

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

August 11, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: At the Blackberry Town Hall, Supervisor Esther Steel called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Trustees present were Harley Veldhuizen, Tim Norris, Ed Stuehm and John Van Bogaert. Also present were Highway Commissioner Rod Feece, Assessor Uwe Rotter and Clerk Lisa Hodge.

PLEDGE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Annual Town Meeting, held earlier that evening.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

MINUTES: The Trustee reviewed the minutes of the July 14, 2020 regular monthly meeting. Trustee Stuehm made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Trustee Norris seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

BILLS: The Trustees reviewed the bills.

Road: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece pointed out one large bill: Builders Asphalt-paving. Trustee Veldhuizen made a motion to pay the Road bills, Trustee Norris 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 Norris 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 been grinding, patching and paving. Including along some curbs. There has been one more mowing. They have also been cutting down trees from the storm the night before.

Hwy. Commissioner Feece reviewed the meeting with Wendy Weitzel, Supervisor Steel and Clerk Hodge. Ms. Weitzel will "clean-up" the Road Year-to-date. Supervisor Steel shared that Ms. Weitzel will conduct "Mini" quarterly Audits through-out the year.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Uwe Rotter reported that the Appeal Process time closed on July 28. His office spoke to over 200 taxpayers. Twenty six cases ended-up at the Board of Review.

TRUSTEES: Trustee Stuehm reported that he spoke with a person from Mill Creek regarding downed trees.

Supervisor Steel asked Trustee Van Bogaert if he could attend the upcoming Elburn Station Parks meeting.

CEMETERY: Assoc. Sexton Jeanne Chybik reported that the new CIMS system is up and running.

She reviewed the Cemetery report. One issue Ms. Chybik brought up to the Board is there is no procedure in place regarding refunds. Discussion followed.

The Board asked that the Cemetery office land line phone greeting say “leave a message” and that “this is checked daily”. The Board preferred not to have a forwarded cell number for callers.

SUPERVISOR: IMRF: Supervisor Steel reported that the IMRF Audit concluded and that it went well. She has been working with them and Mr. Greenen’s office to settle the HSA situation.

Ms. Steel also reviewed the Audit from Mack & Assoc. and that it is “best practice” to switch Auditors every 4 years. She will research new auditors for the next audit.

Discussion & Vote: “Approval to pay some bills in advance of Township Regular Meeting to avoid fees/service charges”: Supervisor Steel led the discussion. Trustee Veldhuizen made a motion, Trustee Van Bogaert seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Steel reviewed the Ride in Kane report. There will be no new 708 Inc. Board appointment.

Since the Annual Town Meeting was held earlier that evening, the citizens approved the transition of funds to the Road District, the transition will be placed on the September Agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESCOION: None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Clerk Hodge talked about the TOI 2020 “Virtual” Conference in November.

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 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa L. Hodge, Blackberry Township Clerk

