Pantry. Also noted was a steady flow of emergency assistance and general assistance. The largest increase had been in the emergency assistance.

4. Trustee Wennlund

Trustee Wennlund showed the Board a Commercial version of a Knox Box so the board could gain an understanding of what a box might look like. Trustee Wennlund also explained that only the Fire Department has a key for these boxes. Trustee Wennlund also explained if a person falls, and is unable to call, but uses an emergency button on their necklace, the Emergency Center identifies who has one of these boxes so the EMT team knows immediately.

Trustee Wennlund suggested that the Township purchase 6 of these boxes this year, and 6 after January 1st, for \$170.00 each. Trustee Wennlund also suggested that the Family Services and the Senior Services could identify individuals that could be candidates for participation, and make arrangement with the Fire Department to have these installed. Trustee Wennlund reiterated that when the participant no longer needs the unit, it would be returned to the Township to be re-used.

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Boban to purchase 6 units at this time, and another 6 units after January 1st. No further discussion; Trustee Hickey, Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

C. CLERK

None.

D. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

None.

E. ASSESSOR

Assessor Hernandez reported December 19th was the Will County Board of Review appeal deadline. Assessor Hernandez noted that they were handling informal appeals in the office at this time. The numbers of people were not overwhelming, however Assessor Hernandez pointed out that there was no way to know who would have downloaded forms and filed appeals directly with the Board of Review.

Trustee Kaupas inquired about the lower of Assessments, and Assesor Hernandez noted that all residential properties had some values reduced.

VII. REPORT FROM ATTORNEY

Attorney Wennlund noted the Board had authorized a 24 month contract with US Veteran Energy, estimated to be in excess of \$20,000, along with other questions that Attorney Wennlund would like answered prior to the next meeting, hence the reason the Board tabled the issue for the following meeting.

VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion by Trustee Kaupas, seconded by Trustee Wennlund, to accept all bills and late bills as presented and approve for payment (\$21,168.71 for the Township General Fund, and \$4,043.16 for General Assistance Home Relief, \$95,554.92 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. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Imminent and Pending Litigation

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Kaupas, to move to Executive Session to discuss imminent and pending litigation at 7:55 p.m. No Further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

The Regular Meeting resumed at 8:12 p.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Hickey, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13p.m. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Annette Boyd