



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 3, 2014
O'Fallon Township
801 E. State St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gary Ahle, Highway Commissioner Mark Downs, Town Clerk David Witter,
Trustees: Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth Joseph, and Doug Scott; Township Attorney Cory Easton, Deputy Town
Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup and Recorder Sheri Heil

Others present: Gary Fohne, George Fero and Robert Wilhelm

Supervisor Gary Ahle made a motion to excuse Trustee Gary Hursey from the meeting and was seconded by
Trustee Kenny Joseph. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2014 meeting as written
and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Ahle informed the board of a presentation and request made by George Fero to address the board
regarding the sponsorship of a grant application to allow for the completion of a bicycle/pedestrian
connection between Lebanon and O'Fallon.

Mr. Fero introduced himself along with Robert Wilhelm who belongs to a group known as RPTII (Ridge
Prairie Trailhead One). This group is working to connect the Metro East through pedestrian and biking trails.
Since the termination of the proposed College Road Bike Trail, the City of Lebanon still has 2 (two) grants to
construct a bicycle/pedestrian trail connecting Lebanon with O'Fallon. The new plan called the Trolley Trail
is a trail that will follow along the north side of Route 50 and had been trying to get it fully funded. Issues
being; the new trail is 9/10 (nine-tenths) of a mile longer, requires 2 (two) additional bridges with 1 (one)
being longer as well as some land purchases and 2 (two) right-of-ways. The landowners on all 3 (three) pieces
of property are already immutable to either the sale or right-of-ways being arranged for them. Half the land is
already owned by the City of Lebanon, the City of O'Fallon or, it is in the O'Fallon Township.

Fero said he is not asking for a grant or money at this time. He wants to make sure that the board supports
their plans to move forward with this project. Fero distributed budget plans for the project which indicates
the difference in unfunded costs between is College Rd. and the Trolley Trail is \$1,058,832. Fero proposes to
split the project into 2 (two) phases with the first phase funded by the City of Lebanon with the funds from
the grant they have, travelling from the east as far to the west as the funds will take them. Lebanon is unable
to apply for a second grant on the same project, so it will be up to another agency to apply for a grant to



complete the second phase of the project. Fero is asking the O'Fallon Township to consider being the grant applicator for the second phase.

Supervisor Ahle asked who would write the grant. Fero said Rhutasel and Associates, Inc. have written the grants for this project in the past at no charge and would do the same for O'Fallon Township if the board agrees to go forward with a grant application. Fero said they do this with the expectation of doing the project. Ahle wanted assurances that this will not cost the Township any money. Fero said this is the plan he is working on, to make sure the Township does not incur any expenses.

Highway Commissioner Mark Downs first wanted to confirm that College Rd. is not at all in the picture. Fero said the new trail has nothing to do with College Rd. Looking at the map with the proposed trail marked out, Downs said he has no problem with the layout. His concern does lie with any maintenance or liability since Rieder Rd. is a Township road. Downs also wanted to confirm that the request for a grant applicator is O'Fallon Township and not the Road District which Fero confirmed. Robert Wilhelm said if they could get more funding in the future, it would be nice to just cross Rieder Rd. and continue on.

Trustee Kenny Joseph asked about any flood waters that might hinder the grant. Fero said there would be a bridge which eliminates any flooding issues. Other additional costs Fero mentioned are, for every tree removed, another tree has to be planted in its place. Trustee Doug Scott wanted to know how far this new proposed trail is from College Rd. Highway Commissioner Downs showed Scott the new trail is approximately 1 mile south of College Rd. Scott then asked about what type of responsibility is put on the Township having the trail come out on Rieder Rd. Fero responded there will be a trailhead as well as safety bollards to keep vehicles from entering, and possibly a shelter with map information in the future. Scott asked about a parking area. Fero said there are no plans at this time for a parking area. Lastly, Scott wanted to know what liability the Township has in being a sponsor of this. If the Township applies for the grant, it gets approved, but isn't enough, is the Township on the hook for the balance. Fero said the match of funds has to be there to proceed. If it isn't, the project does not go any further. Scott wanted to know who has the responsibility to manage the money if the grant is approved. Supervisor Ahle told Scott the engineers would handle the grant money. Fero said right now, they are just asking the for the Township's permission to go ahead with all the planning stages so when he comes back, he will have a total package to present to t the Township. Trustee Jeff Bevirt asked if they will be asking the Township for matching funds. Fero said he knows that half of the match he can get from Metro East Parks and Recreation District. The other half he may have to get some corporate sources, get a legislator to get something put into legislation, get some additional federal funds from another source. He does not want any funds coming from the Township. Ahle agreed that there isn't any money to fund this and does not want to get locked into something and find out they owe for. Trustee Bevirt said he would like to see something in writing from the property owner stating that they are agreeable with this project. Fero said they can now talk to these people since being appointed as a committee by the Lebanon City Council for this trail. Bevirt asked about the shooting range which Fero said there will be 1200 ft of fence put up along there.

Supervisor Ahle reiterated what the board is requiring: statements of approval from the property owners, some type of assurance or guarantee that the Township will not be held liable for any additional monies if they sign for a grant. Fero said they are not proposing a grant until they have the matching funding sources identified. Trustee Scott asked if they have a contingency if the Township does not go forward with this. Fero responded they will look at other funding sources to raise the \$1.3 million needed. Trustee Joseph asked with the old right-of-way, does it have to be raised or widened. Fero said he is not sure at this time but he knows there will be some grading which is figured into the estimate. Wilhelm said he believes there will need to be some widening where there has been erosion. Ahle said there is nothing needed at this time from the board. Fero said all they want is to make sure the Township is aware of their plans and approve of the trail.

Ahle added he would like to speak with TOI about liability and maintenance, as well as talking with other Townships who have these types of trails to get an idea on how it is working for them. Highway Commissioner Downs is Rieder Rd. and concerns for the bicyclists and the traffic. At this time, the group does not know if they will acquire more land to continue the trail towards O'Fallon. Right now, it will end at Rieder Rd. just east of the Water Treatment Plant. Downs asked where the bicyclists/pedestrians go from there. Fero said this is where signage comes into play on Rieder. Signs will let vehicles know there is a trail with bicyclists/pedestrians. From there, they will go either north or south.

Fero assured the board his committee will proceed with acquiring the letters of approval from the property owners to present to the board. Trustee Scott added he would like to see an approval letter from Chief Van Hook with regard to the firing range. Fero said he can possibly speak with the property owner about a right-of-way along the northern edge of the southern piece of property by Rt. 50 instead of going by the firing range. Fero said this is all part of the application in the future. Again, they are coming forward now to make sure the Township board is aware of their plans and approve of these plans to move forward with the trail. More discussion followed. Supervisor Ahle asked when the trail is completed, who owns it. Fero said it will be jointly owned and probably require an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Lebanon and O'Fallon Township. Ahle said this is where the Township is responsible for maintenance. Fero said this will be looked into. Looking at similar trails with no flood plain, the yearly maintenance has not been over \$500. Fero said they are looking into outside funding or an endowment of some sort to take care of the maintenance part. Downs stated he is all in favor of the bike trail and helping, but he will not be responsible for the maintenance. Supervisor Ahle again mentioned the insurance responsibility and who it falls on if something were to happen on the trail. Fero said it would be an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Lebanon and O'Fallon Township. Ahle wanted Fero to confirm that if, there is an incident and the Township gets sued, the Township's insurance has to cover it. Fero said probably half of it but, if you look at the history on these trails, there is nothing happening. If there is an incident, it is usually the cyclists' fault. Trustee Joseph asked about barriers or fencing when crossing over water. Fero said it is not necessary. Mr. Wilhelm said this all about the safety of the bicyclists, the walker and the vehicles. If the trail is completed, it will get used. Fero added that a counter was placed on a Madison County Trail. It counted 15,000 people passing through in one weekend. Ahle again added he would like to speak with TOIRMA and TOI about liability and maintenance, as well as talking with other Townships who have these types of trails to get an idea on how it is working for them.

George Fero and Robert Wilhelm excused themselves from the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

APPROVAL OF SUPERVISORS BILLS

Town Fund	\$	27,193.07
General Assistance Fund	\$	2,740.16

Jeff Bevirt made a motion to authorize the Supervisor's bills to be paid accordingly and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Mark Downs reported on the Road District "RaDAR" for the following weeks of August 4, 2014 through September 1, 2014:

(See attachment A)



Downs said the road district spent 2 (two) days with Caseyville Township assisting them with oiling and chipping. He also had bid openings on August 28th for resurfacing Bowler Rd. Christ Bros. was the only company to submit a bid and it came in below the engineering estimates. The Road District along with the City of O'Fallon has agreed to pay for their portion of this road. The City's portion comes to approximately \$36,000 and the Road District's portion adds up to \$263,000 which has been appropriated for in the budget. Along, with that Downs added some paving to the parking lot where it ends now and going east towards Annex #1. This bid was also under the engineer's estimates and Downs is going to sign off on both estimates

on Thursday Sept. 4th. Trustee Scott asked if Downs if he is just going over the old surface on Bowler Rd. Downs said they are going to grind it and resurface it with approximately a 2" overlay. He added that he is not of a mind to chip and seal and since the roads are overlaid now, he is going to start back from the beginning and repeat. Bowler Rd. has the most patchwork on it now, so this is where Downs is starting. A pavement assessment has been done by Gonzalez Companies as a guide to keep track of the Township roads and which ones need to be worked on. This is what will be used for budget purposes here on out according to Downs. Also, a road map was prepared for Downs by Gonzalez showing all the township roads, county roads, city roads, etc. Downs said this reference map makes it an easy reference for anybody.

An IDOT press release came out indicating that South Rieder Rd. will be closed starting September 9 2014 (local traffic only) until May 15, 2017. This is from Route 50 to Wherry Rd. and there will be restrictions on Interstate 64 in the area and a same time frame. Downs will keep the board up to date as he gets any information. He said when the County took over South Rieder, Downs sent a letter to the residents to inform them. He is going to pass this recent notification to them as a courtesy. A brief discussion followed.

APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	15,799.36
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	17,857.16

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to authorize the Highway Commissioner's bills to be paid accordingly as presented and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Clerk David Witter reported on the township website with 665 visits. 81.5% were new visitors and 18.5% were returning visitors. 596 from United States, 34 from Brazil, 2 each from United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Italy and Malaysia.

Witter attended the Educational Conference along with Trustees Bevirt and Joseph. It was very informative along with a presentation about "Bridging the Generation Gap". Witter said the speaker presented it in a unique and fun way. The other board members in attendance agreed. Witter also picked up "No Gun Zone" signs for use by the Township

TRUSTEES REPORT

Trustee Kenny Joseph agreed with Clerk Witter regarding the presentation on Bridging the Generation Gaps. He added it was one of the better conferences he attended.

Trustee Jeff Bevirt said there was a presentation about disasters and thinks it would be a good idea to have Chief Brett Saunders in and let the board know what is expected of the Township in case of an emergency

situation. Supervisor Ahle said there is a manual to follow for such situations. Downs said he attended a meeting regarding a disaster plan that is in place with the City, County and Township. Everybody has a role to play as well as equipment, provisions, shelter, etc. The Township is on the list as an emergency shelter for such situations. Ahle said he attended a meeting with the previous Highway Commissioner at the Public Safety Building. They presented different scenarios and how to act on them (tornado, earthquake, rail car with chemicals). A discussion followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SENIOR REPORT

Trustee Doug Scott said the last dinner was on August 21st. 100 tickets were sold. A total of 87 served with 13 no shows. It was discussed at the Committee meeting on August 26th to change up their attendance giveaways. Instead of table favors being made for giveaways, they are now going to purchase additional \$10 Schnuck's gift cards to give out. The extra dinners are boxed up and raffled out for people to take home too.

The next dinner will be on Thursday September 18th at 5:30 P.M. The October dinner has been moved to November 13th because of the Township Hall being delegated an Early Voting location.

YOUTH REPORT

Trustee Kenny Joseph reported the last meeting held on August 18th at 7:30 P.M. was not well attended at all.

Approval of funding for the Bounce House at the 'Movie in the Park' co-sponsored with O'Fallon Parks & Recreation event on Friday September 26th. Trustee Jeff Bevirt said he inquired about the liability for this and was told the provider of the bounce house is responsible for the liability insurance. The cost for this is \$355 which was approximately the same amount as last year when the Youth Committee paid for the movie and provided popcorn for attendees. A copy of the insurance waiver was requested which Bevirt will get.

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to approve the funding of the Bounce House in the amount of \$355 for the Movie in the Park event and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of the Appointment of Patrick Murphy to the O'Fallon Township Youth Committee.

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to approve the appointment of Patrick Murphy to the O'Fallon Township Youth Committee and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of the Appointment of Nathan Dalman to the O'Fallon Township Youth Committee.

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to approve the appointment of Nathan Dalman to the O'Fallon Township Youth Committee and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Trustee Joseph said the next Youth Committee meeting will be on Monday September 15th at 7:30 P.M. The Youth Committee/Seniors Baseball game is on Friday September 19th. Cardinals vs. Cincinnati game time is

7:15 P.M. Trustee Bevirt said they normally go to the last game of the season on a Sunday, but these tickets were much more reasonably priced. They also got left field box seats as opposed to the seats in Big Mac Land where they usually sit. There will also be fireworks afterwards.

PLANNING REPORT

No report.

AFTER PROM REPORT

No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Doug Scott asked if anything more has been heard or done with regards to the Grants Department denying the application submitted for sanitary sewer improvements on the south side of East State Street because it did not meet the required eligibility criteria of being in a low-moderate income area (LMA).

Ahle said he Downs looked at the map the Grants Dept. used as a census reference and the section of East State St. the grant applied for, was grouped with all the houses going south of the railroad tracks almost to the O'Fallon High School and including Weber Rd. Downs explained that these 'lines' were drawn according to the last census taken and so far, he has been unable to find out who makes these 'lines' on the map as a reference.

Downs said the other option is for the Township to do an individual survey on all the homes affected by getting their personal information and incomes then, the application can be resubmitted. This will probably be the way to go because the 'lines' have already been laid out and are not going to be changed. Ahle said they will have to get assistance from the engineers. Draft a letter to send to the residents involved plus, any footwork involved later. A discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

A correspondence was received by Linda Benedick to possibly use the Township Hall for a Thanksgiving meal for the public on Thanksgiving Day. Since that time, Ms. Benedick has informed Supervisor Ahle they are going to utilize the facilities at the Lutheran Church. The reason being, the volunteers there have the food servers' certification. Mrs. Benedick's letter also asked if the Township would like to participate in other ways; committee member, volunteer, provide donations of food substance or monetary donations. Ahle offered any board member who is interested, to contact Mrs. Benedick. He added their committee meetings are on the same evening as the Township meetings. She did tell Ahle she will keep him informed so he may pass any information to the board. Trustee Bevirt asked there was any money in the budget to make a monetary donation. Ahle said he will speak with the Rummage Sale volunteers to sponsor a donation since this is the type of events they would donate towards. They agreed to have it on next month's agenda to vote on whether or not to make a donation. A discussion followed.

Approval of a Hall Rental Request submitted by Cindy Hill, representative of Home Instead Senior Care for the purpose of training for Caregivers on Thursday, September 25, 2014 from 4:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to approve the Hall Rental Request submitted by Cindy Hill for the purpose of training for Caregivers and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approve payment to Overhead Door when the invoice is received for repairs made to the handicapped door on the west side of the building. When this issue came up, the board was contacted to approve the necessary repairs. A discussion followed

Supervisor Gary Ahle made a motion to approve payment when the invoice is received from Overhead Door for the necessary repairs made to the handicapped door and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC INPUT (COMMENTS)

Trustee Doug Scott suggested kick-plates for the doors on the west side of building because of walkers and wheelchairs. Also, a handicapped restroom sign on the bathroom door by the new kitchen. Right now, there is nothing on the door to indicate it is a restroom. A brief discussion followed.

Supervisor Ahle reminded to the board to think about the bicycle trail talked about earlier in the meeting. Any questions and/or concerns need to be addressed. Ahle said his main concern is the maintenance and liability. Highway Commissioner Downs said he has found out that MFT (Motor Fuel Tax) money is being used for these grants which Downs is totally against. The reason MFT money is being used is because of what Mr. Fero said earlier; keeping the bicyclists / pedestrians off the public roads, lessening the traffic as a reasoning. More discussion followed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees and seconded by Supervisor Gary Ahle. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8: 30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David M. Witter
Town Clerk