

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

May 13, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Milton Township Board was held in the Board Room of the Milton Town Hall, 1492 N. Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois, on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, for the audit of town bills followed immediately by a business meeting.

Board Members Present: Supervisor O. Chris Heidorn - Clerk Gail P. Hinkle - Trustees Sal Falbo, Marty Keller, Yadav Nathwani and David Molitor. Other Elected Officials Present: Highway Commissioner Gary Muehlfelt and Assessor Chris LeVan. Also Present: Paula McGowen, Bob Krzyzewski, Ralph Hinkle, Bob Jacobsen, Barbara Szeszycki, Jeff Cooper and Joe Vanest.

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Heidorn at 7:30 p.m. Joe Vanest led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present and acting, and due notice had been mailed and posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Falbo moved, seconded by Trustee Keller, to approve the agenda as presented. Following discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

Trustee Nathwani moved, seconded by Trustee Molitor, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 1, 2014, be approved as submitted. The motion passed by voice vote.

Having concluded their audit of the Township bills in the earlier segment of the meeting, Chairman Heidorn moved, seconded by Trustee Falbo, that the bills having been audited be paid and charged to the proper accounts, and the certificates of accounts be filed by the Clerk for inspection by the inhabitants of the Township. Following discussion, the motion passed on the following roll-call vote: Trustees Falbo, Keller, Nathwani, Molitor and Chairman Heidorn. (5 Ayes), (0 Nays).

Public Forum – None.

Chairman's Report:

- General Assistance/Food Pantry – The Board was issued the monthly General Assistance Activity Report. Chairman Heidorn commented on the 22nd Annual Letter Carrier Food Drive held on May 10, 2014. Many volunteers were present including Board Members Falbo, Keller, Heidorn and Hinkle. The Township received 2,200 lbs. of food from the postal workers.
- Miscellaneous/Other – Chairman Heidorn distributed an article from the Daily Herald regarding the Butterfield Park District obtaining a 2.4-acre parcel at the northeast corner of Butterfield Road and Route 53, with the financial help of the Conservation Foundation. Originally this parcel was plan for a gas station, convenience store and a car wash. The will of the neighbors and the desire of the community prevented that type of commercialization of that property.
Chairman Heidorn expressed his concern regarding letters being sent to residents from the Illinois Deed Providers Inc. This company provides certified deeds for \$79.50. This may be a scam. If a property owner needs to obtain a property deed, they may go to the DuPage Recorder of Deeds office and obtain a certified copy for \$10.
The DuPage County Recorder of Deeds Office is promoting an awareness program for homeowners regarding property fraud. As a homeowner, you may register with the Recorder of Deeds. If someone records a fraudulent document, illegally uses your property or puts a lien on your property, the Recorder of Deeds Office will notify the homeowner immediately. Property and mortgage fraud is the fastest growing white collar crime.

Highway Commissioner – Mr. Muehlfelt reported on attending “Topics Day” in Springfield. He felt it was very educational and worth the time spent with our local legislatures. On the way home from Springfield, Mr. Muehlfelt along with Trustee Keller and Assessor LeVan visited the town of Washington, Illinois. This town was hit six months ago from a devastating tornado that destroyed over one thousand homes and took three lives. Mr. Muehlfelt wanted to show what devastation looks like and how, we as a community, should be prepare for such a tragedy. Having a trained and prepared CERT Team is an asset to this community in case of a disaster that may or will happen someday. Mr. Muehlfelt had suggested that Mr. Hinkle and the Leadership team should make a visit to Washington, Illinois to witness for themselves the destruction of a small community from one tornado. Trustee Keller commented that the city is still in disarray.

Mr. Muehlfelt reported the cost of salt purchased through the County for this year was \$48 per ton. Next year the cost will rise to \$70 per ton.

The unincorporated areas in Milton Township have over a thousand trees that are infected with the ash bore beetle. There was a bid opening this past week to contract a tree company to cut and remove the diseased trees. Mr. Muehlfelt budgeted \$50 to \$60 thousand for this project. The bids were higher than what he had anticipated.

Commissioner Muehlfelt passed out to the Board the 2014 Homeowners Highway Department Handbook along with a list of County Recycling Centers.

Assessor – Assessor LeVan announced the tax bills were mailed out this past week. The assessments were down 4.1% although the tax rates are up. His office has settled most of the PTABS dating from 2009 to 2012. The remodeling of the office is completed and Mr. LeVan thanked the Board for their support. The office is now assessing the “new” construction. The “new” construction from last year, under the authority of former Assessor Bob Earl, was never entered into the books.

Clerk Hinkle reported – Township Officials of Illinois will be holding its annual Education Session on June 20, 2014 in Lisle, Illinois. Those Board members interested in attending, notify the Clerk.

The Open Meetings Act requires that all officers receive an on line training in compliance with the law. This should be done within a 30 day period.

Milton Township will be holding an Open House for the public to view our newly renovated building and to promote the many services that are offered to the public. The Open House will be held on June 14, 2014; from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Seniors Committee - S.A.L.T. Committee Chairman Joe Vanest reported on the SALT meeting held on May 13, 2014. The guest speaker was Gwen Henry, DuPage County Treasurer. Mrs. Henry discussed the many programs designed to assist the seniors. Mr. Vanest also discussed the property fraud alert through the DuPage County Recorder of Deeds Office. On May 21, 2014, Senior Day will take place at Ackerman Park in Glen Ellyn. The S.A.L.T. Council will participate.

Cemeteries Authority - Committee Chairman Jacobsen reported that for fourteen years Townships have placed American flags on tombstones of veterans that had served our country.

Recently there was a burial at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. An indigent gentleman was buried there many years ago. His wife recently passed away and wanted to be buried next to her husband. Their children, who are financially successful in life, were able to bury their mother and pay for the burial. Mr. Jacobsen had attended the Conservation Foundation Earth Day dinner. It was announced at this dinner that Milton Township has preserved and restored three cemeteries and a prairie. The Memorial Day Observance will take place at the Jewell Grove Cemetery on May 24, 2014 at 11:00 am. All are invited to attend.

Trustee Reports/Comments – Trustee Nathwani announced on May 22, 2014, Jerry Haggerty Chevrolet will be hosting a multi-Chamber event. The Board is welcomed to attend. The city of Wheaton requested the Township to apply for a variance for the new signage that will be placed in front of the building. Mr. Nathwani and Chairman Heidorn are working to resolve this issue.

Trustee Keller was pleasantly surprised by attending Topics Day in Springfield. Trustee Keller stated that it makes a great impression to attend, in person, to meet and greet the local representatives that represent us in Springfield. Mr. Keller realized by driving through the city of Washington, Illinois, that our community is not prepared for a disaster.

Unfinished Business – None.

New Business – Chairman Heidorn moved, seconded by Trustee Molitor to re-appoint Drew Ellis and Dr. Bob Krzyzewski to the Ethics Commission for a two year term ending on May 31, 2016. The motion passed by voice vote.

T.O.I.R.M.A. Renewal - Trustee Falbo moved, seconded by Trustee Nathwani to renew the T.O.I.R.M.A. policy for 2014-2015. The motion passed by voice vote.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Nathwani moved, seconded by Trustee Molitor that the meeting stand adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Gail P. Hinkle

Gail P. Hinkle, Township Clerk

Date minutes were approved _____.