

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

**May 10, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** At the Blackberry Town Hall, Supervisor Esther Steel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Trustees present were Judie Childress, Eric Anderson, Harley Veldhuizen and Tim Norris. Also present were Highway Commissioner Rod Feece and Clerk Lisa Hodge.

**PLEDGE:** Supervisor Steel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLERK:** Roll Call: Clerk Hodge called the roll: Veldhuizen-here Norris-here, Anderson-here, Childress-here, Steel-here.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Nothing at this time.

**MINUTES:** The Trustees reviewed three sets of minutes: the April 12, 2022 Town Budget & Appropriation Hearing minutes, the April 12, 2022 Road Dist. Budget & Appropriation Hearing minutes, and the April 12, 2022 regular monthly meeting minutes. Trustee Veldhuizen made a motion to approve all three sets of minutes, as presented. Trustee Childress seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**BILLS:** The Trustee reviewed the bills.

Road: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reviewed some of the larger bills: salt, TOIRMA-Liability Ins., WBK-Engineering. A motion to pay the Road bills was made by Trustee Norris, seconded by Trustee Childress. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried.

Town/Cemetery: Supervisor Steel pointed out the Town portion of the TOIRMA Liability Ins. A motion to pay the Town/Cemetery bills was made by Trustee Childress, seconded by Trustee Veldhuizen. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried.

**ROAD COMMISSIONER:** Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reported that the blacktop project(s) were finished, and the crew will do patching. The old flagpole in front of the Town building was removed and replaced with a new pole with a double set of pulleys to hang the American Flag as well as the Township Flag. They will continue to haul gravel and plan to start mowing soon.

**ASSESSOR:** Assessor Uwe Rotter couldn't attend the meeting, however, he had provided a report for the Board.

After reading the Assessor's report, Trustee Childress had a question concerning a bill for one of the Assessor's Vendors. Supervisor Steel suggested that the Board return to the Town portion of the Bills and record an amended approval, regarding the one bill in question.

Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to amend approval of the Town Bills, to hold back approval of Check #6953, until clarification by Assessor Uwe Rotter. Trustee Veldhuizen so moved, Trustee Norris seconded. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-

yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The amended motion carried.

**TRUSTEES:** Trustee Anderson reported that he is monitoring the Mill Creek Facebook regarding the “Stop” signs or the lack of them. He shared that resident’s comments are positive regarding the new “No Parking” Ordinance. Residents are concerned about the speeding in Mill Creek.

**CEMETERY:** Sexton Jeanne Chybik reviewed the Cemetery report with the Board. The “Ride in Kane” invoices for January and February 2022 were received. Jeanne plans to attend the next PACE meeting.

**SUPERVISOR:** Supervisor Steel reported that they have been working on the checklist for the upcoming Audit. Trustee Childress has been helpful with tweaking QuickBooks and creating cleaner reports.

The Rockford Education Event is May 26, and she is planning to attend, along with Highway Commissioner Rod Feece and Clerk Lisa Hodge. Supervisor Steel reminded the Board of the November 13-15, 2022 Conference in Springfield.

First Midwest Bank has been bought by Old National Bank. Nothing has changed in the way we do anything, yet.

The Board will hold Budget and Appropriation Hearings for the Town and Road District on June 14, 2022.

Supervisor Steel led the discussion regarding the Health Savings Accounts and the distributions. The Board discussed options and the possibility that the Township will set up the HSA in a bank with quarterly deposits. July 1<sup>st</sup> will be 50% of remaining amount.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing at this time.

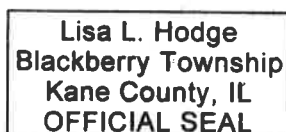
**NEW BUSINESS:** Clerk Hodge reported that HB4251 was signed by the Governor. It sets the bid threshold at \$30K.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Nothing at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing all Executive Session minutes. Trustee Childress so moved, seconded by Trustee Norris. Clerk Hodge called the roll: Veldhuizen-yes, Norris-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The meeting left open session at 7:54 p.m.

The meeting returned to open session at 8:11 p.m. The Board released minutes from March 13, 2018 and April 10, 2018. The Board approved and released minutes from July 29, 2021, Oct.12, 2021 and Nov. 30, 2021. The Board approved as to form and content, minutes from April 12, 2022, but to keep closed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Norris, seconded by Trustee Veldhuizen. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

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

Lisa L. Hodge, Blackberry Township Clerk