

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

August 8, 2023

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

PLEDGE: Supervisor Steel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Supervisor Steel moved the Presentation up on the agenda to come before Public Comment.

PRESENTATION:

Audit: Lauterbach & Amen: Macade Thorp from Lauterbach & Amen reviewed the Audit and the Management Letter for the Board and answered the Board's questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Deputy Sheriff Andrew Biddle introduced himself to the Board.

MINUTES: The Trustees reviewed the minutes of the July 11, 2023 regular monthly meeting. Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Anderson so moved, Trustee Earle seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ROAD COMMISSIONER: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reported that the Brundige Road Railroad crossing wayside horn has been fixed. They replaced 3 culverts on Pouley Road by working with the Village of Elburn and the Batavia Township Road District. They are doing some small patching jobs.

ASSESSOR: Supervisor Steel spoke first that Blackberry Township has become aware that on a neighborhood's Facebook, there were some very unkind comments about Assessor Riley Kavanaugh. Supervisor Steel shared that she is very proud of Riley's work and that Riley has inherited issues established by the previous Assessor. Supervisor Steel read a prepared statement in support of Assessor Riley Kavanaugh.

Assessor Riley Kavanaugh thanked Supervisor Steel and the Board for their support. She reported that Blackberry Township will be published on August 3, 2023 in the Elburn Herald. The deadline for appeals will be September 5, 2023.

There is a new property search program on the Township's website and it's "under construction" to be even better in the future.

TRUSTEES: Trustee Judie Childress reported on her quest for more information from Kane DuPage Water & Soil. They sent Trustee Childress a letter that stated that she could have an annual well water test, for a fee. No new program is available.

Trustee Childress, Trustee Earle and Assessor Riley Kavanaugh attended the Educational Event in Rockford and they all thought it was a great session.

CEMETERY: Supervisor Steel reviewed the Cemetery Report with the Board. Sexton Jeanne Chybik was unable to attend the meeting. Larry Bower returned on Monday.

SUPERVISOR: Discussion/Action: Budget adjustment to Assessor's Budget: Supervisor Steel led the discussion. Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to approve the budget adjustments to the Assessor's Budget. Trustee Veldhuizen so moved, Trustee Anderson seconded. Supervisor Steel asked Clerk Hodge to call the roll. Clerk Hodge called the roll: Veldhuizen-yes, Earle-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried.

708 Inc. Board: Renew Another 4-Year Term for Donna Harner and Caryn Spitzzeri: Supervisor Steel asked for a motion to renew the terms. Trustee Childress so moved, Trustee Earle seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

2023 TOI Conference, Nov. 12-14: Supervisor Steel asked the Board if they were planning to attend. Clerk Hodge will register everyone who would like to attend.

Supervisor Steel reported that all equipment has been returned to the Assessor's office.

BILLS: The Board reviewed the bills.

Road: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece reviewed the bills and pointed out three large bills: Prinsco-pipe, SH & D-gravel, McCann-repair endloader. A motion to pay the Road bills was made by Trustee Veldhuizen, seconded by Trustee Earle. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Earle-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Town/Cemetery: A motion to pay the Town/Cemetery bills was made by Trustee Earle, seconded by Trustee Anderson. Clerk Hodge called for a roll call vote to authorize the expenditures: Veldhuizen-yes, Earle-yes, Anderson-yes, Childress-yes, Steel-yes. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

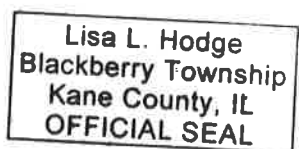
NEW BUSINESS: Highway Commissioner Rod Feece and Supervisor Steel shared that they will meet with the TIF representatives from Crown, on Thursday.

Trustee Veldhuizen shared that the Village of Elburn has reached out to the Sugar Grove Village President, and she said that she will keep Elburn in the loop and updated.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Ray Fugiel asked the Board about the meeting with Crown, Fire codes and the definition of EVA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Veldhuizen, seconded by Trustee Childress. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,

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

Lisa L. Hodge, Blackberry Township Clerk