

## COLLINSVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD

### SPECIAL MEETING TO APPROVE TEMPORARY BUDGET MINUTES

**JULY 16, 2019 1:00 PM**

#### OPENING

The approval of a temporary budget special meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on the above date at the Collinsville Senior Center, 420 East Main Street, Collinsville, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Terry Allan at 1:00 p.m.

#### PRESENT

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Trustee Foley, Trustee Cox, Trustee Hopkins, Trustee Stack and Supervisor Allan. Also present were Township Attorney Jack Daugherty and Highway Supervisor Larry Trucano.

Also present were Vicky Jackson, Jeanne Lomax, Cinda McGrew, April Hausman, Kathy Hoelscher, Pamela Mumper and Joe Boyer.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Jeanne Lomax** (Collinsville) asked if any bills had been paid since July 1, 2019. Trustee Foley said no. Trustee Cox said that he received a check. Office Manager Vicky Jackson said that the money was sent to the payroll company on June 28, 2019. Trustee Cox asked if anyone was paid in July. Office Manager Jackson explained that money for payments in July had been dispersed in June 2019. Attorney Daugherty asked if those were bills that were accrued in June. Office Manager Jackson agreed they were. Ms. Lomax spoke about her taxes and that she pays more to the township than to the city. She feels it is an exorbitant amount and wonders why so much taxes need to be paid to the township.

**Joe Boyer** (Collinsville) also recently received his tax bill. Of all the entities listed on the tax statement, the one entity that gives the best return is the township. Mr. Boyer appreciates the job that Highway Commissioner Larry Trucano and his staff are doing and appreciates the convenience of the assessor's office. When you think about the various services and functions that the township gives us, it enhances the quality of life for everyone in the township. Mr. Boyer believes the anger that most taxpayers have is misdirected. He understands the argument about trying to control cost and keep taxes down and so forth. But if you start cutting services and availabilities and staff, you will be cutting into the quality of living that he mentioned earlier.

#### SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS

**Vote to approve temporary budget for Collinsville Township Town Fund, General Assistance and Road District for 2019/2020.** Trustee Hopkins asked if the bills were going to be approved individually or all with one vote. Attorney Jack Daugherty said it would be all with one vote. It will be consolidated with one ordinance. He said a motion and a second needed to be made and then we could start a discussion. A motion was made by Trustee Foley to approve the temporary budget and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. Trustee Cox said we haven't even looked at it yet and hopefully somebody can just kind of walk through it. That would help a lot. Trustee Cox does not want to vote on something that we were just handed five minutes ago. This Township is in clear violation of Illinois

state law. We had to pass a budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is July the 16<sup>th</sup>. It was asked if any bills have been paid and the answer was no. Trustee Cox did not understand how he was able to receive a paycheck. He feels that self-reporting to the attorney general explaining what has happened and how we're fixing it. Trustee Cox would like to make a motion that we report to the attorney general that we are self-reporting that we are in violation of the law and that we have passed a temporary budget. He asked if he could make that motion. Attorney Daugherty said we cannot take a final action on something that is not on the agenda and actually what Trustee Cox is suggesting is a good idea. Getting the attorney general's advice on this topic is a good idea. Any trustee individually is certainly well within their capacity to go directly to the attorney general or if a trustee were to instruct me to go to the attorney general to discuss this topic, I would be happy to do so. Attorney Daugherty has been in contact with the Township Officials of Illinois for guidance on this. That is why we are doing this the way we are doing this today. He thinks Trustee Cox's suggestion is a good one but we can't vote on it today because it's not on the agenda. Trustee Cox feels that as a board it looks better if we say hey here's what happened. Trustee Hopkins said it is a great idea that we ask the attorney general to look at what we are doing. He feels that we are doing everything above board. It was a clerical error on the date. Right now that's not on the agenda. He asked that Attorney Daugherty check with the attorney general to be sure we are doing this correctly. Trustee Hopkins asked to call for a vote. Trustee Cox asked what they were voting on. Attorney Daugherty said that these were itemized issues of all the bills that comprise the subtotals that are contained in the ordinance. Office Manager Vicky Jackson explained that these were invoices or pretty much anything from June 26<sup>th</sup> up till August 23<sup>rd</sup> that is due from the Township. The figures on your paper for Road and Bridge are not correct; Clerk Cathy Allison is getting the correct numbers. Pretty much it is our monthly bills, our insurances, what were due for Ameren, the water bill, the general assistance for poor people that we pay their rent, pay for their food, their electric and water. This is all included in this for the next two months up to August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trustee Cox said that Kathy Hoelscher, Office Manager for the Road District, just found out about all this at 10:30 this morning. Office Manager Jackson also had just found out that morning about getting totals together. Trustee Cox said that he had sent an email to Office Manager Jackson on Friday at noon. Office Manager Jackson said the email was to let the payroll company know not to disperse money. You already had your payroll. The payroll was sent up June 28, 2019. Trustee Cox said that on July 1<sup>st</sup>, we should have notified them saying we can't pay any bills. Don't send out any checks. Office Manager Jackson said the payroll was submitted June 28, 2019. Trustee Cox asked why it was July 12<sup>th</sup>. Office Manager Jackson said that is when we were paid, but the payroll was submitted on June 28<sup>th</sup> because we have an early payroll submission. Our payroll is salaried. It never changes. Road and Bridge is hourly. They were having vacations, so they already knew what their hours were. They submitted their payroll and it was turned in on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. Trustee Cox said as long as no checks come back that were wrote from July 1<sup>st</sup>, we could be in the clear. Office Manager Jackson said she has not written any checks after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Trustee Cox asked how much we are talking in total. Supervisor Allan said \$289,312.94. Attorney Daugherty said for the purpose of today, we're just going to do a lump total for town fund, general assistance and road and bridge. Office Manager Jackson said there was a correction to the Road and Bridge amount which would make the new total \$608,546.18. Attorney Daugherty said the ordinance that was drafted needed to also be corrected. Trustee Cox does not understand how that amount is possible when we are only taking 2 months out of a 12 month period. The whole budget for general fund, the whole money that we are bringing in (not the budget) the whole money we are bringing in is \$1,000,000. Trustee Cox asked what the tax levy was for road and bridge. Office Manager Hoelscher said it is \$1.9 million. Trustee Cox said that \$608,546.18 seems like a lot of money until August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Attorney Daugherty said the money is supposed to reflect approximately 6 weeks appropriations which is June 26 to August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trustee Stack asked what the numbers in Section 3 of the ordinance were. Attorney Daugherty said those are the numbers that are currently not correct. Office Manager Jackson and Clerk Allison went over the numbers. The new total was \$404,035.78. Trustee Cox said that this adds up to way more than what we are budgeting next year. Office Manager Vicky said it is not a monthly amount. Trustee Cox understands that some months are bigger than others. Attorney Daugherty said this is the temporary budget to pay the outstanding bills. This has no perspective component to it. This is simply that there are outstanding

bills to be paid and this authorizes to pay those particular bills. There is no padding to this. Office Manager Jackson said the town fund also includes the senior center. There was not a place for the senior center, so it was lumped in with the town fund and the assessor. With the motion already on the floor, roll call found the vote 4 ayes and 1 nay. Motion passed. Trustee Cox was the nay vote.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the board, Supervisor Allan asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Trustee Hopkins and seconded by Trustee Foley to adjourn the meeting. Roll call found the vote unanimous on the motion. Time 1:46 p.m.

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Terry Allan, Township Supervisor

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Cathy Allison, Township Clerk