

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: June 26, 2012

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
Bob Trentman, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Wallen Guy DonCarlos
Terry Carroll Rhonda Burk
Chuck Renner

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 except for Assessor, Robert Knee and Trustee, Richard Schobert.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 12, 2012

A motion was made by Trustee Barnes to approve the June 12, 2012 regular meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of the Executive Session held on June 12, 2012

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the June 12, 2012 executive session meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

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

Communications - None.

- Supervisor's Report –Insurance Claim at 1423 Vicksburg.
- Water Shutoff Report - Nothing new to report at this time.
- Sewer Write Offs - Supervisor Buchanan pointed the board members to the information provided in the packets. Of the four on the list provided, three of them are legally required to be written off due to bankruptcy. Supervisor Buchanan said that with regard to the first property on the list that the Township has repeatedly mailed a bill for \$21.77,

He said the homeowners have moved and they are unable to be located. Supervisor Buchanan recommended writing the \$21.77 off because it will cost more to continue to bill them than the small amount involved is worth to collect. Trustee Trentman said he has a problem writing it off and felt it would be better to put the bill in a drawer instead of continuing to bill them. He said he would rather just put the bill to the side and stop sending the bill. Trustee Barnes made a motion to write off the \$21.77 past due account. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Trentman- NO, Bridgeman-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Motion passes.

- Supervisor Bond - Supervisor Buchanan notified the board that the bond discussed at the previous meeting was corrected with the appropriate dates.
- Infiltration Investigation of Sewer Lines in Old Lincolnshire - Supervisor Buchanan went through the report provided by Engineer Dave Rodden. He mentioned that there were two homes that were demolished due to subsidence and the sewer laterals were never capped off. He said that has now been done. Going forward the County will hopefully make it mandatory for the company tearing down homes to be responsible for capping the lines. Supervisor Buchanan drew a diagram on the white board to show the audience where the homes and the sewer lines were located that experienced the backups on 4/28/12. He explained where there were roots found in a line that was not videoed by the Township after the first backup. These roots must have been missed by the six inch root cutter that was used just prior to the second backup. He felt these uncut roots may have contributed to the second backup. This line has now been cut with an eight inch root cutter and all the roots have been removed. In addition, the lines have been videoed and the Township is looking at other options to ensure there are no more backups.

Highway Commissioner's Report -

- Commissioner Burk said the Road crew is pouring a lot of concrete, about 10-15 yards a week. He said the crew is getting better and as they get more experience.
- He said the Graceland road resurfacing project went great and the residents are very happy.
- He said that the Chenot Place road resurfacing is complete except for some seeding and dirt work. Commissioner Burk reported bad news that someone took a piece of equipment and tore up the new asphalt today. He said it was reported to the police, and he is hopeful they will find out who did it. He said we cannot allow that, and the Township will not pay for something twice.

Public Comments - Terry Carroll asked what percentage of sewer and storm water is mixed. Supervisor Buchanan said a lot, especially with the older sewer systems.

Business Items:

- A. Insurance Claim from 4/28/12 Backup was Denied. - Chuck Renner (one of the three homeowners affected) said he realizes the Township is trying to alleviate the problem, but he is concerned about reoccurring events and who will be responsible. He feels that the backup valves seem risky. Mr. Renner said insurance covered the first incident, but he would like to be reimbursed for the second incident. He reiterated that his two main issues are the expenses they incurred, and alleviating the problem going forward. Supervisor Buchanan said the denial of the claim was based on Illinois Law that states that a municipality only becomes legally liable for property damage if they knew in advance there was a problem and they didn't do anything. He said that prior to the second backup; the Township cleaned all the lines in the subdivision. With this in mind, the insurance company said the Township did take preventative measures. He said with the first backup

it was due to Lee's Chicken grease in the lines. Supervisor Buchanan went over what happened and the steps that were taken. Going forward, he said that even if it a temporary backup like the first one, they will video the lines. He said that he feels an experienced person may have televised the lines after the temporary backup and possible have prevent the second problem. Trustee Barnes suggested appealing the claim first before the Township self insures the claim. If we continue to do everything we can to solve problems, then the Township cannot be expected to pay again. There were questions and a thorough discussion on the topic. Trustee Barnes made a motion to appeal the second insurance claim that was denied, and then reimburse the property owners if the insurance company still denies the claim because the Township could have done more to possibly prevent the second backup. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Motion passes.

- B. Backflow Valve Installation Cost - Supervisor Buchanan said the installer who was going to install the backflow valves on the homes in Lincolnshire has backed out, so the cost of the valve installation may be higher than originally thought. To date, none of the homeowners have voiced and interest in having the valve installed. It was agreed to wait to see if anyone had an interest before considering any extra costs.
- C. National Joint Powers Alliance - NJPA. Supervisor Buchanan reminded the board that in order to get the discount on the Vactor truck, the Township would need to join the NJPA. He said there is no cost to the Township. Trustee Barnes made a motion to join the NJPA. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- D. Vactor Truck Quote - Supervisor Buchanan said he asked Coe Equipment for a further discount on the truck, and they came down another \$5,000. The final price will be \$260,158 net of discounts and trade-in. Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the purchase of the Vactor truck. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- E. Health Insurance - Supervisor Buchanan said that the cost went up 1%. He recommended purchasing the local government health plan. Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve purchasing health insurance from the local government health plan. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- F. Easement Negotiations. Supervisor Buchanan said as a follow-up to the easement discussion in executive session at the June 12, 2012 meeting that the resident is willing to stick with the price originally set out.
- G. Swansea Sewer Use Negotiations - Supervisor Buchanan said he still waiting to hear back from Swansea.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk