



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 4, 2017
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, Town Clerk David Witter, Trustees: Doug Scott, Frank Morski, Todd Roach and Gary Hursey. Deputy Town Clerk Debbie Allsup and Recorder Sheri Heil.

Others present: Fred Boch, David Hopkins and Gary Fohne.

Township Attorney Cory Easton arrived at 7:02 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the minutes of the September 6th meeting as presented and seconded by Trustee Todd Roach. Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Received a request from Paul Evans, President of the O'Fallon Shiloh Chamber of Commerce, on funding for the study regarding consolidation for OTHS, and the K-8 districts for O'Fallon, Central and Shiloh. Supervisor Ahle introduced David Hopkins, representative for the Chamber of Commerce to speak on behalf of Paul Evans.

Hopkins stated the reason the Chamber has agreed to take on this project is because they feel they can present an unbiased look into the topic and remain neutral and give the constituents a meaningful evaluation. The superintendents from each district are in favor of this study along with the boards voting in favor also. Once informed by a representative from the Illinois State Board of Education, and each school district votes in favor before any consolidation can begin to happen, the Chamber will begin to interviewing "experts". They will look into the financial aspect, costs and benefits, threats and opportunities.

It is unclear if there will be a financial gain at this time. They have interviewed one advisor and the initial scenario cost will be \$12,500. Hopkins said there are different scenarios on how to look at the different school districts; as a whole or separate. 4 different school districts means 6 different combinations. After the initial cost of \$12,500, each different combination/scenario will cost another \$2,500. Investigating all combinations could cost up to \$25,000 (estimate).

So far, the City of O'Fallon has approved \$7,500 towards the study. The Village of Shiloh has approved \$5,000. One reason the Chamber is approaching the Township instead of the school districts; when district consolidation happens throughout the state, almost always, the studies are done by the school districts themselves. Which again, does not favor an unbiased point of view. The Chamber, not being a political organization will put the information out to the general public so an informed decision can be made. Hopkins opened the topic up for discussion.

Trustee Doug Scott asked if Pontiac-William Holliday School Dist. #105 will be included. Hopkins said the majority of their students go to Belleville East High School. Trustee Todd Roach explained the boundary lines for OTHS and BEHS. Hopkins said it has been brought up in discussion about PWH being included. More discussion followed about what districts will or will not be included. Hopkins stated this is not going to be easy or quick. He estimates the study should take every bit of 6 months. Scott asked if other Townships will be approached to make a donation for the study. Hopkins said they have not yet but they will.

Trustee Gary Hursey asked who approves the consolidation. Hopkins said the voters make the decision. A brief discussion followed. Hopkins said other studies were done in 1996 and again in 2006. These studies can be found on the website; www.best4schools.net.

Trustee Todd Roach asked how much money has been raised so far. Hopkins said the City of O'Fallon has approved \$7,500 and the Village of Shiloh has approved \$5,000. The Committee met recently and the topic of fundraising and how they should go about it was discussed. They want to keep from someone funding the study which throws them in the biased category. These details still need to be hashed out.

Trustee Frank Morski asked who is on the committee. Hopkins named: a few but said it is not complete. They would like to get some representation from each of the school districts. Deputy Clerk Debbie Allsup asked the timeline as to when the committee would need the money. Hopkins said they don't know yet. As Hopkins put it: job 1 – learn the process; job 2 – interview the experts which will possibly be 4 interviews. He does not know how long this will take. Then, to commission one for the study.

Supervisor Ahle asked about this item going on a ballot during a regular election. Hopkins said it may be possible to make it on the November 2018 ballot. Hopkins added the purpose of the study is not to get it on the ballot but, to see if it makes sense to move forward. Roach asked what happens if does appear feasible to move forward, what next? Hopkins said the Chamber will back out and if individuals on that committee would want to move forward, that will be up to them. Morski asked if the Chamber is putting money into the study. Hopkins said the Chamber is not for profit but, has agreed if needed, up to \$5,000. It is not in their budget but, they have agreed to make it available.

In closing, Ahle informed Hopkins that O'Fallon Township does not have the amount of funding like the City and Shiloh. Hopkins thanked the board for their time and excused himself from the meeting at approximately 7:17 P.M.

Ahle told the board he thinks they may be able to come up with \$400 - \$500 to donate along with possible use of the hall for meetings. He suggested waiting to make any decision.

Trustee Frank Morski made a motion to table the request for funding by the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce till a later date and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott. Roll Call: Scott – aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

The O'Fallon Women's Club is sponsoring a Trivia Night at the Katy Cavins Center on Saturday, October 28th, 2017. Doors open at 6:00 P.M. and trivia begins at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF SUPERVISORS BILLS

Town Fund	\$	28,661.98
General Assistance Fund	\$	2,648.36

Trustee Gary Hursey made a motion to authorize the Supervisor's bills to be paid accordingly and seconded by Trustee Todd Roach. Roll Call: Scott – aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

RaDAR report provided.

(See attachment A)

Trustee Doug Scott said with the new gate installed, the rest of the fence looks like it needs to be painted. Trustee Gary Hursey said he would like to see the fencing removed from around the Township but keep the fencing around the Road District for security purposes. The traffic flow of the parking lot was brought up and suggested it needs to be redone since there is only one entrance now. The Road Commissioner does have plans for the parking lot and the old entrance-way as well. A discussion followed.

Hursey asked if bids for the electric gate were submitted. His reason for asking is because he would like to encourage the use local businesses. Bids have to be submitted if the project cost is \$25,000 or more. Morski stated he didn't know of any local companies that do electric gates. A discussion followed.

APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	50,252.22
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	34,195.24

Trustee Doug Scott made a motion to authorize the Highway Commissioner's bills to be paid accordingly and seconded by Trustee Frank Morski. Roll Call: Scott – aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

None.

TRUSTEES REPORT

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SENIOR REPORT

Trustee Doug Scott reported the Senior Committee Dinner on September 21st, 103 tickets sold and 92 attended with 13 residents from Cambridge House. The Committee is looking for a new member to replace Barbara Deckard. The next dinner will be on Thursday, October 26th, at 5:30 P.M. Scott said they moved it back 1 week because of the Wurstmarkt at the United Church of Christ on the 19th.

YOUTH REPORT

Trustee Todd Roach reported the Youth Committee met on Monday, September 18th. The meeting was a short one. The main focus still, is getting more youth members signed up to keep the Committee going. Roach wants to get in contact with the Honor Society at the OTHS and also the Baptist High School. The Cardinal Baseball game on the 29th was well attended and a good time for all. Next meeting is on Monday, October 16th at 7:30 P.M.

PLANNING REPORT

Trustee Gary Hursey reported on September 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. the Township Planning Committee met to consider a request for an Area/Bulk Variance to allow the construction of a single-family residence 12 ft. from the side property line abutting a street instead of the 25ft. required in a "SR-MH" Single Family Residence Mobile Home Zone District on property known as 123 Behrens being submitted by Gary & Rebecca Oliviero of 125 Behrens. The Committee voted in favor of the variance. Since the County was meeting on Monday, October 2nd, it was necessary to have the Trustees vote via e-mail in order to render our vote to the County in time. The Trustees voted in favor also. No word on what the County voted.

Hursey suggested a gift card or something for the Planning Committee around the Holidays. They are dedicated and make sure their decisions are for the good of the community. Ahle said they are all invited to our Appreciation luncheon each year. Hursey said even a plaque of recognition. He also suggested something for Jeff Bevirt after years of working on the After Prom. Hursey said he believes what the Planning Committee does is significant and does affect people's lives and he would like to officially thank them for their dedication. Deputy Clerk Allsup pointed out there are other committees with a lot of volunteers. Trustee Roach agreed if you do something for one, the other committees should get the same. A discussion followed.

Supervisor Ahle said the residents on Carson St. and Behrens St. have received their notice of annexation to the City. He received a telephone call regarding the matter and Ahle told them that when they signed on for the water and sewer, this could happen. Trustee Morski explained; when getting water and sewer, the residents sign an agreement giving the City rights to annex them when the opportunity presents itself without any opposition. The Township upgraded the roads and installed the sewer through an intergovernmental grant. This annexation does not include the residents on the south side of East State St. A discussion followed regarding road maintenance on these roads as well as a reduction of tax dollars to the Township when the annexation goes through.

Supervisor Ahle mentioned that on the south side of the railroad tracks, behind the Township, there is work underway with sewer lines going in. Trustee Hursey added there is possibly some talk of running sewer to this side via under the tracks. This will still be way in the future. A discussion followed.

AFTER PROM REPORT

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No updates regarding the Sunrise Rotary building a storage structure by the Eagle Scouts. Ahle has not heard anymore more about the subject.

NEW BUSINESS

A request from Linda Benedick, chair of the O'Fallon Thanksgiving Feast Dinner, requesting a monetary donation to aid in their efforts for another successful Thanksgiving Day Dinner. The Township donated \$200 in the past.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve a monetary donation in the amount of \$200 to the O'Fallon Thanksgiving Feast Dinner and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Scott –aye; Morski – abstain; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

Trustee Morski abstained because he is on the Thanksgiving Feast Dinner board.

Approval of a Hall Rental request submitted by Les Halveland, representative of Union Local 74, for the purpose of a meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 from 3:00 to 4:30 P.M. and on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 from 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

A motion was made by Trustee Frank Morski to approve the hall rental request submitted by Les Halveland as presented and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Scott –aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of a Hall Rental request submitted by Trish Fots, representative of Cecil Management Group, for the purpose of a H.O.A. meeting for the Parcs of Arbor Green on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the hall rental request submitted by Trish Fots as presented and seconded by Trustee Frank Morski. Roll Call: Scott –aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

Approval of a Hall Rental request submitted by Trish Fots, representative of Cecil Management Group, for the purpose of a H.O.A. meeting for Lakepointe Villas on Tuesday, November 16, 2017 from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Scott to approve the hall rental request submitted by Trish Fots as presented and seconded by Trustee Frank Morski. Roll Call: Scott –aye; Morski – aye; Ahle – aye; Roach – aye; Hursey – aye. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Gary Hursey to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees and seconded by Trustee Doug Scott.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David M. Witter
Town Clerk