

## HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

November 16, 2011  
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 William Peach, Town Clerk David M. Witter, Trustees: Glenn Loyet, Jeff Bevirt and Kenneth Joseph; Deputy Town Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup and General Assistance Administrator/Recorder Sheri Heil.

Others present: Gary Fohne and Douglas Scott

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to approve the minutes of the previous Highway Commissioner's Meeting as presented and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- ☆ Finished up mowing weeds and picked up trash throughout Township
- ☆ Working on the removal of 50-60 (fifty-sixty) tires that were dumped on S. Reider Rd.
- ☆ Cleaned tractors and trucks
- ☆ Stored 2 (two) mowing tractors for the winter
- ☆ Brought in snow plows and V-boxes to be readied for use (greased and checked tension on chains and conveyers, checked all lights)
- ☆ Reset 2 (two) reflectors and post on Richwood School Rd.
- ☆ Replaced 10 (ten) chevrons on Simmons Rd. that were all painted
- ☆ Replaced stop sign at east end on Lemen Settlement Rd.
- ☆ Replaced faded, non-reflective stop sign at north end of Bowler Rd.
- ☆ Replaced missing reference signs at Heck and Witte Rds.
- ☆ Replaced broken stop sign post at Old Lebanon-Troy and Dressel Rds.
- ☆ Removed dead tree limbs on County Line Rd.

Supervisor Gary Ahle asked Highway Commissioner William (Bill) Peach where the tires that were dumped at now. Peach said they were still on the road bank until they can get coordinated with St. Clair Service Co. to pick them up and dispose of right away. Ahle asked Peach if he would be able to remove a tire that was left in the rummage sale garage when he takes the other ones for disposal. Peach said that he could. A brief discussion followed.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Peach stated that 4 (four) bids had been submitted for the Borchers Lane Widening Project on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The bids varied from \$802,738.00 to \$454,303.50 (eight hundred two thousand seven hundred thirty eight dollars to four hundred fifty four thousand three hundred three dollars fifty cents). Of the four, Rite-Way Excavating was the one accepted. There were some questions as to whether anything was omitted or overlooked with regards to such a low estimate. Rite-Way Excavating stated that they were comfortable with the bid they submitted. Peach said the paper work and bonding should be submitted next week and work can begin anytime thereafter.

Trustee Gary Hursey asked if there is any kind of warranty on the road work. Commissioner Peach said they don't have anything like that. Discussion continued with reference to a previous incident where a pipe raised up out of the ground after the job was completed and the Township had to pay the repair costs. Town Clerk David Witter who was present at the bid opening stated that this question did come up with the contractors. Witter said that the engineer stated adding a warranty on the work would raise the estimate up considerably and then would probably far exceed the initial cost of the repair itself. Witter and Peach said that the bidders informed them that none of the estimates included a warranty or guarantee. More discussion followed.

Commissioner Peach brought up the subject of an inspector for the project. Peach stated that as Highway Road Commissioner, he can do his own inspections on projects. On the last two projects Peach did hire an inspector. He stated that he received a quote in the amount of \$48,400.00 (forty eight thousand four hundred dollars) from the engineer to inspect the Borchers Lane Project. Trustee Hursey again asked if the engineer inspects the work that the contractor is doing, does the engineer guarantee the work if something goes wrong. More discussion followed. Hursey stated and wanted it on record that he is shocked there is not some sort of insurance policy or guarantee that the road is put in properly and will last a year. Since the repair on Behrens Street that the Township ended up paying for, Hursey believes some sort of insurance should come with the amount of money being spent on these projects. A brief discussion ensued. Trustee Jeff Bevirt said if you have a reputable engineer and is following the state guidelines for the road specifications then that should be enough. Clerk David Witter then offered the suggestion that on the next road job, Commissioner Peach could have the engineer bid the project with and without a warranty so that Peach and the Board can see the difference in price and decide from there. More discussion followed. The Board felt that this should be done on the next road project bid.

Trustee Glenn Loyet asked Commissioner Peach what does Phase I consist of. Commissioner Peach stated that the first phase would consist of materials and the removal of 5 (five) dead trees, along with 5-7 (five-seven) other trees which the residents want to be kept to a minimum. The existing road will be used and the ditches along the roadside will have storm drains installed, then the road will be laid over that. The contractor's timeline of the first phase will be 90 (ninety) working days. Phase II will begin next year after the new budget is approved. Trustee Loyet asked if the road will be inaccessible during either of the phases. Peach stated at no time, will the road be inaccessible for the residents. Trustee Hursey inquired as to what section the Township will be working on. Peach said he will be working at the east end near Spengler's driveway and working westward. Peach then explained that he will be using millings instead of rock to pour over the culverts and as a road bed which can be reapplied as needed.

Trustee Loyet asked how many feet of road is the project. Peach said the specs call for 1,014 ft. (one thousand fourteen feet) of storm drains and estimated approximately a ½ mile (one half) of road. Loyet asked if the black-top would be part of the second phase. Peach said they did not want to

piece-mill the black-top so that will all be done last so it will be a good uniform lay. More discussion followed. Commissioner Peach will oversee the Borchers Road Project.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Peach said he attended a meeting in Morrisonville where one of the topics was the FCC Narrowbanding Requirements. Peach said that all licensees using a 25 kHz radio system should migrate to narrowband 12.5 kHz channels by January 1, 2013. Peach said that he met with a sales representative from SECOM Wireless Communications on Wednesday. After the meeting, Peach contacted IE Communications who handles the township's radio communications. They told Peach that this new mandate does not apply to the radio communications the township is currently using.

Peach said he received the cooperative agreement from the City of O'Fallon for snow plowing former township roads that are now city annexed. The figures to reimburse the Township are gauged with the Motor Fuel Tax Fund in accordance with IDOT. Trustee Kenneth Joseph inquired as to why after the City annexes a section of road, they don't plow it during the winter. Peach responded that the City doesn't have the manpower, and the residents in these areas are used to the Township taking care of their roads and want the same service. A brief discussion followed about the percentage that the City gets from the Township Levy. Trustees asked about how much the breakdown is that the Township is paid to take care of these roads. Peach said that it breaks down to approximately \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) per mile. Trustee Hursey was questioning the amount of reimbursement against the cost of salt, the wear and tear on the vehicles. Peach stated again that this all went through the St. Clair County Engineer who checked with IDOT guidelines.

Peach spoke about the stand-by generator for Food Pantry which is not working at present time. Peach said that he thought they could get buy with getting the motor rebuilt and while removing it, a couple of wires were broken on the fields. Trustee Loyet asked if it has ever been used. Supervisor Ahle said that particular generator had not been used. Discussion followed about the generator being on a timer to self-test once a month. The cost to replace the unit with a rebuilt one is \$8,460.00 (eight thousand four hundred sixty dollars). Supervisor Ahle asked how much it would cost to get a portable unit similar to the one that is used for the Township building. Peach responded it would be approximately \$40,000.00 – 50,000.00 (forty thousand – fifty thousand dollars). Peach said the rebuilt motor comes with a 90 (ninety) day warranty. Trustee Bevirt asked what size is the motor. Peach said the existing one is 45 kW and the new one will be 50 kW. Trustee Loyet asked if it would be feasible to just rent a portable one when needed instead of repairing this one. Trustee said you probably wouldn't be able to get one when you needed it. Trustee Bevirt asked who gave the estimate. Peach stated it came from Oakley Services out of Okawville, IL and the amount is \$8,460.00 (eight thousand four hundred sixty dollars). Clerk Witter asked if the Township is classified as an emergency shelter. Supervisor Ahle answered that it has always been. Peach explained to the Board the procedure for the portable generator that the Township uses is dual purpose.

#### READING AND APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	24,753.05
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	16,029.87

Trustee Loyet brought up the subject of any bill pertaining to the road district vehicles should have which vehicle the bill pertains to written on the invoice. He then showed an invoice from O'Fallon Tire & Propane for a tire replacement which had no vehicle information. Commissioner Peach stated that he has been doing what the board requested by putting the vehicle information on the invoices and apologized for the oversight.

A motion was made by Trustee Kenneth Joseph to authorize the payment of the Road District bills as all now read and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call: Loyet-abstain; Bevirt-aye; Ahle-aye; Joseph-aye and Hursey-aye. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC INPUT

Douglas Scott started by saying that he works with an architect and on the projects that he has inspected, everything has a warranty. Whether the owner is paying for this warranty, Mr. Scott did not know but, any work, including roads carried a warranty. Mr. Scott said the company with such a low bid on the Borcher's Lane project should raise some red flags. Making sure the company is paying the prevailing wage. If the company is bonded, the Township is protected. It may also bear some extra inspection duties. A brief discussion followed.

Mr. Scott wanted to state that after attending quite a few meetings, he has heard how much money is being put towards the engineering of Reider Rd. To satisfy his own curiosity, he went to IDOT who wasn't able to tell him anything. He went through about 4 (four) people at the County and eventually spoke with a County Engineer, Tom Holdner. Mr. Scott spoke with Mr. Holdner about the money the Township has spent on engineering costs on Reider Rd. He said that Mr. Holdner was dumbfounded that the Township was doing anything with this road. Mr. Holdner was said to not even believe that money was being spent, when it's not even certain that the intersection would even go through. This is on the County and they have no money. Mr. Scott said he asked when this was going to be done. Mr. Holdner's response is said to be that he had no idea or, if it would ever be done. Mr. Scott just wants to know, as a taxpayer, why the Township is putting all of its money into something that may never be. Trustee Hursey spoke that even though the County doesn't have any money, the project could get earmarked for federal funding and make it happen quickly. Peach spoke about all the preparation needed to replace the Railroad bridge overhead. Having the engineering done and getting approval before you can start the project. More discussion followed.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Glenn Loyet to adjourn the Highway Commissioner's Meeting and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

The Highway Commissioner's Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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David M. Witter  
Town Clerk