

COLLINSVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 11, 2020 7:00 P.M.

OPENING

The regular 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 Trustee James Stack at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Trustee Cox asked how the meeting was going to work with two board members absent. Attorney Daugherty said it is a volunteer thing as to whoever wants to run the meeting. Usually it is the board member with the most accumulative seniority. There is no specific rule or law. Trustee Stack has the most accumulative seniority. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Trustee James Stack, Trustee Derrick Cox, and Trustee Dan Hopkins. Attorney Jack Daugherty, Road Commissioner Larry Trucano and Clerk Cathy Allison were also present. Township Supervisor Terry Allan and Trustee Mike Foley were absent.

Also present were Linda Wiedower, Vicky Jackson, Cinda McGrew, Robert Milam, Diane Masloski, Clint Ball, Eileen Welle, Phyllis Kesler, Becky Loyet, Kathy Hoelscher, Paul Loyet, Mead Dowling and Al Woolen.

Trustee Stack asked to make a motion that Trustee Hopkins continue chairing the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Hopkins. Trustee Cox said he did not want to be doing something that isn't right. Attorney Daugherty said this can be done. Typically you go with whoever has the most seniority. There is no specific rule or law. To pass this motion you will need two or three votes. To spend money or approve budgets to pay bills you will need three votes. Roll call found the vote two ayes and one abstain. Trustee Cox was the abstained vote.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from January 14, 2020 board meeting was made by Trustee Stack and seconded by Trustee Cox. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Clint Ball (Collinsville) – Attendance at the senior center seems to be up. Keep up the good work. Regarding having receipts for the expenses and the approval prior to the meeting, the city of Collinsville puts links of PDFs of all receipts and payroll in the agenda prior to the meetings. Would like for the township to do something like this.

Eileen Welle (Collinsville) – Enjoys the senior center and can see how it has improved. Likes the chair exercise class, crafts and dances. Director Brandon Loyet and Cook Cinda McGrew both do a good job. She appreciates the center. It is such a cheery, happy place.

Diane Masloski (Collinsville) – Director Loyet is doing an excellent job. Always willing to listen to what we have to say. He is a good instructor. Thank you for hiring him.

Rosemary Hamilton (Collinsville) – This is the nicest senior center around. Enjoys the exercise class. It has really helped her. She has been at the center when someone has come in and started a disturbance. She feels safe with Director Loyet being there.

Phyllis Kessler (Collinsville) – She goes to other senior centers in the area. Thank you for cleaning up the center and giving it a new face. Other centers did not even know we have a senior center. Exercise will keep people coming to the center. Appreciates the additional activities that are being added.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

Trustee Cox – Congratulated Director Loyet on the comments people were making about him. He is doing a good job on getting the word out about all the services that the center offers. Trustee Cox is proud of the center and all the improvements. Any new ideas anyone would have, please bring them to Director Loyet or the township board. The senior center is one of the most important things the township does.

Trustee Stack – Also said Brandon has been doing a fantastic job for the seniors.

Trustee Hopkins – In speaking with Director Loyet and Cinda, there will be new band coming to the senior center. Director Loyet is in the process of getting prices for yoga classes. Also, always looking for volunteers to call bingo. Contact Director Loyet if anyone is interested in calling bingo.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion to approve General Assistance bills for **\$8,525.56** was made by Trustee Hopkins and seconded by Trustee Stack. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Road and Bridge bills for **\$85,471.99** was made by Trustee Stack and seconded by Trustee Cox. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Town Fund bills for **\$50,044.74** was made by Trustee Stack. Trustee Cox asked about the \$12,000 for healthcare. Office Manager Jackson said it was the monthly amount for all employees. Trustee Cox said there are times when we are paying back employees. It doesn't make sense to do this. Some townships use a credit card. Office Manager Jackson said most of the payments are for reimbursements for their healthcare. Some are for travel and training for the assessor's office. Trustee Cox asked if there were online classes. Trustee Hopkins said he could not speak for the assessor. Some jobs have to have continuing education hours. Trustee Cox thinks it would be better if they used the township's money to make purchases. Trustee Hopkins would rather reimburse the employee than give them a credit card. He feels that it would be best to analyze the receipts rather than analyze the bills once the money has been spent. Trustee Hopkins asked for a second on the motion that was made. Trustee Stack asked about copies of receipts on the town fund. Office Manager Jackson said all receipts are emailed to the trustees long with invoices and the check register. There is also a summary worksheet. She said she tries to put the check stub with it so the trustee will know what the check number is. Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Motion to approve Senior Center bills for **\$7,559.56** was made by Trustee Cox and seconded by Trustee Stack. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you card from Gary Borgard for the Christmas gift and a letter from the Illinois Labor Relations Board regarding assigned contract number.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss Phase I Environmental Site Assessment – Trustee Hopkins said there are two copies available of the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment. It will be available at the township office for review. Trustee Cox asked for a quick overview. Trustee Hopkins said a historical study was done on past businesses. The fact that it wasn't a finished demolition is why Tetra Teck is recommending a Phase II study. They will do four borings. They will dig down with the backhoe in six different spots and take samples to be tested. Trustee Cox asked how much the Phase II would cost. Trustee Hopkins said between \$8,000 and \$12,000. Trustee Cox said we have a letter from the city saying they are all for it and to go ahead and blacktop it. Trustee Hopkins said they never said that. The city said they had a demolition permit and an asbestos abatement report for one address. There was one building with four addresses there. Technically, whoever did the demolition probably did not do it correctly. Trustee Hopkins doesn't know if the city knew there were four addresses there. Trustee Cox's concern is that we are going to spend taxpayer's money to test this land. What happens if there is something wrong? Attorney Daugherty said what we are paying for is to we are not going to buy a piece of property that puts us on the hook. Because we discover it in the process of doing our due diligence in purchasing a piece of real estate. If we discover it before we do the purchase, we can walk away from the purchase or the property owner can abate it. Trustee Cox asked what we had in writing from the property owner. Attorney Daugherty said we have permission to test the property. Trustee Cox said if we find something, then the city of Collinsville and the demolition crew have some answering to do. His fear is that the lot will sit there empty with asbestos and the ground forever. There will be lawsuits and taxpayers will be getting sued. It will cost a ton of money. Attorney Daugherty said taxpayers, the city or the township will not be held responsible. The price of the abatement will be placed on the individual property owner. Trustee Hopkins said the reason we are doing this is so we don't buy a liability. He hopes that the Phase II does not find anything so that we can proceed with the purchase. Trustee Hopkins does not want to put taxpayers' dollars at risk getting a free lot that might have a \$500,000 to a million dollar abatement that we would be on the hook for by not having the lot tested. We are doing the proper due diligence to purchase the property. Trustee Cox said it has been mentioned by this board that the price is too high. If we do all this and they don't find anything, what will be the next excuse. If we spend all this and the board votes it down again, we are just wasting. And if they do find something it will be a big mess for everybody. Trustee Hopkins said it was never voted on. They will do trenches, excavate with a backhoe and assess site filled materials. If they find nothing, he believes the rest of the board will be happy to buy the lot. Trustee Cox asked if they do find something, what is the remedy. Trustee Hopkins said it depends on what they find. If they find lead paint on wood, they will have to remove all the building materials that are in there. If the find mercury in the ground water that will be a bigger deal. Trustee Cox was told that it is a parking lot. You just seal it in and blacktop it. Trustee Stack said the lot that was purchased next to the township building had a Phase I and Phase II and was also paved all at the owner's cost. The owner of the lot next to the senior center does not want to pay for anything.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and vote on the Collinsville Woman's Club Empty Bowl Fundraiser – Linda Wiedower from the Collinsville Woman's Club thanked the board for last year's \$2500 donation. The Empty Bowl Fundraiser was able to raise \$15,643 for the food pantry. She asked if the board could possibly donate the same amount again this year. Trustee Cox asked what the date was for this event. Ms. Wiedower said it was February 26, 2020 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00. This is the 8th year for the fundraiser. Trustee Stack asked if there were others who contributed this amount. Ms. Wiedower said she has had some and some that want to remain anonymous. There are also ads that can be purchased for the program book. Trustee Stack asked if our donation included a full page ad in the program book. Ms. Wiedower said if we would like a full page ad we could have one. Trustee Cox said

that maybe they could coordinate with Director Loyet to maybe get about 20 tickets to use as bingo prizes. We could shuttle them there and back. Trustee Hopkins said to check the law on that. You cannot give out more than \$5.00 per game prize unless you have a bingo license. Motion to donate the same amount as last year to the Empty Bowl Fundraiser was made by Trustee Cox and seconded by Trustee Stack. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Road and Bridge Stormwater Report – Road and Bridge Office Manager Kathy Hoelscher presented the report to the board. Stormwater is water that originates from precipitation events, including snow and ice melt. Stormwater can soak into the soil, be stored on the land surface in ponds and puddles, evaporate or runoff. Most runoff is conveyed directly to nearby streams, rivers or other water bodies without treatment. The Madison County Co-Permittee MS4 Program is a partnership consisting of Madison county and 25 municipalities and townships in the “urbanized” area of the County. Madison County’s role is to provide technical support and guidance to the Co-Permittee Group members. Combining the resources of our group we can address the six minimum control measures and reduce the overall costs of complying with the requirements of each community. It is the responsibility of Office Manager Hoelscher to keep records for the stormwater requirements. Our foremen attend the quarterly meeting and seminars for the group and report back to her. She is happy to report that they were audited in December 2019 by the Illinois EPA and were found in compliance with all the requirements. Trustee Stack asked what the cost was for this. Office Manager Hoelscher said it is \$1100 a year to be a part of the co-committee group and \$1000 a year to the state for our licensing and permits.

Vote on Resolution of the Township Board of Trustees Committing Fund Balances as necessitated by GASB54 for Road and Bridge – Trustee Hopkins said GASB54 is an accounting principle mandated by the state. Road and Bridge Office Manager Hoelscher said it is for money that we have committed for future Road and Bridge projects and the improvement on Troy Road. Trustee Stack asked if there was any talk about annexing the area for the Troy Road project. Office Manager Hoelscher said the owner of the farmland does not want to annex. Trustee Stack asked what it was going to cost to finish the road. Office Manager Hoelscher said around \$240,000. Madison County is paying a portion of it. Trustee Stack said it bothers him that the township is required to finish the road and then it may be annexed. Motion to approve the resolution for \$650,000 for Lebanon Road bridge project and \$300,000 for Troy Road project was made by Trustee Cox and seconded by Trustee Hopkins. Roll call the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

2020 Township Government Education Network (TGEN) March 7, 2020 – Registration is due by February 26, 2020.

Township Officials of Illinois 38th Annual Township Annual Topics Day, April 1, 2020 – Registration is due by March 25, 2020.

Vote on the Maryville Fire Protection District vacant trustee position – (see below)

Vote on request to re-appoint Eric F. Hartlein to three-year term as trustee of the Maryville Fire Protection District - Letter from Mr. Eric Hartlein requesting to be appointed for another three-year term as trustee to the Maryville Fire Protection District. He has been on the board since 1985. Trustee Cox asked who votes on all this. How did they get their appointment? Trustee Hopkins said technically they are appointed by their supervisor and with the advice and consent of the board. There is also a letter requesting to appoint Jeffrey Summers to fill a vacant trustee position due to the death of Mr. Donald Hedrick. Trustee Hopkins asked for a motion to approve Jeffrey Summers to fill a vacant trustee position and reappoint Eric Hartlein to another three-year term. Attorney Daugherty said Jeffrey Summer was not on the agenda. Clerk Allison said Jeffrey Summers is on the agenda under “Vote on Maryville Fire Protection District vacant trustee position”. Attorney Daugherty said that was okay. Trustee Cox asked if Eric Hartlein would still be on the board whether or not we appoint him at this meeting. He was wondering if it should be put on next meeting’s agenda until we get more clarification. Trustee Hopkins said let’s do one at a time. Motion made to appoint Jeffrey Summers to fill the vacant

trustee position was made by Trustee Stack. Seconded by Trustee Cox. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed. Motion to re-appoint Eric Hartlein to a three-year term was made by Trustee Stack. Seconded by Trustee Cox. Roll call found the vote unanimous. Motion passed.

ASSESSOR POLETTI'S COMMENTS None

ROAD COMMISSIONER TRUCANO'S COMMENTS – Commissioner Trucano said they are doing everything they can with the ground being as wet as it is they cannot do any dirt work or ditching. Concentrating on trimming trees and have finally finished vacuuming of leaves.

Office Manager Vicky Jackson commented about issues with some homeless people. She thanked the board for spending the money to put a security door in the township office. She said one of the gentlemen had went to the food pantry and pulled out a machete to attack someone. Everybody needs to be cautious when they leave here. We also had the Armed Intruder Training at the office. That may be something that could be done at the senior center.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the board, Trustee Hopkins asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Trustee Stack and seconded by Trustee Cox to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote found the vote unanimous. Motion passed. Time 8:03 p.m.

Terry Allan, Township Supervisor

Cathy Allison, Township Clerk