



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 5, 2016
O'Fallon Township
801 E. State St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

CALL TO ORDER at 7:01 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gary Ahle, Town Clerk David Witter, Trustees Gary Hursey, Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth Joseph and Doug Scott, Township Attorney Cory Easton, Deputy Town Clerk Debbie Allsup and Recorder Sheri Heil.

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to excuse Highway Commissioner Mark Downs from the meeting and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Per Supervisor Ahle, there is no need to vote to excuse the Highway Commissioner.

Others present: Gary Fohne, Nick Miller and Vern Malare

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING ON September 7th, 2016

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the minutes of the September 7th Board of Trustees' meeting and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Since Trustee Gary Hursey had to leave early, Supervisor Gary Ahle wanted to bring up the Approval of Resolutions setting compensation of Township Officials before Hursey had to leave.

Trustee Doug Scott said this is his first time as a board member to vote on this and asked if the salaries coincide with the number of hours worked. Ahle said it is and that this vote is for the position and not the person, whoever it may be, for the next 4 (four) years.

Scott commented that he thought the Supervisor's salary was low but Ahle said he wants to keep it the same. Trustee Hursey added with the current climate of taxation, most people are not in favor of any salary increases (elected officials). Hursey added he did not run for a Trustee position for the money but as a public servant. Some officials work more hours than others but he doesn't think the public is in the mood to raise salaries of elected officials at this time. Board members were in agreement.



Trustee Scott said the Highway Road Commissioner is underpaid and wanted to discuss an increase in his salary with regard to the number of hours worked and the improvements made in the past several years with the road district and the Highway Commissioner's salary should reflect it.

Trustee Hursey asked what is included with the Highway Commissioner's salary besides a company truck. Deputy Clerk Debbie Allsup responded; IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund), 2 (two) life insurance policies and health insurance. She also reiterated the salary is for the position and not the person.

Trustee Kenny Joseph inquired if the Highway Commissioner has ever expressed an opinion on the salary. Supervisor Ahle said he has never heard one. Scott said he thinks it should still be considered. Hursey said with the current economy and other factors, people are fed up with taxes and even though this would not increase the taxes a lot, it is just not the right time to do this.

It was suggested and agreed to table the Highway Road Commissioner's resolution until the next meeting when he is available to comment on the issue. Town Clerk David Witter suggested to vote on each resolution individually instead of altogether.

Supervisor Ahle informed the board of changes in the Town Clerk's health insurance related to the number of hours worked. The insurance company does not consider the position full-time because of the salary. So, whoever the Clerk may be at next election, there is a possibility there will not be compensation as far as health insurance. Ahle added the same thing happened years ago when he was in a Trustee position. Hursey said for the record, the Trustees' have not received health insurance benefits as long as he has been on the board. Presently, Supervisor, Highway Road Commissioner and the Town Clerk receive benefits.

Clerk Witter explained why his benefits are in question; the insurance company determined that his salary was not enough to be compensated at minimum wage. To warrant benefits, the Clerk's salary would have to be increased from \$5,900 to approximately \$12,800 with the present healthcare provider. Supervisor Ahle said after speaking with the healthcare representative, other carriers may adopt the same rule because of the affordable healthcare act. After discussions, Witter speaking only about the Clerk's position believes the health insurance and the IMRF should be deleted from the Clerk's position but the term life insurance should remain. Trustees Hursey and Joseph were in agreement with Witter's opinion on the Clerk position. More discussion followed.

Approval of Resolution 16-03 setting compensation of the Township Supervisor for the 4 (four) year term beginning May 15, 2017 and ending May 17, 2021 at \$23,173.00 per year.

A motion was made by Trustee Kenny Joseph to approve Resolution 16-03 setting compensation of the Township Supervisor as presented and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Hursey – aye; Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of Resolution 16-04 setting compensation of the Road District Treasurer for the 4 (four) year term beginning May 15, 2017 and ending May 17, 2021 at \$1,000.00 per year.

A motion was made by Trustee Kenny Joseph to approve Resolution 16-04 setting compensation of the Road District Treasurer as presented and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Hursey – aye; Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Ahle asked the board if all were in agreement to table the Highway Commissioner’s resolution until the next meeting when he is available.

Trustee Bevirt asked if they could discuss the topic a little bit more. He asked Scott what type of increase he would want the Highway Commissioner to receive. Bevirt went on to say the way he looks at it, a \$1,000.00 increase is approximately 2.5% increase and he would not want to do much more than that. Scott asked if they are allowed to do increases gradually over the 4 (four) year term. Supervisor Ahle said the board can specify a salary for each year of the term if they choose to. Bevirt added, not talking about the person but the Highway Road Commissioner position, Bevirt believes is deserving of an increase in pay. A brief discussion followed.

Trustee Jeff Bevirt made a motion to table Resolution 16-05 setting compensation of the Highway Commissioner until the next meeting on November 2nd, 2016 and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Hursey – aye; Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of Resolution 16-06 setting compensation of the Township Clerk for the 4 (four) year term beginning May 15, 2017 and ending May 17, 2021 at \$5,991.00 per year. Town Clerk Dave Witter added that the healthcare benefits be deleted. Trustee Hursey feels the IMRF benefit should remain the same.

A motion was made by Trustee Kenny Joseph to approve Resolution 16-06 setting compensation of the Township Clerk along with the deletion of healthcare benefits and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey.

Trustee Doug Scott asked what is the job description of the Township Clerk. Witter responded; Taking of the Minutes, preparing of the minutes, preparing FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests, notices of meetings, runs to County Courthouse and the Annual Township meeting and also, started our current website. Trustee Hursey asked Scott why he was asking. Scott said that \$6,000.00 is a lot of money and he wondered if the annual salary was an appropriate amount for the duties of that job. Trustee Joseph said that when it comes to the minutes, the Clerk is responsible for the accuracy of those minutes. Witter added that amount of money may have seemed like a lot of money 16 (sixteen) or 20 (twenty) years ago. Bevirt said the Township Association lists the Clerk’s salaries in Zone 4 which St. Clair County falls under. It listed that 149 (one hundred forty-nine) Townships responded out of 307 (three hundred seven) surveys sent out: \$1,000.00 - \$5,000.00 salary – 70%; \$5,000.00 - \$10,000.00 salary – 22%. Bevirt said O’Fallon does fall in the correct curve and feels it is a fair compensation. Everyone agreed.

Roll Call: Hursey – aye; Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of Resolution 16-07 setting compensation of the Township Trustees for the 4 (four) year term beginning May 15, 2017 and ending May 17, 2021 at \$2,400.00 per year.

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to approve Resolution 16-07 setting compensation of the Township Trustees as presented and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Hursey – aye; Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

PLANNING REPORT

Trustee Gary Hursey that the Township Planning/Zoning meeting on Tuesday, October 18th, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. for to change a zone from agricultural to a residential zone for the purpose of building a home. The request is made by Kenneth Joseph.

Trustee Gary Hursey excused himself from the meeting at 7:34 P.M.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Memorial Hospital East Medical Office Building will hold a 'Groundbreaking Ceremony' on Tuesday, October 11th, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.

Scheduled to pick up election supplies from St. Clair County on Wednesday, November 2nd, 2016 – will begin distributing them to each of the 18 (eighteen) precincts.

Early voting at O'Fallon Township will begin on Monday, October 24th thru Monday, November 7th, 2016.

APPROVAL OF SUPERVISORS BILLS

Town Fund	\$ 21,978.18
General Assistance Fund	\$ 2,460.20

Trustee 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

RaDAR report provided.

(See attachment A)



Overlay project still ongoing. A partial payment was made out to Rooter Asphalt, Inc. The balance will be paid upon completion. Since the estimate given by Rooter was lower than expected, the Highway Commissioner added Bernhardt Rd. to the overlay project.

APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$ 214,348.78
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 13,446.78

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

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Clerk Dave Witter reported the petitions for the Consolidated Election on April 4th, 2017 are available in the office during business hours. Turn in dates for the petitions are December 12th until 5:00 P.M. on December 19th. The required number of signatures are 320 – 511. The increase in signatures is due in part from the election 4 (four) years ago when the District 90 tax increase was on the ballot and the voter turnout was greater.

TRUSTEES REPORT

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SENIOR REPORT

Trustee Doug Scott reported the last Senior Dinner was on September 15th. A total of 98 (ninety-eight) tickets were sold with 11 (eleven) no-shows. The Waterloo German Band performed.

The next dinner is on October 20th at 5:30 P.M. This is the same day as the 'Wurstmarkt' dinner at O'Fallon United Church of Christ.

YOUTH REPORT

Trustee Kenny Joseph reported the “Take a Senior to the Ball Game” was a success and a good time was had by all 25 (twenty-five) in attendance. The only issue was the bus had to park farther down the road than usual which, made it difficult for some of the seniors. The seats were very good and in a dry area from the rain delay. A brief discussion followed.

Approval of the appointment of Sabrina Parish to the O’Fallon Township Youth Committee.

Trustee Kenny Joseph made a motion to approve the appointment of Sabrina Parish to the Youth Committee as presented and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

Bevirt asked O’Fallon Weekly editor Nick Miller if he would put a post in his newspaper about new memberships for the Youth Committee.

AFTER PROM REPORT

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont.)

Supervisor Ahle informed the board he called Craig Hubbard from the County to contact Zoning about the properties along East State St. with overgrown lawns. Ahle walked down the street to take photographs of the properties and one of the tenants invited Ahle in to show the conditions of the property they are renting. Ahle spoke with Dallas in the Zoning Dept. and explained the situation and condition of some of the properties. Dallas said this may be a bigger problem than they thought and might have to contact the Health Dept. A discussion followed.

Ahle contacted John West from the County about a complaint he received from a resident on Carson Dr. The resident has large branches from a neighbor’s tree hanging over their roof. Ahle later heard back from Dallas in Zoning regarding the property in question. Dallas informed Ahle there was a bid to tear the house down but it was over \$10,000.00 so the County couldn’t do it. This property is a different address than the original complaint but is scheduled to be tore down soon.

NEW BUSINESS

Received a request from the O’Fallon Thanksgiving Feast Committee seeking donations of food, volunteer labor and money for their Annual Thanksgiving dinner.

Supervisor Gary Ahle made a motion to approve a monetary donation in the amount of \$200.00 to the O’Fallon Thanksgiving Feast and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: Bevirt – aye; Ahle – aye; Joseph – aye; Scott – aye. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees and seconded by Trustee Kenny Joseph.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David M. Witter
Town Clerk