



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 6 2016  
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 Gary Hursey, Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth Joseph and Doug Scott; Township Attorney Cory Easton and Deputy Town Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup and Recorder Sheri Heil.

Others present: Ken Diel, Gary Fohne, Kim Sabella, Joe McKay and Nick Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2015 meeting as written and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

A discussion regarding use of the Township Hall by O'Fallon Sunrise Rotary for their meetings every Wednesday morning from 6:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M. Supervisor Ahle turned the subject over to Rotary representatives Kim Sabella and Joe McKay.

Kim Sabella introduced herself and gave a brief history of the Sunrise Rotary. They have been around since 2002 and have 62 members with ages ranging from 45 – 62 years of age. They have been meeting at the O'Fallon Methodist Church for the past 12 - 13 years. Since that time, they have outgrown the space and are looking for a new location to hold their weekly meetings.

Sabella sees this as an opportunity to benefit both the club and the Township. The club meets every Wednesday and would require use of the hall from 6:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M. which includes set-up and break down time. Of course, more details will have to be discussed and the club does have some more specific requests to consider too.

Sunshine Rotary President Joe McKay had some specific points to be addressed in consideration of the Township as a place to hold their meetings. Leaving the Methodist Church, the club is looking for a place to try and form a partnership with. This means, the club would assist with unfunded projects/improvements needed in or around the meeting space which in turn, helps the provider.

The Rotary has met at least 2 times in the past when their meetings coincided with a Food Drive to aid the O'Fallon Community Food Pantry. This proved to be most convenient for both the Rotary and the Food Pantry by being located next door to each other.

Seating space is currently for 65 members which McKay hopes to increase up to possibly 70-75 members. Other specifics: table configurations and reconfigurations; storage space for the Rotary banners, flags, plaques and other items needed for meetings. McKay would like to see if the banners could be hung up and possibly stay up all the time. If need be, the Rotary would purchase an upright closet to keep their personal effects in within a locked closet. Other specifics: ample parking; display of Rotary flags inside; a small sign outside informing the public that the Rotary meets at this location.

One issue is access to the facility: possibly one of the trusted Rotarians be provided with keys for the gate and the facility to prevent having a paid monitor come in so early for just 2 hours. Or, the Rotary pays the monitor for their time. The group uses the public address system (PA system), audio/visual, computers, slides, etc. They have different speakers every week and typically they bring in their own portable USB flash drives to connect to the computer or, they bring in a computer to connect to the projector.

McKay added how can the Rotary “partner” with the Township to assist with improvements or unfunded projects that need attention. These are things the Rotary is able to afford to help with the maintenance and upkeep of their selected facility. They are looking at a couple of other places but, McKay and other committee members feel the Township is the most logical place.

Supervisor Ahle opened questions from the board: Trustee Doug Scott asked if a sign out front is permitted on Government property. Ahle answered that the Food Pantry sign is posted in front. Ken Diel added the City has a sign in front of the Katy Cavins building for the afternoon Rotary Club which is permitted. Ahle said they will have Township attorney Cory Easton looked into questions and/or concerns. Trustee Kenny Joseph asked about secured space availability to store the Rotary’s storage cabinet and other supplies. Ahle said he sure the Township will be able to make the necessary space if needed. Trustee Scott wanted to know if the space is used by anybody else at that time of the morning which it is not.

Trustee Gary Hursey spoke very highly of the Sunshine Rotary and their time at the O’Fallon Methodist Church. Being a past member, Hursey saw some of the improvements for the church provided by the Rotary Club. He doesn’t see any problem with a “partnership” between the Rotary and Township.

Trustee Jeff Bevirt said he is comfortable with the Rotary meeting at the Township. His only concern is the early access to the facility. Supervisor Ahle said some thought has been given to past Township Trustee Craig Hubbard, who is a member of the Sunrise Rotary and is presently the key master for access to the Methodist Church. Ahle suggested that Hubbard be a de facto monitor for the possible Rotary meetings at the Township. They would only have access to the hall facility and not the Township office. Ahle said they will have attorney Easton look at a contract/lease for use of the hall for \$1 yearly fee.

Town Clerk Dave Witter asked about cleanup (trash, floors, tables) after a catered breakfast is served, who is responsible for cleanup. Sabilla said the Rotary assumes all cleanup responsibility and takes everything with them when they leave. Leftovers are taken either to the YMCA or the Food Pantry.

Highway Road Commissioner Mark Downs concerns were if incimate weather sets in, the Road District’s main priority is maintaining the Township roads first. He cannot guarantee the parking lot or sidewalks will be cleared by 6:30 in the morning. McKay said if weather is really bad, it’s his call to cancel a meeting. He added that the church parking lot was never cleared at that early hour in the morning either.

Trustee Hursey asked how long the meetings actually are. McKay said he rings the bell at 6:55 A.M. and are typically done by 8:00 A.M. Sometimes it may run a little longer depending on the speaker but generally, set up and break down 6:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M. A brief discussion followed.

Supervisor Ahle excused the Sunshine Rotary Committee from the remainder of the meeting at 7:19 P.M. but were told they were welcome to stay if they wanted.

Supervisor Ahle informed the board that a check in the amount of \$234.50 was received from the group Savers for the remaining items picked up after the December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Rummage Sale. In the past, a group was paid by the Rummage Sale to remove remaining items. A discussion followed on how smooth the transition with the new organization and the rummage sale volunteers went.

### APPROVAL OF SUPERVISORS BILLS

Town Fund	\$	29,104.37
General Assistance Fund	\$	4,502.14

Trustee Jeff Bevirt made a motion to authorize the Supervisor's bills to be paid accordingly and seconded by Trustee Kenny Joseph. Roll Call: Hursey – aye; 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 November 30, 2015 through January 4, 2016:

(See attachment A)

Downs said the ditching operations and culvert cleaning on all the roads proved to be very beneficial because of the excessive rainfall after Christmas. There were 2 roads that had to be shut down because of the rising water from Silver Creek. Old Lebanon-Troy Rd. was closed and barricaded on both sides of Silver Creek on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> and reopened on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. N. Rieder Rd. was closed and barricaded on both sides on Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> and reopened on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. A group of residents on Weil Rd. were completely cut off on both sides because of the rising water. One of the residents had a small john boat which they provided for the stranded residents to use back and forth to dry land. This proved to be very helpful for the Road District, leaving them able to attend to other water related issues. Downs was disappointed to find after the waters receded and the roads were reopened, somebody had stolen the john boat. A "BOLO" flier has been created and distributed to try and get the boat returned with no questions asked. Nick Miller of the O'Fallon Weekly is also placing a notice in his paper. A brief discussion followed.

A used 50 ft. conveyor, hopper and sprayer for the salt storage building has been purchased and delivered. The purchase of a used system saved the Road District approximately \$8,000. In addition, the City of O'Fallon had 2 - 4,000 gallon tanks which were not being used. Downs asked the City if he could get one or both of these tanks to store extra deicer. The City delivered them cleaned and free of charge on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. This too saved the Road District approximately \$4,000 for 1 or \$8,000 for 2 tanks.

The addition of a sprayer on the conveyor allows pre-treatment of the rock salt before it goes into the storage dome with a beet juice concentrate to make it more effective. A brief discussion followed.

All the trucks and equipment are ready to go in case of incimate weather.

APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER’S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	38,485.85
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	26,786.84

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

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Witter reported on the township website with 528 visits in December: 78.0% were new visitors and 22.0% were returning visitors. 91.5% from United States and 3.41 from Brazil; locally: O’Fallon – 21.8%, Belleville – 10.8%, St. Louis – 6.6%, Chicago – 5.1%, Collinsville – 3.8%, and Fairview Heights – 2.27%.

Witter received a commercial appeal over \$100,000 for the Kingston Group LLC d.b.a. Holiday Inn Express which is technically in Shiloh but in O’Fallon Township. A law firm is handling the assessment reduction.

TRUSTEES REPORT

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SENIOR REPORT

Trustee Doug Scott said the last Committee dinner was on December 3<sup>rd</sup> was very well attended with 108 tickets sold and only 3 no shows. The next dinner may not be until the end of March depending on funding. Trustee Jeff Bevirt said the Youth Committee has some money available in the “Special Events” fund and suggested the Youth Committee sponsor a dinner for the Senior Committee. Trustee Scott was very appreciative and will inform the seniors at the next meeting on Tuesday January 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.

Scott mentioned there has not been any increase in the Senior Committee budget in the past 11 years. With food and entertainment prices increasing, he hopes to get their budget at the next budget hearing as well as \$1 increase in ticket prices.

YOUTH REPORT

Trustee Kenny Joseph reported the next Youth Committee meeting will be on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M. It has been moved back 1 week because of the Martin Luther King Holiday on January 18<sup>th</sup>.



Trustee Jeff Bevirt reported the Committee went Christmas Caroling on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Instead of having just 6 -7 students participating, one of the students invited fellow singers from the 'show choir' to participate, which increased the group to 22 carolers total. The group went to the Colonnade Senior Living, the Senior Apartments and Cambridge House where all were well received.

Bevirt will begin making arrangements with the YMCA for the next event as well as work on having some banners and signs made up for advertisement.

#### PLANNING REPORT

No Report.

Trustee Gary Hursey asked if any notification was received pertaining to an approved Planning Hearing by the Township that was turned down by the St. Clair County Board in November 2015. Nothing was ever received. The property in question is located at 8676 US Highway 50, Lebanon, IL and owned by James Ford and Thomas Williams.

#### AFTER PROM REPORT

Trustee Jeff Bevirt said the After Prom will be from 12:00 A.M. – 5:00 A.M. on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the St. Clair Bowl. Donation request letters are in the works along with local mailing addresses.

Trustee Doug Scott asked Bevirt to refresh the board's memory on how many students attend this function. Bevirt said approximately 500 attend the After Prom. This does not include all the volunteers that attend. There are all kinds of food, snacks, games, caricature artist, photo booth and of course, free bowling. A brief discussion followed.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supervisor Ahle said the new automatic garage door opener was installed on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> by JAS Overhead Doors from Belleville. It can be operated from the office and monitored on the security cameras. Past events warranted that the door not remain open all day. It has also reduced the number of items that normally cannot be accepted but have been 'dumped off' in the past. Ahle added that some of the rummage sale volunteers believe because the door is closed, and the contributors have to come into the office to sign a paper, the donations will decrease because of the inconvenience. Ahle said there are guidelines to follow and the Township cannot be responsible for disposing of items that are not acceptable or, paints and other chemicals that have to be disposed of legally. Trustee Jeff Bevirt and Ahle thanked Clerk Dave Witter for finding a company that would install the side-mount door opener.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ahle said Erick Harris, Fire Educator/Inspector for the City of O'Fallon came in on December 8<sup>th</sup> to do a routine inspection. There were a couple of damaged ceiling tiles which needed to be replaced. There were some batteries that needed replacing in the emergency exit signs and lights in the hall. The food pantry had a fire extinguisher that was overdue for inspection. All of these items have been repaired/replaced.

## PUBLIC INPUT

Ken Diel complimented the Road District for all the work and maintenance they do on the Township roads. He wanted to address a location on Simmons Rd. located past the bridge on the curve there is a drop-off that seems to be an area of concern. Simmons Rd. has become a high traffic area with cars, bicyclists and walkers. Mr. Diel would like to see if a guardrail can be installed. There have been incidents where cars have slid or gone off that shoulder and if somebody hadn't witnessed it, nobody would know a car was down there. This is particularly serious with the heavy rains and high waters.

Highway Commissioner Downs responded that he has submitted a bid request for a guardrail specifically for that exact area Mr. Diel was addressing. Since the Road District recently removed some trees from that area, the need for a guardrail has become more necessary. Downs said when he first took office as Highway Commissioner, one of his first projects was to rough that section of road because it was too slick. Cost permitting, this will be taken care of. A brief discussion followed.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Kenny Joseph to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

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David M. Witter  
Town Clerk