

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: April 23, 2013

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: St. Clair Township
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL 62226

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor
Mary Carroll, Clerk
Guy Don Carlos, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee
Robert Knee, Assessor

OTHERS PRESENT: Jaynie Wells
Brian Wells
Bob Trentman
Greg Hipskind
Dean Wallen
Jeff Carmack

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the St. Clair Township Board was called to order by Supervisor, Tim Buchanan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Road Commissioner Burk was absent.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 26, 2013

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the March 26, 2013 regular board meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Don Carlos. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report - Trustee Bridgman made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Budget Report - Supervisor Buchanan reviewed two line items that went over budget and said it would show up on the audit. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the budget report. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Monthly Bills - Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the monthly bills. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Supervisor's Report

- Delinquent Sewer Account Report - Supervisor Buchanan provided a copy of the report for the board members and said that things were looking good.

- Sewer Backups - There were three backups on Preswyck Drive and a broken pipe and roots on Cresthaven. There were others throughout Belleville and Swansea due to a 4-5 inch rain. Some of these were repeat offenders. Supervisor Buchanan said that in the past if a home had been hit twice by backups a backup prevention valve has been offered and wanted to know if these should be offered one also. Trustee Barnes recommended that a letter be sent to those affected recommending they consider a backflow prevention valve at their own expense. Trustee Schobert suggested noting in the letter that if they do install one, that the Township be notified.
- Water Shutoff Notices - Supervisor Buchanan said the water company is changing over to a new system so the Township cannot shut off water for five weeks.
- Sewer Line Relocation at Rt. 15 and Rt. 158 - Supervisor Buchanan said the State will not loan the Township more money even though they cost the Township more money. The first \$100,000 payment was made. They are digging the hole for the lift station.
- Scout Lift Station Infiltration Repairs Update - Even though there has been a lot of work done (manhole infiltration, manhole dishes and two board lines), the recent five inch rain has caused more problems.
- Playground Equipment Vandalism - On April 2, 2013 it was discovered at Loop Creek Park that a piece of a tubular slide was broken off. The cost to repair it will be about \$1,300. The deductible for the insurance is \$2,500 so the entire cost to repair it will come out of the park fund. Supervisor Buchanan asked for thoughts on how to prevent it in the future.
- Public Participation at Meetings - At the last meeting, Lauren O'Neil, the clerk from the Village of Swansea approached Supervisor Buchanan and others on how we might modify the public participation at meetings. Supervisor Buchanan said he found out what the court tested legal limits were such as limiting it to five minutes for someone to speak, limiting it to subjects on the agenda, cutting off comments that are not relative, disruptive or repetitious comments and setting off a particular portion of the meeting for public comments similar to what the Township does now. Supervisor Buchanan suggested whatever rules are established, the rules be added to the agenda each month.
- Rich Schobert Retires after 40 years - Supervisor Buchanan recognized and congratulated Rich for his years of service to the Township.
- Seasonal Employee - The new employee has started working.

Public Comments

Sue Don Carlos said thank you to Supervisor Buchanan for the improvements that were made to the Township. She said she appreciated the openness and the progress that was made. She said she also saw the roads being improved.

Mary Carroll said she wanted to thank Rich for his years of service and to Greg Bridgman and Guy Don Carlos for their work as Trustees. She said even though Mark Burk was not at the meeting she wanted to recognize him for the outstanding job he has done and the record number of improvements he has made to the roads during his time as the road commissioner. She also commended Supervisor Buchanan for his exceptional leadership he provided to the Township with his organization skills, cutting waste and the improved efficiency that was made. She felt that everyone on the Board would agree that Supervisor Buchanan made everyone's job easy.

Bob Trentman said he would also like to thank the board, and said he appreciated the service to the community.

Guy DonCarlos said he would like to thank everyone, particularly for the board being unanimous with the dealings with Swansea negotiations. He said he knew it was not easy for the board to deal with some of the fiduciary responsibilities that the Township felt were reasonable. He said that it was the citizens wanted, and as a citizen that is what he will be asking the new board to do.

Brian Wells said he wanted to remind the board that Swansea is also part of the Township and he feels it is being ignored.

Dave Barnes said it was a pleasure to serve with everyone on the board; he said it has been a good ride and fun.

Rich Schobert said that it is not always easy for everyone to get along on a board, but everyone tries to get along. The board is here to make a decision and once it is made everyone has to live with it. He said he will probably be showing up for some meetings.

Guy DonCarlos thanked Bob Knee for his service also.

Greg Bridgman commended Supervisor Buchanan for his high integrity, competence and moral honor. He thanked him for fighting for the people of Township for every penny. He said Supervisor Buchanan is the true example of a public servant and someone people respect.

Tim Buchanan said he would like to thank the people he served with. He said most of the time, everyone who served on the board was looking out for the best interests of the people. He thanked the new board members coming in, Jeff Carmack and the other employees for their work and to the citizens who attend the meetings and get involved.

Business Items:

- A. Review of Closed Minutes - Clerk Carroll said after review of the executive session minutes, there was one meeting dated July 12, 2012 that pertained to an easement with Neil Trentman that was executed. She recommended the minutes be released to the public. Trustee Schobert made a motion to release the minutes. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- B. Annual Treasurer's Report - Supervisor Buchanan pointed out it was the same report from the Annual Town Meeting. Trustee DonCarlos made a motion to approve the annual treasurer's report. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- C. Sewer Account Write-Offs - Supervisor Buchanan said the list provided were all write-offs that had to be written off according to the law. Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the sewer write-offs. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- D. Resolution 2013-2 Park Grant Application - Supervisor Buchanan said the resolution would allow Supervisor Buchanan to apply for a park grant. Trustee Barnes made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-2. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- E. Kent Loepker - Apartment Rehabilitation - Supervisor Buchanan said Mr. Loepker was rehabilitating the apartment near Yorktown Golf Course. He requested that while he rehabilitates half of them he asked that the Township waive the minimum sewer bill while they are vacant. He said while he was doing the second half, he would be doing them one by one and would not ask for the same request. Trustee Schobert said he thought it was okay, but it should be left up to the new board. Trustee DonCarlos felt the same as Trustee Schobert. Supervisor Buchanan said he would notify him it would be delayed until next meeting.

There being no further business, Trustee Schobert made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk