

St. Clair Township  
Annual Town Meeting

DATE: April 10, 2012

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor  
Mary Carroll, Clerk  
Mark Burk, Road Commissioner  
Dave Barnes, Trustee  
Greg Bridgman, Trustee  
Richard Schobert, Trustee  
Bob Trentman, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: See Attached List

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Town Clerk, Mary Carroll, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Carroll asked for a nomination for Moderator. Tim Buchanan nominated Dean Wallen. It was seconded by Dave Barnes. Jennifer Maurer nominated Skip Kernan and it was seconded by David Moore. A voice vote was taken. Those in favor of Dean Wallen 10. Those in favor of Skip Kernan 20. Skip Kernan was sworn in as Moderator.

The Minutes from the Annual Town Meeting held on April 12, 2011 were reviewed. Tim Buchanan made a motion to approve the April 12, 2011 minutes. It was second by Mark Burk. All in favor.

A copy of the treasurer's report was presented to those in attendance. Clerk Carroll read the fund balances of each account out loud. Cary Lewis of Harmony Drive asked if his street could get a speed bump or a stop sign. Road Commissioner Burk said that speed bumps are not recommended because they are a liability. He said that the Township does not have the authority to put up a stop sign, and that would have to be approved by St. Clair County. Commissioner Burk said he would contact Mr. Fields at St. Clair County to let him know of Mr. Lewis' request. Mr. Burk did say that three fourths of that area was chipped and oiled last year. There was no further discussion. Dave Barnes made a motion to accept the financial report. It was second by Tim Buchanan. A voice vote was taken. All in favor.

Supervisor Buchanan reviewed past and future fiscal year projects of the Township. He explained that the Township and the Road Districts are two separate entities. All the attendees received a list of past projects and upcoming projects for the Township and Supervisor Buchanan reviewed the list. Jim Williams asked if the Township would be spraying for mosquitoes. Road Commissioner Burk said that the Township does not have the equipment to spray and the Township is not capable of taking it on. He said that the County issues pellets to put in stagnant water and they report to the County those who have standing water in their ditches. Supervisor Buchanan also added that he has investigated fogging and has found that

the cost benefit ratio is low because it is a temporary fix and then in just a short time the mosquitoes are back. Most communities have found that the cost is too high.

Jennifer Maurer asked if the pellets used in standing water can be used more frequently or in more areas. Commissioner Burk said that the County could give a better insight on that because they monitor them, issue them and provide the training to be able to use them. She asked if Commissioner Burk could ask the County about using them more frequently. He said he would and get back to her. Terry Carroll said you need to consider the hazards to the public from the chemicals by using the pellets or spraying.

Bob Trentman said that since some of the sewer lines are getting bad, should the Township consider more maintenance of the lines to get more longevity. He asked what the cost factor is to hire an extra guy to clean the lines. Supervisor Buchanan said that cleaning the lines will not extend the life, it will only help with the flow. It is the age and natural deterioration that is causing the lines to need to be replaced. We are looking at a program to replace so many feet of sewer lines per year to rehabilitate what we have.

The attendees were directed to the Road Projects list that was provided. Commissioner Burk went over the past list of projects and the upcoming projects. Commissioner Burk said he tries to do more every year. He said the list is not isolated in one place, and he tries to spread it out so that everyone gets a piece of the pie. He works on getting the areas that are worst or the unsafest first. Chipping and oiling causes the roads to crown if you continue to do that, so he is trying to get new asphalt and streets with curbs. He used Stookey Terrace as an example pointing out that new roads had not been put in there in 50 years until the work that was done last year. He said that chipping and oiling is also getting more expensive and there is not a long life span. With a new asphalt, you can get 15-20 years out of it without heavy truck traffic.

Cary Lewis asked why these areas instead of others. Commissioner Burk reiterated that the worst or unsafest are first. Commissioner Burk said that Mr. Lewis' subdivision has not had a lot of work done lately, but those roads are still intact.

Brenda Reid said she lives in the Whiteside District. She wanted to know why the recent road work on Richland Prairie was blacktop. She asked why that area was chosen to be done. Commissioner Burk said that is Shiloh's road. She also said that Country Meadow area and they are working to annex that whole subdivision. Commissioner Burk said he would check to see if 211 Country Meadow was part of the Township or Shiloh.

Don VanDyke asked if 11th Street was still on the Township's agenda. Commissioner Burk agreed that road was bad, but one person was holding out on providing an easement on the trees. Brad Ehinger asked if there was anything else that can be done? Commissioner Burk said there was not a base yet and it was rolling and that the Township would continue to maintain it and chip and oil it. He asked if eminent domain was an option? Commissioner Burk said he didn't know if the Township could get eminent domain and he would check into it.

Jim Williams said he is sure that the Road Commissioner is doing the best he can with what he has. He asked who decides what is priority and if there was a committee. Commissioner Burk said he makes those decisions.

During public comments, David Moore said he would like to request on behalf of himself and 15 other voters based on Township Code 60 ILCS 1/35 to have a special meeting. Supervisor Buchanan asked if could be addressed at a regular meeting. David Moore said that would be sufficient. Jim Williams and Skip Kernan felt that because there were 15 electors were present, they should vote on it now. Supervisor Buchanan was concerned that since he was not familiar with the statute, the item was not on the agenda, and there was not an attorney present to rule

on it, that the Township may not be able to act on it at this time. He assured them he would take care of it, and Mr. Moore was satisfied. Trustee Trentman said he was pretty sure that we could act on it, and if it is not legal, it's not legal. Trustee Schobert clarified that Mr. Moore was requesting a special town meeting. Mr. Moore said he just wanted a meeting that fits into Supervisor Buchanan's schedule. David Moore made a motion to request a Special Township Meeting. Jim Williams seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. 28 people voted in favor and 2 were opposed. The motion carried. Supervisor Buchanan reminded everyone that he would need to consult with the Township attorney to make sure this was legal, and it is was, he would pick a date and publish it in the paper.

Supervisor Buchanan explained the Fund Transfer Resolution No. 2011-3. He pointed out that there was an error on the Resolution in line two that the surplus should be \$40,000 and not \$30,000 as written on the resolution. Mark Burk made a motion to approve the Resolution No. 2011-3 as corrected and Dave Burns seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All in favor.

Barb Heinzl made a motion that the time and place for the next Annual Township Meeting be set for April 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the Township Office, 107 Service Street, Swansea, IL. Lynn McCurdy seconded the motion. All in favor.

There being no further Dave Barnes. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll  
Township Clerk

