

St. Clair Township Regular Meeting

DATE: December 17, 2013
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: St. Clair Township Bldg
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL 62226

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the St. Clair Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Dave Barnes, Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis, Greg Hipskind.

Absent: none

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed, Assessor Robert Knee

Others Present: Brian Buckheit, Engineer
Terry Bruckert, Attorney
Tonda Van Hoose Dean Wallen
George Peterson Doris Rebenstorff
Steve Rebenstorff Gene Kish
Jeff Carmack Deb Barnes
Angela Ramirez Kurt Kassebaum
Bob Buechler E. Th

Supervisor Barnes requested a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add discussion of a personnel matter in executive session.

A motion to go into executive session at the appropriate time to discuss a personnel matter was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All in favor.

MINUTES

There was discussion about whether it was appropriate for the Road Commissioner to be noted as absent in the minutes.

Trustee Hipskind made a motion to amend the minutes to remove the note of absence or presence of Road Commissioner Skip Kernan unless he is on the agenda. Trustee Wells seconded the motion.

Yes – Wells, Hipkind
No – Carroll, Sturgis, Barnes
Motion failed.

Motion to approve the November 19, 2013 Regular Board Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis.

Yes – Carroll, Wells, Sturgis, Barnes
No- Hipkind
Motion passed.

Motion to approve the August 27, 2013 Executive Session Minutes was made by Trustee Wells, seconded by Trustee Hipkind. Roll call vote. All in favor.

There was general agreement of need to discuss the October 22, 2013, Executive Session Minutes. That discussion would take place later in the meeting when the Board was scheduled to go into Executive Session.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee Carroll noted the ending balance for last month and the beginning balance this month were not the same in the General Town Fund.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Trustee Hipkind.

Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Hipkind, Barnes.
No – Wells.
Motion passed.

BUDGET REPORT

Motion to approve the Budget Report was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion passed.

MONTHLY BILLS

Trustee Wells wanted it noted she approved the December bills in protest. She feels the Supervisor and Road Commissioner should get authorization from the Board before any expenditure is made.

Trustee Carroll stated she will not approve the Road Commissioner's bills because he is uncooperative about answering her questions.

Motion to approve payment of the monthly bills was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Trustee Hipkind. Roll call vote.

Yes – Wells, Sturgis, Hipkind, Barnes.
No – Carroll.
Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barnes recognized outgoing Assessor Robert Knee. Supervisor Barnes expressed his appreciation for Mr. Knee's 20 years of service to the township. Supervisor Barnes presented Assessor Knee with a plaque inscribed with: "St. Clair Township proudly presents this appreciation award to Robert Knee in recognition of outstanding contributions to the community through your time and dedication as Assessor."

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Sewer Negotiations Update – Brian Buckheit, HMG Engineering, Inc., reported the current proposal from Swansea is higher than any previous. If Swansea bills the 3,000+ township sewer users treated by Swansea's sewer system directly, it will be necessary to figure the impact of that on the 5,000+ township serviced users. Mr. Buckheit and Terry Brukert will have recommendations for the township's response at the next board meeting.
- Delinquent Sewer Accounts – The amount due is up from the previous comparative billing period.
- St. George Project – The project of lining the sewer line is complete. The project was funded by a \$59,857 grant. The cost of the project was less than the grant received.
- Shut-off Notices – Supervisor Barnes provided a confidential list of residents who received water shut-off notices.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Trustee Wells provided an email sent by Supervisor Barnes to be included with the public record. She felt his request of trustees to ask questions about bills prior to the meeting and stating "public comments" were to be addressed to him might violate the Open Meetings Act.

Assessor Knee stated the Road Commissioner should be noted as absent when he is not at meetings and said he could possibly be recalled if he misses five consecutive meetings.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Scout Lift Station – Motion to move forward with pump repair by Motor, Pump & Service, LLC in the amount of \$11,500 was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- PSOP – Beth, Executive Director at Projects and Services for Older People (PSOP) gave an overview of the services the organization provides and how the \$4,000 contribution from the township is used. PSOP coordinates the federally funded RSVP volunteer program. The \$4,000 from the township is used for the volunteers in that program.
- ATS – Dave Wasson, Director of Alternative Transportation Services (ATS) explained the services they provide to seniors and disabled in the community. ATS receives a \$7,750 contribution from the township.

- Meeting Dates 2014 – Supervisor Barnes proposed the meetings remain scheduled the 4th Tuesday of the month January through October and the 3rd Tuesday in November and December. Trustee Wells suggested meeting two times each month.
Motion to accept the meeting schedule suggested by Supervisor Barnes was made by Trustee Hipkind, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote.
Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Hipkind, Barnes.
No- Wells.
Motion passed.
- Service Contract for New Generator at Blanc Lee Drive – Motion to accept the Planned Service Agreement from Luby Equipment Services was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:53p.m. a motion to go into executive session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act sections 2(c)1 - Personnel and 2(c)21 – Executive Session Minutes was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 8:32 the board returned to the regular meeting.

Motion to approve Resolution 2013-7 a Resolution Regarding the Release of Executive Session Minutes was made by Trustee Wells, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Hipkind. Voice vote. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Reed
St. Clair Township Clerk