

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: November 8, 2011

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

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

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Wallen
Ken Mueller
Leo Stephan
Steve Gresa
Skip Kernan

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the St. Clair Township Board was called to order by Supervisor, Tim Buchanan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call found that all members were present.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 11, 2011

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the October 11, 2011 Regular Board Meeting minutes with corrections. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of the Executive Session held on October 11, 2011

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the October 11, 2011 Regular Board Meeting minutes with corrections. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor.

The order skipped to Business Item 10 C & D (Property and Casualty Insurance and Workers Comp. Insurance) because representatives were there to speak and answer any questions.

Supervisor Buchanan said the premium for the property and casualty insurance increased by 4% largely due to a property audit that was conducted. The board was allowed to ask questions. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to approve purchasing the property and casualty insurance as outlined on the proposal submitted. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor

The Workers Compensation proposal was reviewed. Supervisor Buchanan noted that this premium increased by a lot more due to payroll increases and also the experience modifier increase. It was recommended that the insurance company conduct safety seminars for the employees to manage the risk. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve purchasing the workers compensation insurance as outlined on the proposal submitted. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 7:15 p.m. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to go into closed Executive Session for the purposes of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a Township employee, and for the purpose of considering litigation, and the Board finds that an action involving the Township is probable or imminent. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES.

At 8:20 p.m. the Board resumed to back to the regular meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Budget Report

Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the Budget report. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Monthly Bills

Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the monthly bills. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Motion carries.

Communications

None

Supervisor's Report

- Insurance Claims - No new claims.
- Delinquent Sewer Account Report – Nothing new to report.

Highway Commissioner's Report

- East Main Street - Commissioner Burk said the project is not going as fast as he would like. He said the recent rain has caused a slow down.
- Smaller Resurfacing Projects - Areas that are getting new road surfaces (some that have never had any work done on them in the past) are East B, Palmetto in Chenot Place, Willowbrook, Avery Hill, West C & Pin, Dianne Drive and if there is any money left over, maybe back into Stookey and Oakwood off of 66th Street.
- He also said that Belleville called and said they are getting ready to close 158 & 13 to create the three new roundabouts. He said this is a state project.

Public Comments

Skip Kernan said he was aware that Supervisor Buchanan met with Mayor Rauckman of Swansea and asked how the meeting went. Supervisor Buchanan said Swansea now appears willing to compromise. Mr. Kernan also asked what happened with the arbitration that was proposed to Swansea. Supervisor Buchanan said Swansea rejected it. Mr. Kernan also asked

if it is possible to accommodate the public by conducting the executive sessions at the end of the meetings. Supervisor Buchanan said he realizes it is an inconvenience, but when there are professional at the meeting he does it to save the Township money by not having them here for any longer than needed. He said normally they would be at the end of the meeting. Mr. Kernan said he understands.

Business Items

A. Vicksburg & Northland Sewer Sag Project - Ron has been able to get information from 7 of the 10 homes. Supervisor Buchanan said he will knock on some doors this weekend and try to get those still pending.

B. Loop Creek - Supervisor Buchanan provided a drawing and went over the figures with the board. He said that Ron Stuckel is recommending a sewer relocation. He said that all of the land is owned by one land owner, and a reasonable price for the easement would have to be determined.

C. Property and Casualty Insurance - See above.

D. Workers Compensation Insurance - See above.

E. Water Shutoff Procedure - Supervisor Buchanan said he sent out eight letters and so far one has responded. He reminded the Board that it was voted on at a previous meeting that he solicits the oldest delinquencies first rather than the largest delinquencies. He said that now that he is working with it, he feels it may need discretion. He provided examples for the Board to see what he was experiencing. He also said he talked to the attorney about any consequences with using discretionary practice. Trustee Barnes said that the original decision was based on what the Board knew then, and he agrees after seeing the documentation that it should be based on discretion. Trustee Schobert agreed. Trustee Barnes made a motion that Supervisor Buchanan should use his discretion in determining the order for water shutoff. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Trentman-ABSTAINED FROM VOTING, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Motion carries.

F. Copier - Supervisor Buchanan said the new copier was causing the paper and sewer bills to roll, and he had the machine sent back. There was a discussion about purchasing the next step up machine and the cost. The Board was all in agreement that after Supervisor Buchanan researched copiers and found the right one, that it be purchased.

G. Declare 2005 Ford Expedition Surplus Property - Supervisor Buchanan said the truck that Denny Milam drove is no longer needed and asked that it be declared surplus. Trustee Schobert made a motion to declare the 2005 Ford Expedition as surplus property. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

H. Resolution No. 2011-9 - Trustee Schobert made a motion to sell the 2005 Ford Expedition. Trustee Barnes seconded it. Roll call vote. All in favor.

I. Resolution No. 2011-10 - Supervisor Buchanan provided information for the board members to review for the tax levy. He said the General Town Fund was in good shape. However, due to the poor economy, the General Assistance fund was falling behind. In addition, he said the Park Fund would need additional funds to cover the deficit that was caused by the past practice of using sewer funds to pay for park labor costs. He recommended increasing the Township levy by \$57,000. He said that with the Township Road District levy being decreased by \$50,000 this would be an overall increase to the Township of \$7,000 or 2% for the year. This would

mean there would be a total levy of \$371,000. After some discussion, it was agreed to take \$7,000 from the emergency fund and only levy \$50,000 instead of \$57,000 for the Township levy. This would result in a total levy of \$364,000 for the Township. Supervisor Buchanan said there would be a public hearing at 6:45 prior to the December Regular Board Meeting. He said he would post the levy information in the Belleville News Democrat. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to levy \$364,000 and it was seconded by Trustee Trentman. Roll call vote. All in favor

J. & K. Slide by Tennis Courts and Wolf Branch - Trustee Schobert made a motion to declare the slide by the tennis courts at Wolf Branch as surplus property and to donate it to Wolf Branch school. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

L. Community Development Block Grant - Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve Supervisor Buchanan to sign the Community Development Block Grant contract to fund the sewer line. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

M. Swansea Sewer Escrow Account - At the last meeting it was agreed to set aside money for the Swansea sewer escrow in a separate account. Supervisor Buchanan provided an estimate of what should be placed in the account. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to set aside \$363,000 in an escrow account. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

N. Lowenbaum Labor Attorney Partnership - Trustee Bridgman made a motion to partner with Lowenbaum Labor Attorneys for professional services dealing with labor and employment issues. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-NO, Barnes-Yes, Buchanan-YES. Motion carries.

O. Swansea Sewer Use Negotiations - Executive Session.

P. Approve Agreement with HMG Engineers - Supervisor Buchanan asked the Board to approve the agreement with HMG Engineers. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve Supervisor Buchanan signing the agreement. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Q Personnel - Executive Session

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk