

Minutes of Blackberry Township
43W390 Main Street Road, Elburn, IL 60119
Regular Monthly Meeting

October, 13, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: At the Blackberry Town Hall, Supervisor Esther Steel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustees present were Harley Veldhuizen, John Van Bogaert and Ed Stuehm. Also present were Highway Commissioner Rod Feece, Assessor Uwe Rotter and Clerk Lisa Hodge. Trustee Tim Norris was absent.

PLEDGE: Supervisor Steel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLERK: ROLL CALL: Clerk Hodge called the roll: Veldhuizen-here, Stuehm-here, Van Bogaert-here, Steel-here, Norris-absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

MINUTES: The Trustees reviewed the minutes of the September 8, 2020 regular monthly meeting. Trustee Veldhuizen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Trustee Stuehm seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

BILLS: The Trustees reviewed the bills.

Road: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece pointed out one large bill: the yearly payment for the truck loan. Trustee Stuehm made a motion to pay the Road bills, Trustee Van Bogaert seconded. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Steel returned the meeting to “Public Comment” to allow Deputy Sheriff Kramer to speak since he arrived at the meeting, after the Agenda item “Public Comment”.

Deputy Sheriff Kramer provided an update on the drivers tearing up Rowe Road. He also reported on the number of car break-ins in Mill Creek.

Supervisor Steel returned the meeting to Town/Cemetery bills.

Town/Cemetery: Trustee Van Bogaert made a motion to pay the Town/Cemetery bills, Trustee Veldhuizen seconded. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

ROAD COMMISSIONER: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reported that they plan to mow for the last time this season in the next week, Builders Asphalt is finishing the blacktop for the season and the Road crew have been working on shoulder gravel.

He reviewed a document showing the salary/rates/lane miles of all the Township Highway Commissioners in Kane County, with the intention that the Board will finalize compensation for all the elected officials of Blackberry Township, at the November meeting. Discussion ensued.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Uwe Rotter reported that they have finished the year. The Board of Review cases

went very well, via conference calls at the Township. They continue to unpack the boxes and are starting to move back into the 2 renovated offices.

TRUSTEES: Nothing at this time.

CEMETERY: Cemetery Sexton Jeanne Chybik reviewed the report and the Memo that outlines the refund procedure. There has been more “Pre-planning” purchases possibly because of Covid-19.

Sexton Chybik will have an update to the Cemetery Ordinance available for the Board to review, in November, before their approval, in December.

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Esther Steel reported on the “Ground Breaking” ceremony of the Elburn Station Park that she and Trustee Veldhuizen attended.

Supervisor Steel led the discussion about “The Long Range Plan”. A newsletter was discussed with the first one being “snail mail” and the following editions being online. A questionnaire could be included via survey monkey. Also a “History Center” in the future, was discussed.

Supervisor Steel reviewed the insurance policy. She also reminded the Board about the Compensation Resolution that will be approved in November and the Levys will be presented for review and approved in December.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Land Acquisition, and reviewing Ex. Session Minutes.

A motion was made by Trustee Veldhuizen, seconded by Trustee Van Bogaert to enter into Executive Session. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote: Veldhuizen-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The meeting entered into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.

The Meeting returned to open session at 8:34 p.m.

A motion to keep closed all the Ex. Sess. minutes from 2011, 2017 and 2018, release Ex. Sess. minutes from Jan. 8, 2019, Jan 29, 2019, Feb. 6, 2019 and Feb. 12, 2019, and to approve “as to form and content” and to keep closed, the minutes from Feb. 11, 2020, March 10, 2020 and Sept. 8, 2020, was made by Supervisor Steel and seconded by Trustee Veldhuizen. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Veldhuizen, seconded by Trustee Van Bogaert. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa L. Hodge, Blackberry Township Clerk

