



Township of Hampshire

County Of Kane

State Of Illinois

Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

April 9, 2024

In accordance with the Illinois statutes, the Annual Town Meeting of Hampshire Township, Kane County, Illinois was called to order by the Town Clerk, Lori Marwig on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:30 pm. The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag. There were 28 people in attendance.

The clerk asked for nominations for a Moderator. Jody Remakel nominated Steve Gustafson. After no other nominations, a motion was made by Bob Becker to close the nominations and appoint Steve Gustafson as moderator. Bill Robinson seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. The Clerk administered the oath of the moderator. Steve Gustafson assumed the duties of the moderator. Steve Gustafson declined a salary.

The Moderator asked everyone to review the agenda. A motion was made by Fred Rackow to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Trevor Herrmann and passed unanimously.

After reviewing the minutes of the April 11, 2023 Annual Town Meeting, a motion was made by Roger Paddock that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Fred Rackow and passed unanimously. After reviewing the minutes of the November 16, 2023 Special Town Meeting, a motion was made by Dale Drendel that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Bob Becker and passed unanimously.

After reviewing the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending February 29, 2024, a motion was made by Roger Paddock to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Fred Rackow and then passed unanimously.

Jody Remakel presented the Supervisor's Report. The General Assistance program is continuing to be handled by Elgin Township even though for FY24 there were 0 clients on it. There were 47 building rentals with 6 being individual rentals, 27 were ongoing rentals and 9 were for early voting. The lending closet loaned out 54 pieces of medical equipment and 39 items were returned, along with 32 items from the previous year. There are a total of 50 items still outstanding. The Seniors on the Go had over 200 onsite events, 113 offsite events and 3 overnight trips that included Platteville, Cedarburg, and Dubuque. Ms. Remakel provided the audience with a chart that showed the increase in the event and medical participation from FY23 to FY24. Mileage on the vehicles for FY24 were as follows: the Pace Van had 6366 miles put on, the Chrysler Pacifica had 5072 miles put on, the Ford bus had 3289 miles put on it, and the Pace transit had 4375 miles put on it. The accomplishments for FY24 included the completion of the addition to the administration building, winning the scarecrow contest, winning a tax objection, operation Santa Claus, implementing a new electronic sign in program, adding a fitness room, hosting a community shred event, hired and trained a new office staff member, and negotiated and purchased additional property. The 2024 Administrative accomplishments included updating 8 policies and finalizing the Decennial Committee Report. The FY25 goals include phase II of the registration system conversion, new parking lot, review of the PACE programs, moving the vehicles into the new garage, and finalizing the landscaping.

Supervisor Remakel reported that there was no sale of excess Township equipment.

Dan Rowlett presented the Highway Commissioner's Report. According to the Motor Fuel Tax records, the Road District continues to maintain 30.5 miles of road as well as 1 mile of road for Burlington and 2.5 miles for the Village of Hampshire for snow plowing. The Township recorded 30 inches of snow from 11/26/23 through 3/22/2024. 407.3 tons of salt was purchased at \$37,382.50 at a price of \$92.15/ton.

The road project for 2023 was meeting with the State of Illinois in August to discuss Route 72 and Brier Hill Road intersection. The State proposed a traffic light with turn lanes. There were a couple of zoom meetings and an in person meeting on 3/5/24. The proposed plan was agreed upon and a letter of intent was signed by the State of Illinois. The Hampshire Oaks Subdivision paving project was completed in August of 2023 by Peter Baker and the total cost was \$18,0829.03. The entire Township roads were stripped with the yellow lines only. Pre-form completed the work for a total of \$11,606.64. The milk plant at 147 Mill Ave was purchased for \$565,000 to use for future expansion. The projects for 2024 will include: County Line Road, which at this time we are waiting for Chip n Seal to send in an estimate, the entire Township roads will have the yellow and white lines stripped and currently we are waiting on bids, and the paving of Ketchum Road from Allen to the Village limits. Work will be completed by Peter Baker for a cost of \$100,950.45.

Rebecca Penkaty presented the Assessor's Report. Currently there are 5434 parcels in Hampshire Township. 3568 are residential, 801 are residential land, 677 are farm, 150 are commercial, 7 are commercial land, 61 are industrial, and 170 are exempt. Sales for 2023 are 376 recorded sales and 149 new construction. For 2024 so far, 80 are recorded sales and 41 are new construction. The multiplier for 2023 was 1.0881 and the 2024 multiplier will be 1.1117. Farmland is up again by 10% and is selling at \$15K an acre. The construction projects are Tamms Farm with Lennar Homes and Prairie Ridge with Ryan Homes, Siverthorne, and D.R. Horton. A new storage facility was constructed off of Rowell Road and will be opening soon. Prairie Ridge and Tamms Farm subdivisions are coming along with new homes. Future developments include: the subdivision off of Big Timber by the new elementary school and construction of new homes at Kelley and Harmony that will be coming up in the near future. She informed the audience about the different exemptions you can get. They include general homestead, senior citizen, senior assessment freeze, returning veterans, disabled veterans, and disabled persons.

Fred Rackow presented the Cemetery Report. In 2023 there were a total of 24 burials. 11 were cremations and 13 were casket burials (23 at Center and 1 Doty). The sexton sold \$14K in burial plots. The Cemetery Board will be increasing the cost of a plot next year. They enclosed both the Center and Aurand Cemeteries with fences. Projects for 2024/2025 will be buying a computer and software to update records. They will be using transition fees to help pay for this. Mr. Rackow thanked Gayla Fell with Wreaths Across America. While being out there and helping with this, it was noticed that some of the stones are falling/tipping as the bases of the stones are crumbling. The Cemetery Board is working with Sycamore Monuments to put new pads under the stones. They will also have Spring Green out this year to control the weeds at all 3 cemeteries. They will be looking for a new mowing contract for the 25/26 year.

Hampshire Village President Mike Reid provided the village report for Hampshire. Mr. Reid provided the Villages accomplishments for the 2023/2024 year. On the administration end it included the improvement of the My Hampshire app, awarding 5 downtown facade grants, focusing on cyber security, and the clerks office developed/implemented a records management system. For the finance department, the accomplishments included a new enterprise resource planning cloud based system, mobile service order deployment, and 2 debt issuances were paid in full. For the public works -water department, the accomplishments included tank rehabilitation, meter replacements, ion exchanged media replacement and a lead service line replacement plan. For the sewer department, wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation, variable frequency drive



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replacement, sludge pumps replacement, and sewer system rehabilitation. For the streets department, the accomplishments were the cleaning of the storm sewer catch basins, parkway tree trimming, various road work repairs, vehicle maintenance, retention and detention pond maintenance, and the various snow and ice operations. The police department had significant technology improvements, they had enhanced training for life saving skills, and they also attended a wide variety of community events. For development, the 90 acre Hampshire Logistics park is shovel ready, 250 acres of prime office and manufacturing land was annexed into the village, and the village issued 799 building permits and 288 residential permits. 5 new businesses began construction or opened in downtown Hampshire. Looking ahead for the 2024-2025 budget year: the village will be hiring a part time seasonal village clerk/fiance intern, paint/remodel the village hall front office, add 2 additional sworn police officers (that will bring the headcount to 16 full time officers), 2 new squad cars that will replace existing vehicles, new speed awareness monitoring mobile unit, hire a new seasonal public works employee to assist with SSA pond maintenance, purchase a new snowplow and pickup truck, and the replacement of UV wastewater treatment equipment. Mr. Reid then reported that the Village's water and sewer system must be maintained to operate effectively and to do that, the Board will have to make the decision to increase the fees for both the water and sewer rates. A lot of the aging equipment and infrastructure is at the end of its useful life and it needs to be replaced. Mr. Reid then asked if anyone had any questions.

Park District Commissioner Laura Schraw provided the Park District Report. The park district offered 272 programs with 1558 participants. They offered 10 special events, with 2600 participants. They have multiple facilities that can be rented out. The Catherine B Seyller Community room was rented out 81 times and the Rackow, Ream, and Schmidt Parks (pavilions, fields, and campsites) were rented out 41 times. The Park District maintains 4 parks and 8 acres. In 2023, the park district celebrated their 75th anniversary through special events with one of them being the .1K run. They moved their administrative offices to downtown Hampshire and transitioned the former building on South Ave to hold more preschool classes. They hosted their first National Night Out partnering with the Hampshire Police department at Bruce Ream park and hosted baseball tournaments at Rackow and Ream parks. For 2024 they purchased land for a recreation facility, determined appropriate programming for a recreation facility through public engagement, the redevelopment of Seyller Park through \$1.2M project (\$600,000 received in IDNR OSLAD grant funds), expanded the teen and senior program offerings, and expanded the daycare/preschool.

Hampshire District Fire Chief Trevor Herrmann provided the Fire District Report. The Hampshire Fire Protection District protects 42 square miles and 9 miles of I-90 in Kane, DeKalb, and McHenry Counties. They currently have 12 full time firefighters and 24 part time firefighters. In 2023 there were 1563 calls, 173 hours dedicated to public education, 1060 hours dedicated to fire prevention bureau (inspections), and over 13000 hours dedicated to training hours. Mr. Herrmann provided the audience with the Fire district's 5 year strategic plan (2022-2027). This included the building of fire station 2 which will be completed in 2024, continuing to recruit/hire part time personnel, have a minimum of 2 personnel on each special team (Water rescue, tech rescue, haz mat, fire investigation), hire additional full time firefighters, increase staffing to 6-7 personnel daily, increase the wages to be competitive for both full time and part time (this has been completed), hire a full time fire inspector (this has been completed), update apparatus that is 15-25 years old (2 - fire engines, 2-

ambulances, tanker, brush truck, command vehicle) which has all been completed, and a ladder truck plan that is pending. For equipment: update cots on the ambulances, update the extrication equipment, purchase Lucas CPR devices (there was a donation to purchase 1) and update the firefighting gear which costs \$4K per set and needs to be updated every 10 years.

Mr. Herrmann then provided the audience with information regarding the Insurance Service Office Evaluation. The current rating is a 4 with 1 being the best and 10 being the worst. There are a few roads that are graded at a 10 due to no water and are more than 5 miles from a station. When station 2 opens, they will schedule a new evaluation and are hoping to be dropped to a 3 overall. The district currently owns land for a station 3 at Harmony & Melms Road. The fire department is working with the Village to update their disaster plan that included tornadoes, earthquakes, train derailments, etc. They will do future training with local government entities to have a unified command system. The Hampshire Fire Protection District keeps the local community notified via their facebook page, website, and their annual report. They also had to create the efficiency act report (Decennial report) and continue to work on their strategic plan.

The Moderator asked for comments from the audience. Mr. Fred Rackow thanked everyone for serving and making the residents of Hampshire lives better. He then went on to talk about being careful on how we use the land as well as how the size of the lots are getting smaller and smaller. There was some back and forth with the audience.

A motion was made by Bill Robinson that we set the next Annual Town Meeting for April 8th, 2025 at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Laura Pollastrini and carried unanimously. There being no further business, a motion was made by Bob Becker that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Roger Paddock and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lori Marwig
Township Clerk