

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

April 18, 2012
O'Fallon Township
801 E. State St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gary Ahle, Highway Commissioner William Peach, Town Clerk David M. Witter, Trustees: Glenn Loyet, Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth Joseph and Gary Hursey; Deputy Town Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup, General Assistance Administrator/Recorder Sheri Heil and Township Attorney Cory Easton.

Others present: Douglas Scott, Steve Ficker and Gary Fohne.

APPROVAL OF ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING

A motion was made by Trustee Jeff Bevirt to approve the minutes of the Town Fund and General Assistance Fund Budget Hearing and seconded by Trustee Kenneth Joseph. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

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

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Peach stated the Road District had done the following during the period of March 21st, 2012 to April 18th, 2012:

- ☆ Picked up trash and cut brush
- ☆ Returned voting supplies to County
- ☆ Placed millings at mailboxes and where needed
- ☆ Cleaned culverts; fallen tree and limbs removed from road after storm and high winds
- ☆ Removed chains from trucks, motor grader and v-plow for storage
- ☆ Repaired and replaced over 20 signs throughout the Township for reasons of: missing, outdated, painted over and poor visibility because of faded reflective paint

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Highway Commissioner Peach informed the Board that Borchers Lane is going well. The grade stakes and elevations are in so the next phase of work can begin. Peach informed the board that they may be running real close with the figures and what is in the budget because of "change

orders” that needed to be done. Peach was not certain, but said down the line they may possibly have to move some line item money in order to finish the project. It was already known that the one big change order was moving the road because of property lines (\$84,638.63). Steve Ficker of Gonzalez Companies was on hand to assist with any questions the board may have. Ficker said another change was the realignment of drain pipes to save existing trees. Supervisor Gary Ahle asked how much over did Peach think the project was going. Peach estimated \$20,000 - \$30,000. Ficker stated that right now they are pretty close, but at projects end, deductions are subtracted from the total (i.e. not as many trees were removed than the bid was estimated for). Trustee Gary Hursey said he would like to see a final paper work with a break down of everything. Hursey went on to say that since Rite-Way Excavating was such a low bid compared to the next higher bid, he wants to make sure that things are not just being thrown in to make up for a low bid. A discussion followed regarding the property right-of-ways between the County records and the property owners’ records. The subject of the dirt being too wet and having to use kodel (\$6,000.00 total installed) in order to keep the project moving forward was brought up and questioned by the Trustees. Supervisor Ahle stated that with all the “change orders”, the original bid from Rite-Way of \$454,030.50 is now over approximately \$150,000 which Ficker confirmed. Ficker stated he doesn’t believe there should be anymore changes. He said that for the last month to month and a half, everything has been going good. Ahle wanted for the record, these “change orders” were absolutely necessary in order to keep the project going. Ficker confirmed. Trustee Jeff Bevirt noted his concern that if this could happen on this relatively small project, what could happen on the Rieder Road project which is a \$10,000,000.00 project. “Change orders” could be a million dollars. More discussion followed. Trustee Hursey stated for the record; to Highway Commissioner Peach, “you’re paid to be a supervisor and Steve Ficker is paid to be an engineer.” Hursey believes that the board should be provided with a full accounting of everything. Its one thing to be off \$20,000.00 but, over \$100,000.00, Hursey believes they should know exactly what this contractor did. Hursey stated he is also still bothered with the whole property line issue. Peach stated that nobody knew the property owner’s line ran all the way up to the road as long as he’s been Road Commissioner. County records didn’t show it either. Hursey asked how they finally find out. Peach said one of the owners showed their property deed. Peach stated he did not know how this mix-up with the property lines happened. Several properties showed their property lines went all the way up to the road and others did not. More discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Peach stated that he attended the West Nile Class at the Health Department in Belleville. Peach said they have more restrictions that they have to work with now. He has to fill out a Notice of Intent, print out and submit quite a few forms in order to be in compliance to administer chemicals to keep the mosquito population down.

READING AND APPROVAL OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER’S BILLS

Permanent Road Fund	\$	137,186.22
Road & Bridge Fund	\$	22,974.68

Highway Commissioner Peach asked if anybody had any question about the Road District bills. Trustee Gary Hursey asked if check #3528 in the amount of \$116,694.30 is the first pay out to Rite-Way Excavating. It was determined that \$251,000.00 has been paid out so far. Hursey asked if they should invite Rite-Way to the next Road Commissioner meeting to get some of the questions and concerns on the table. Trustee Jeff Bevirt and Kenneth Joseph agreed. Road Commissioner Peach stated it would be a representative of Rite-Way to come in and, not the owner. When asked why the owner would not come in, Peach said the owner admits he has a temper and cannot handle it. The board and supervisor all figured if they're spending this kind of money, somebody should meet with them. A discussion followed.

Highway Commissioner Peach dispensed with the reading of the Road District Bills.

A motion was made by Supervisor Gary Ahle to authorize the payment of the Road District bills and seconded by Trustee Jeff Bevirt. Roll Call: G. Loyet - abstain; J. Bevirt - aye; Ahle - aye; K. Joseph - aye; G. Hursey - nay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Trustee Kenneth Joseph said that he was greatly involved with Scott-Troy Road project. Joseph said they had certain things that were to be done on the project in writing and, were eliminated near the end of the project because of, Joseph figured, a lack of funds. Ahle again asked Steve Ficker if the change orders were absolutely necessary. Ficker responded they were necessary to keep the project going but some of them could have waited. A discussion followed.

Doug Scott asked Peach if they found property pins on Borchers Lane. Peach said they did find them. Scott's question was why the engineers didn't find these pins while surveying. That would have cleared up any property lines early on. Scott believes that the surveyors and/or engineers should assume some of the responsibility. Scott also believes the contractor should be able to provide an itemized statement for the labor and materials for the \$80,000.00. Ficker said he would get that for everybody. Scott said even going with the next bidder on the list, if these same oversights were in play, it would just raise that bid too. More discussion followed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Kenneth Joseph to adjourn the Highway Commissioner's meeting and seconded by Trustee Gary Hursey. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David M. Witter
Town Clerk