



Township of Hampshire

County Of Kane

State Of Illinois

Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

April 8, 2025

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 8, 2025 at 7:30 pm. The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag. There were 25 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 Bill Robinson to close the nominations and appoint Steve Gustafson as moderator. Dale Drendel 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 Mike Reid to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Bill Robinson and passed unanimously.

After reviewing the minutes of the April 9, 2024 Annual Town Meeting, Laura Schraw noted under the Park District section, her title is Park District Director, not Park District Commissioner. A motion was made by Jody Remakel that the minutes be approved with the correction to the Park District portion of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dan Rowlett and passed unanimously.

After reviewing the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending February 28, 2025, a motion was made by Roger Paddock to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded by Linda Gustafson and then passed unanimously.

Clerk Marwig read to the audience, Resolution 26-02 - SB2505 Annual Town Meeting Resolution. A motion was made by Bill Robinson to approve Resolution 26-02 - SB2505 Annual Town Meeting Resolution. The motion was seconded by Mike Reid and then passed unanimously.

Before presenting the Supervisor's Report, Jody Remakel thanked the audience for approving Resolution 26-02. She then went on to present the Supervisor's Report. For the General Assistance program, there was 1 client on it for FY25. Usually if someone is on it, they will stay on it until they can collect social security. There were 67 building rentals with 14 being individual rentals, 45 were ongoing rentals and 8 were for early voting. The lending closet loaned out 61 pieces of medical equipment and 38 items were returned, along with 23 items from the previous year. There are a total of 46 items still outstanding. The Seniors on the Go had over 243 onsite events, 90 offsite events and 1 overnight trip to Wisconsin Dells. From FY24 to FY25, there was an 8.4% increase in participants but a decrease in both the trips (27%) and miles (17%). For Medical, there was a decrease in participants (54%), trips (50%) and miles (36%). Mileage on the vehicles for FY25 were as follows: the Pace Van had 2882 miles put on, the Chrysler Pacifica had 6205 miles put on, the Ford bus had 3236 miles put on it, and the Pace transit had 3998 miles put on it. Both the Pace van and Pace transit vehicles were returned back to Pace. The accomplishments for FY25 included enhancing the events for the Senior program which included a Halloween Party, Christmas celebration, New Years Eve celebration, Valentines Day, and 3 Senior luncheons. The completion of expanding the fitness room, operation Santa Claus (40 packages), and completing some exterior improvements that included a new garage, new parking lot, and more

landscaping were other accomplishments for FY25. The 2025 Administrative accomplishments included purchasing a new transit, purchased new registration software that includes medical rides and building rentals, accepting credit card payments, and surviving early voting for the 2024 President election that had an increase of over 1700% in early voting! Goals for FY26 will include the successful conversion to SchedulesPlus, adding medical rides to that program as well, new door installation to section off the new addition, and moving back into our garage.

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 20 inches of snow from 11/24 through 3/25/2025. 500 tons of salt was purchased at \$34,888.48 at a price of \$86.00/ton.

The road district projects for FY25 were the resurfacing of Ketchum Road which was completed by Peter Baker. The entire Township roads were stripped with both the white and yellow stripes for a total of \$22,749.65. This project was completed by Preform. They graded and paved the new parking lot at the Township for a total of \$47,144.32, and purchased a new pick up truck for \$75,883.00. The projects for FY26 will be the stripping of the yellow lines (Preform has the bid), the demolition of a portion of the milk plant to put in a new salt building, drainage improvement for Marney and Kelley Roads (IGA with Kane County), Lenchow Road resurfacing with Curran Contracting having the bid for a total of \$195,184.20, which \$125,000 of MFT funds will be used for this project, oversight of the new solar farm project that will be at the n/w corner of Dietrich Road, and purchase a new/used wheel loader with a budget of \$190,000.00

Rebecca Penkaty presented the Assessor's Report. Currently there are 5443 parcels in Hampshire Township. 3790 are residential, 577 are residential land, 349 are farm with buildings, 439 are farm land, 153 are commercial, 7 are commercial land, 60 are industrial, and 168 are exempt. Sales for 2024 were 387 recorded sales and 181 new construction. So far for 2025, 114 are recorded sales and 58 are new construction. The multiplier for 2024 was 1.1117 and the 2025 multiplier will be 1.0846. Farmland is up again by 10%. Current construction projects include Tamms Farm with Lennar Homes, which is almost complete, and the Prairie Ridge subdivisions with Ryan Homes, Siverthorne, and D.R. Horton. She then provided the audience with a tax bill and showed them how to read it and what certain areas/numbers mean. She also informed the audience about all the different exemptions and what they mean. Ms. Penkaty then asked the audience if they had any questions. There was a member of the audience who was questioning the assessment and tax increase on his house when a similar house is less. He has also gone to the board of review to get it changed and they did not lower it.

Will Duchaj presented the Cemetery Report. He informed the audience of everyone that is part of the cemetery, which includes himself, Bill Misner, Trevor Herrmann, the sexton Rose Letheby, and Kyle Steichen who helps with cemetery cleanup. The purpose of the cemetery board is to maintain the burial records and maintain the cemeteries. In 2024 there were a total of 23 burials and 18 plots sold. The Cemetery Board worked with Sycamore Monuments and DAR to fix 10 head stones that were in need of repair. The Cemetery Board revised the cost of plots. They also purchased a truck from the Road District. They budgeted and have recently purchased software to digitalize plot records.

Hampshire Village President Mike Reid provided the village report for Hampshire. Mr. Reid provided the Villages accomplishments for the 2024/2025 year. On the administration end, they responded to 327 resident inquiries via the My Hampshire app. The Village clerk responded to 244 FOIA requests and they launched a new website in January 2025.



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For the public works -water department, they inspected all the equipment and did some replacement on equipment that was needed. They created a lead service line removal plan to begin replacing the pipes in 2026. For the sewer department, they have begun replacement of the control pumps and blowers that are at the end of their useful life. The majority of the equipment is 15 years old. They replaced some sludge pumps as they were in operation for 15 years. They repaired 5 manholes, decreasing the flow of ground water to the treatment plant. For the public works, streets department, they will be resurfacing North State Street which will begin August 2025 after Coon Creek Country Days, right as the school year begins, and the safe route to school construction will begin November 2025. They also cleaned all the storm sewer basins (537), trimmed 800 parkway trees throughout the village, resurfaced 1 mile of some streets (center lane), and 71.38 tons of hot mix asphalt was used to repair various patches/potholes. The police department now has digital printers to print out tickets, they have the 360 degree training simulator, and they also attend a wide variety of community events.

The Village issued 682 building permits and 158 new residential permits. With the downtown near full occupancy, the Village is turning their focus to extending downtown north to Allen Road.

Looking ahead for the 2025-2026 budget year: The facade program is budgeted at \$50,000. They will continue to maintain cutting edge cyber security Village wide. They have a total of 16 full time police officers, 2 new squad cars to replace existing vehicles, mental health wellness checks for all officers (state wide initiative), and a new speed awareness monitoring mobile unit. The public works department will be getting a new snowplow (ordered in 2022) and a pickup truck. They will continue to replace UV wastewater treatment equipment. Their biggest challenge is the aging infrastructure and equipment so to help offset the cost they will be increasing the rates on the water bill.

Mr. Reid then asked if anyone had any questions. Becky Penkaty inquired about looking into the older water pipes underground and what that would require. Mike said it would be identifying the areas and replacing the pipes. Bill Robinson inquired about the railroad crossings and if it will ever be changed as reported in previous annual town meetings. Jody Remakel also inquired about how closing the east street crossing would be a bad idea as there is development down mill street and only having 1 way in and out of the downtown area is not ideal. Mr. Reid reported that there is lots of talk but nothing is happening at this time. He also informed the audience there are some serious talks about changing hands for Tuscany Woods 2 development. There are no new residential developments and everything that is going on now was all before his time. They are just adjusting subdivisions to what the community needs are now.

Park District Director Laura Schraw provided the Park District Report. The park district maintains 4 different parks. The Catherine B. Seyller Community room had 85 rentals this past year. Rackow, Ream, Seyller, and Schmidt Parks have either pavilions, fields, or campsites; which had 51 rentals last year. The park district offered 94 programs last year which included: dance, art, sports programs, and senior trips. They had 1500 participants. There were 22 special events offered with 5590 participants. In 2024 they purchased land on

State Street, they completed the operational budget for the recreation center proposal, and they added 3 additional preschool class rooms at 290 South Ave. In 2025 the goals will be completing the redevelopment of Seyller Park through a \$1.2M project, expanding the teen and senior program offerings through a new recreational supervisor position, expanding the day care, and acquiring 3 additional parks north of town. Ms. Schraw then showed the audience where the 3 new parks will be located and what they will have. One of the parks will have U12 and U14 soccer fields, another will have a spall playground, and the other will have pickleball courts. She then asked the audience if they had any questions. Jody Remakel inquired about the soccer fields on Kelley Rd, the lack of parking spaces, and the no parking signs on Kelley Rd. Ms. Schraw informed the audience that they have spaced the games out for the parking and that there are 30 cars that can park there. There are only 2 fields there.

Hampshire District Fire Chief Trevor Herrmann provided the Fire District Report. The 2024 department accomplishment was the opening of station 2 which reduced response times by 3-4 minutes in the north. They increased staffing to 6-7 firefighters per day. They remodeled station 1. A new fire engine went into service in August at Station 1. They completed the ISO evaluation and are hoping to lower from a 4 to either a 3 or 2. They will be getting an update soon. They finalized a new union contract with the full-time firefighters. Trevor Herrmann then gave a breakdown by the numbers. They had the busiest year for calls which was 1798. They had 390 multiple calls in progress. Last year they had 12K plus training hours. They had 255 public education hours. They had 900 plus fire prevention hours which include inspections. They had \$1.7 million in fire loss which included structure and vehicle fires. Station 1 had 1471 responses with a 4:50 response time. Station 2 had 867 responses with an average response time of 5:57.

Looking ahead to 2025. They will be getting a new engine and ambulance for station 2 which means they will have a reserve ambulance for the first time. They are promoting two Lieutenants for station 2 and will have 3 lieutenants for station 1. They will be hiring additional part-time and full-time firefighters. They will be increasing the staffing to 7-8 firefighters per day. In May, Trevor Herrmann will be retiring and Dave Schmidt will be replacing him. The full 166 page 2024 report is on their website. This details the operations of the fire department. You can also learn about their public education programs on their website.

The Moderator asked for comments from the audience. Mr. Kyle Steichen noted that this was his first town meeting that he has attended and it was very nice to get information from all the different government entities all in one location. Mrs. Jody Remakel asked if this is something that the other governments like doing as for the past few years, with the Township inviting the other governments to speak. All were in agreement to keep doing it like this.

A motion was made by Bill Robinson that we set the next Annual Town Meeting for April 14th, 2026 at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Dan Rowlett and carried unanimously. There being no further business, a motion was made by Jody Remakel that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trevor Herrmann and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lori Marwig
Township Clerk



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