

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: February 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, Hwy Commissioner
Robert Knee, Assessor
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Bob Trentman, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Wallen
Scott Wilson

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 were present .

Minutes of the Special Town Meeting held on January 11, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the January 11, 2011 Special Town Meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 11, 2011:

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

Minutes of the Executive Session held on January 11, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Schobert to approve the January 11, 2011 Executive Session minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Monthly Supervisor's Treasurer's Report

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

Monthly Bills

Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the monthly bills. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Communications

None.

Supervisor's Report

- a. Insurance Claims - Supervisor Buchanan said he has forwarded information to Shiloh regarding the Anderson Lane claim.
- b. Delinquent Sewer Accounts - Supervisor Buchanan said the delinquencies have gone down.
- c. The Township has received the signed agreement with RSVP and has disbursed \$4,000 for the grant.
- d. Supervisor Buchanan said he attended a board meeting at Stookey Township and found that they were getting a 25% loan forgiveness on their IEPA loan based on income level of the Township residents. Supervisor Buchanan contacted the IEPA to apply for the loan forgiveness. It was granted, and the Township will save \$75,000 on the loan for the UV plant upgrade loan.
- e. Supervisor Buchanan passed out information regarding the next St. Clair County Township Officials meeting to be held on February 17, 2011.
- f. Supervisor Buchanan informed the Board that the Township Officials Lobby Day will be held in Springfield on April 6, 2011.
- g. The UV plant upgrade design plans are available if any of the Board members would like to review.
- h. There are four chronic sewer line problems. Supervisor Buchanan has applied for an IDR grant for moderate to low income areas. One was granted for an area in Lincolnshire. There were two in the Glen Addie area that did not qualify. Supervisor Buchanan said if the Township can get 80% of the homes that are directly impacted to sign off, the Township could qualify for this area too. Supervisor Buchanan has already started contacting the residents. He pointed out that this grant is a similar to the one that Hwy Commissioner Burk received for the East Main Street project.
- i. Supervisor Buchanan said that Denny Milam is planning to retire in July, and Supervisor Buchanan has requested applications internally to fill the sewer foreman position.
- j. Supervisor Buchanan said that after receiving recommendations from other municipalities, he has talked to Bob Stewart about providing assistance with securing bids for health insurance for the employees. Supervisor Buchanan said we are currently getting health insurance through the State program and the cost is very high. He said he is very comfortable working with Mr. Stewart; he has learned a lot from him; he is very knowledgeable; and he comes highly recommended. Supervisor Buchanan asked for the board's approval to work with Mr. Stewart in order to secure health insurance bids from various vendors. Trustee Barnes suggested that Supervisor Buchanan see if there are others that he may feel more comfortable working with. When asked if he knew of any, he did not have any recommendations. Supervisor Buchanan said he would call some other communities and see if they have other suggestions of someone he might work with.
- k. Supervisor Buchanan said the Township attorney is working on an ordinance for shutting off water to delinquent sewer customers. He said it would probably not start until the after the budget was complete.
- l. Supervisor Buchanan said they are still working on the sewer ordinance changes.

- m. Supervisor Buchanan said he called the State of Illinois to see if the roads to the parks would qualify for a fuel tax. He said the State indicated they may qualify and this would result in \$800.

Highway Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Burk gave an update on the Stookey Terrance and East Main project. He said we have had several snow falls and the removal went well.

Public Comments

None.

Business Items

A. Salt Bin Sale or Lease - Supervisor Buchanan said that Hwy Commissioner Burk would report on this. Commissioner Burk said he was looking at getting out of the lease and selling the barn. The plan would be to put up a different barn in the back which would be more convenient and there was plenty of room by the docking bay. The sale of the property would help offset the cost of the new barn. Commissioner Burk said he has checked the IEPA run off rules regarding water run off. He pointed out that the property is owned by the Township, but the salt barn is the property of the Road District. Therefore, the Township would sell the property and transfer the value of the salt barn to the Road District. Commissioner Burk asked if the Board is okay with this. There were no objections. Commissioner Burk said he would present final plans once all the details were worked out.

B. Declaration of Surplus Funds in General Fund to Allow for Fund Transfer to General Assistance and Park - Supervisor Buchanan presented budget information to the Board. He said the General Assistance Fund is still short. He recommended moving \$10,000 from the General Fund to cover the negative \$2,178 and for any extra that may be needed. He also pointed out the Park Maintenance Fund was short \$9,512. He recommends transferring \$20,000 to this fund. Trustee Schobert made a motion to declare of surplus of \$30,000 in the General Fund to be able to request the Township voters to allow a transfer \$30,000 (\$10,000 to General Assistance and \$20,000 to the Park Maintenance Fund) at the Annual Town Meeting in April. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

C. Sewer Emergency Assistance with Swansea - Supervisor Buchanan said that the Village of Swansea sent an e-mail indicating that the emergency assistance agreement should be included in the Sewer Agreement. They would like to wrap it in the agreement for the use of the sewer plant. Supervisor Buchanan said he told them no.

D. Centennial Park Agreement - Supervisor Buchanan said Swansea has asked for a change, and it is being sent back to the attorney for review regarding indemnification language.

E. Post Employment Healthcare Benefits Resolution - Supervisor Buchanan directed the Board to review both the old and new agreements in their packets. The changes from the old agreement are as follows. 1) He said the new agreement clearly defines that elected officials are not eligible. 2) It defines that it is intended for employees who are retiring and will be drawing a pension. 3) For budgeting purposes, it indicates that the employees must submit their intent to retire in writing one year in advance. Trustee Trentman said that with laborers things can change overnight and one year is too long of a notice. Trustee Schobert said that it would be better to amend the budget, rather than ask for this notice. Supervisor Buchanan said

he would strike this clause. Trustee Barnes made a motion to adopt the resolution with the change regarding the intent to retire notice. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

F. Resolution to Adopt an Annual 1,000 Hour Standard for IMRF - Supervisor Buchanan said that currently the Supervisor and the Hwy Commissioner are eligible to participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) under the old standards. He said the IMRF suggested that we adopt a new resolution to allow for any future Supervisors or Commissioners to participate in order to comply with the 1,000 standard. Trustee Schobert made a motion to adopt the 1,000 hour standard for IMRF participation for the Supervisor and Hwy Commissioner. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

G. Resolution Rescinding Trustee Participation in IMRF - While Supervisor Buchanan was working on the IMRF 1,000 hour standards, he discovered there was a resolution adopted by the Township at some point in the past to allow Trustees of the Township to participate in IMRF based on 600 hours per year. However, no one was aware of this and no one has ever participated in it. He proposed adopting a new resolution that states Trustees are not eligible for participation. Trustee Bridgman made the motion to rescind the resolution that states Trustees of the Township are eligible for participation in IMRF. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Carroll
Township Clerk