

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 August 9, 2012.

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

ABSENT: Michael Hickey Trustee

The following official business was transacted:

I. CALL TO ORDER

The New Lenox Town Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order on August 9, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor McCollum.

II. ROLL CALL

Also present:

Attorney Cass Wennlund, Wennlund and Associates
Bonnie Hernandez, Township Assessor

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Boban requested the words "on the roof" be inserted in the third paragraph in the discussion about the Senior Housing Building. Motion by Trustee Boban, seconded by Trustee Kaupas to approve the July 12, 2012 minutes as amended/corrected. No further discussion; Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund, Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

IV. SPECIAL GUESTS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

V. BOARD ISSUES – ACTIONS

A. Request for Donation to Triad for Senior Program DVDs

Trustee Kaupas informed the Board that the money would go for purchasing DVD sets for the library. The cost is approximately \$5.00 per DVD, which contain multiple episodes per disc. The \$100.00 would be enough at this time. The overall TRIAD group is contemplating fund raising attempts in the future. Motion by Trustee Kaupas, seconded by Trustee Boban, to donate \$100.00 to the New Lenox TRIAD group for purchasing DVDs. No further discussion; Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

VI. REPORT FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

A. SUPERVISOR

1. Public Act 97-0823: Energy Aggregation and Potential Township Referendum

Supervisor McCollum noted for the Board that recently the law was changed and introduced Mr. John Nania, from Integrys Energy Services, Inc. to speak to the Board about the change in the law.

Recently, the law was amended to allow Townships to participate in Power Aggregation. This proposal would be offered to those in unincorporated areas.

Mr. Nania explained that residents can currently purchase their own, can opt for the Townships program. Currently over 250 Towns have adopted these programs. Approximately \$15 to \$17 million has been saved for those residents. Mr. Nania explained that assuming a January implementation, there could be an estimated \$300,000 saved in the first 4 months to residents.

Mr. Nania explained that approximately 6-7% readily change, but with aggregation, there could be up to 60% participation, however, the unincorporated areas have been left out of this option, when Will County's Referendum failed. Mr. Nania explained he thought the Referendum failed because it wasn't adequately explained to people. However, 95% of the Towns that have considered this option, have passed it. Mr. Nania explained, that the Referendum needs to be coordinated with an outreach program to explain the benefits to the residents, which his company has done anywhere from 30 to 40 of these types of programs.

Mr. Nania's company would set up an 800 number for residents to call to ask questions and assist them in understanding what this proposal means for them. The individuals who would be answering questions can offer assistance in 50 different languages. There would also be a website available to provide the information for the citizens. It would explain that citizens can have a choice to stay with ComEd, try to obtain lower rates on their own, or this third option. His company will help Residents understand, if the Referendum passes, they have the option to opt out of the program at any time.

The changes for the residents are almost transparent. The power is still provided by ComEd, the bill still comes from ComEd, the "supplier" on the electric bill changes, nothing more. As an example, Mr. Nania explained that for October, ComEd rates would be somewhere in the 8.32 cents per kilowatt hour. Today, Intergrys rates are 5 cents per kilowatt hour.

Given the short timing required for notifying the County Clerk, Attorney Wennlund suggested that the Township hold a Special Meeting to pass an Ordinance in order to make the August 20th deadline for filing with the County Clerk's office.

2. Will County Historical Preservation Commission Review of Marshall Cemetery

Supervisor McCollum reported that there was a public review and resulting in a few questions from neighbors about the fence around Marshall Cemetery. Supervisor McCollum noted that the chain link fence was from the previous owners. The County is expected to act on August 16th, and Supervisor McCollum suggested the Board have a ceremony at the Marshall Cemetery with cake.

3. Direct Energy Service Monthly Invoicing

Supervisor McCollum reported this concern has since been resolved in getting the fees and penalties waived as a result of their billing cycle being out of sync with the monthly Board meetings.

B. TRUSTEES

1. Trustee Hickey

Supervisor McCollum noted that Trustee Hickey's first Draft of his Officials Compensation Report was given to everyone to review.

2. Trustee Boban

Trustee Boban reported the Food Drive resulted in a couple hundred pounds of food for the Food Pantry.

Trustee Boban also reported that he and Trustee Kaupas had met with the Highway

Commissioner McPartlin to address some questions. Trustee Boban also suggested that the Township get an accurate assessment of the demand for such a project, and it was possible a feasibility study was going to be needed.

Trustee Kaupas reminded everyone that the parking question would need to be revisited.

Trustee Boban acknowledged that one of the questions he receives is what would be the view from this building. Attorney Wennlund noted while the view may not be comparable to a luxury apartment, if the Township were to have to go out and buy property, the project would not be feasible.

The Household Hazardous Waste Event is ready to go, and inquired of the Board if they wanted to put a link to a flier on the Township's website.

The School year is beginning and the Transitional Students are available for work at the Township.

The Job Bulletin Board is up and running, and Trustee Boban again suggested that everyone help promote its usage.

3. Trustee Kaupas

Trustee Kaupas thanked the Board for the contribution for the DVDs.

4. Trustee Wennlund

Trustee Wennlund reported that the Township should have an appraisal available on the Willow Road Property for the September meeting and requested the Willow Road Property Sale be added to the Agenda on the next meeting.

C. CLERK

None.

D. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

None.

E. ASSESSOR

Assessor Hernandez reported that the Residential properties ended up being reduced approximately 5.5%, with no change for the commercial properties, resulting in a \$60 million dollar decrease in the overall EAV (Estimated Assessed Value), however, there was still approximately \$10 million in new construction.

Assessor Hernandez also reported that an appeal by the Molto organization was settled for the 2009, 2010, and 2011 tax years. The settlement would be credited on their 2012 tax bill rather than having monies being returned from taxing bodies.

VII. REPORT FROM ATTORNEY

None.

VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Boban, to accept all bills and late bills as presented and approve for payment (\$20,273.55 for the Township General Fund, \$647.61 for General Assistance Home Relief, \$33,187.90 for the Road District General Fund, and \$2,880.00 for the Equipment and Building Fund.). No further discussion; Trustee Boban, Trustee Kaupas, Trustee Wennlund and Supervisor McCollum in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Supervisor McCollum requested a Special Meeting for the following week, on August 16th to discuss a Power Aggregation Referendum. Motion by Trustee Kaupas, seconded by Trustee Wennlund to call a Special Meeting on August 16th, to discuss action on a Power Aggregation Referendum. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Wennlund, seconded by Trustee Kaupas, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08p.m. No further discussion; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Annette Boyd
Town Clerk

APPROVED