

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

September 8, 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 John Van Bogaert, Harley Veldhuizen, Ed Stuehm and Tim Norris. Also present were Highway Commissioner Rod Feece, Assessor Uwe Rotter and Clerk Lisa Hodge.

PLEDGE: Supervisor Steel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Judie Childress informed the Board that Crown has dis-connected from Sugar Grove.

MINUTES: The Trustees reviewed the minutes of the August 11, 2020 regular monthly meeting. Trustee Norris made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Trustee Veldhuizen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

BILLS: The Trustees reviewed the bills.

Road: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece pointed out two large bills: blacktop and skid steer repair. Trustee Veldhuizen 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, Norris-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ROAD COMMISSIONER: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reported that they have completed a lot of blacktop work along curbs in Mill Creek. Builders Asphalt will start on some of the Township roads soon.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Uwe Rotter reported that Board of Review cases will be September 16 & 17, when 26 cases will be heard.

The Software system has an upgrade waiting to apply. They are working on the Levy. Since the tables and chairs are there, they plan to set-up and organize the last few offices of the renovated space. They are also looking into an archive process through the Records Disposal Act.

TRUSTEES: Elburn Station Parks Update: Trustee Van Bogaert provided an update of the Elburn Station Parks.

CEMETERY: Assoc. Sexton Jeanne Chybik reviewed the report. She has been contacting other Cemeteries comparing plot costs, and if refunds are ever given. She was unable to find information regarding refunds in the Cemetery Bylaws.

SUPERVISOR: Introduction of “Long Range Plan”: Supervisor Steel started the discussion and shared her view of planning for the future that may include Senior Activities, Tax help, yoga, arts & crafts, trips, music, technology upgrade, send a questionnaire to residents.

Elected Officials Salary Resolution & Process: Supervisor Steel led the discussion and that the Board will vote to adopt the resolution in November.

Transition Funds to Road District: Discussion & Vote: Supervisor Steel reported that at the Annual Town Meeting held on August 11, 2020, the voters approved a one-time transfer of funds from the Town to the Road District. Discussion followed.

Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to transition \$400K, one time, for blacktopping only, from the Town to the Road District. Trustee Veldhuizen so moved, Trustee Van Bogaert seconded. Supervisor Steel asked Clerk Hodge to call the roll to authorize the transfer: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Appoint Judie Childress to 708 Inc. Board-4 year term: Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to appoint Ms. Childress to the 708 Inc. Board. Trustee Stuehm so moved, Trustee Norris seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Jobs. Trustee Norris so moved, Trustee Veldhuizen seconded. Clerk Hodge called the roll Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

The meeting returned to open session at 8:10 p.m. Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to “eliminate the current Associate Sexton position, terminate Ron Shaw and move Jeanne Chybik to Sexton at the rate of \$18.00/hour.” Trustee Veldhuizen so moved, Trustee Norris seconded. Supervisor Steel asked Clerk Hodge to call the roll: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Stuehm-yes, Van Bogaert-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

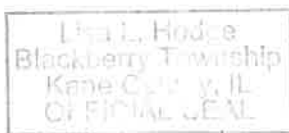
OLD BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Steel shared that she received an email from County regarding COVID-19 relief.

Clerk Hodge recommended that the entire Township register for the “Virtual Conference”.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Norris, seconded by Trustee Stuehm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa L. Hodge".

Lisa L. Hodge, Blackberry Township Clerk