

ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

April 4, 2012
O'Fallon Township
801 E. State St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

CALL TO ORDER at 6:45 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gary Ahle, Highway Commissioner William Peach, Town Clerk David M. Witter, Trustees: Jeff Bevirt, Kenneth and Gary Hursey Joseph; Deputy Town Clerk/Recorder Debbie Allsup and General Assistance Administrator/Recorder Sheri Heil. Supervisor Ahle informed the board that Trustee Glenn Loyet will be late. Attorney Cory Easton arrived at 6:47 P.M.

Others present: Pat Judge, Steve Ficker and Gary Fohne

PRESENTATION OF 2012-2013 O'FALLON TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE No. 12-02

Supervisor Ahle asked the board if they have any questions or concerns with regards to the Road District Tentative Budget. Commissioner Peach stated that each of board members should have received an "explanation booklet" that was mailed to them.

Trustee Gary Hursey wanted to address Pat Judge and Steve Ficker from Gonzalez Companies. Hursey's concern is there has already been approximately \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) expended on just the engineering for Rieder Road. This year's budget is looking at almost the same expense, and it is still not definite if the proposed interchange will even go through. Hursey asked if it would be possible to slow down on the engineering or, split it up between 2012 and 2013. Commissioner Peach stated (as always) you have to have the engineering done to apply for any available grants. Hursey understands the procedures in order to gain funding. His concern is how to justify to the public why the Township is spending so much of the taxpayers' dollars on this project. Hursey also said that he believes we are a bit ahead of the curve with the project, and maybe we should just slow down a bit until more information becomes available. Peach stated that even if the interchange does not go through, according to state statutes, the railroad bridge over Rieder Road and the road itself need to be brought up to date. Commissioner Peach informed the board that there is a public meeting regarding the interchange plan scheduled on April 26th, 2012 at Mid America Airport. Trustee Jeff Bevirt asked what kind of time frame is there before any dirt is shoveled for the new bridge. Pat Judge stated that all the money budgeted may very well not be all used this year. Regarding the railroad bridge, Judge sees the bridge happening in the next 5-6 years (five to six). Judge added that it will take 2 (two) years just to get the permits from the Corp of Engineers. Regarding grant money, we need to first show the ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission) that we are able to achieve our 40% (\$1.8 million) of the \$4.5

million dollars for just the bridge. More discussion followed. Trustee Hursey did ask the engineers if they would provide to the board a written quarterly status report of the work completed and what is left to do. Pat Judge stated this could be done and added, that the total engineering cost for Rieder Road will be approximately \$1.1 million dollars. Supervisor Gary Ahle added that he just received a notification from the ICC stating we had been denied for the 2013 – 2017 Crossing Safety Improvement Program 5 (five) year plan. This can change every year though.

Supervisor Ahle stated to all present that all engineering contracts are to be kept in the office once they're signed. Ahle said there are million dollar engineering contracts and neither the clerk nor the board knows anything about them. They are not even being looked over by the Township attorney. Commissioner Peach said that it was an oversight. Town Clerk David Witter asked Peach if the contracts are here in the office. Peach said there should be a copy. Witter reminded Peach that a copy of any contracts always goes to the Clerk. Peach's reply was that procedures were somewhat lax with the previous Clerk. A brief discussion followed. Supervisor Ahle stated that all the time the board asked how much the cost of engineering, the contract amount is \$1,109,300.25 (one million one hundred nine thousand three hundred dollars and twenty five cents).

Trustee Kenneth Joseph questioned Peach on the administration item of his budget increasing from \$276,000.00 to \$292,450.00. Joseph asked if any of this increase was due to raises in the road district employees. Peach answered that raises had not yet been discussed. Supervisor Ahle stated the increase is put in also because the uncertainty of insurance premium increases.

Trustee Joseph next asked about the improvement project of a new 4 x 4 pickup truck (replacing his current pickup) with snow plow and salt spreader for \$60,000.00. Peach responded that since he is no longer driving the bigger trucks, it will be beneficial to have the pickup truck to assist when bad weather hits. Peach stated the pickup would be easier to maneuver in parking lots, cul-de-sacs and smaller roads.

Trustee Gary Hursey asked what the \$75,000.00 for Buildings & Property Improvements was to be used for. Peach said that a portion would go towards the Storm Water Compliance to ensure IEPA compliance that Gonzalez is working on. Peach said that if the city sanitary sewer extension comes through, there's money in that line item for that too. Gonzalez representative Steve Ficker stated they are also trying to go for grant money with regards to the sewer system. Ficker also said some work will be done on the facility parking lot; patching, sealing, resurfacing and/or re-striping. A brief discussion followed.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

APPROVAL OF 2012-2013 O'FALLON TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE No. 12-02

A motion was made by Trustee Kenneth Joseph to approve the 2012-2013 O'Fallon Township Road District Budget and Appropriation Ordinance No. 12-02 and seconded

by Trustee Gary Hursey. Roll Call. Bevirt - aye; Ahle - aye; Joseph - aye; G. Hursey - aye.
Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Road District Budget Hearing ended at 7:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David M. Witter
Town Clerk