

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: December 18, 2012

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor
Mark Burk, Road Commissioner
Mary Carroll, Clerk
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Guy Don Carlos, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Robert Knee, Assessor

OTHER STAFF: Attorney Bill Stiehl

OTHERS PRESENT: Doris Rebenstorff Dean Wallen
Gene Kish Mike Ehret
Sue DonCarlos Peggy Buchanan
Rhonda Burk Brenda Reed
Chad Rhutasel Joe Riley
Terry Carroll Lanny Downard
Jeff Carmack Skip Kernan
Cary Lewis V

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 board members were present.

Supervisor Buchanan announced we would be going out of order from the agenda tonight because the Township attorney was present at the meeting to make good use of his time.

There was a copy of Mr. Trentman's resignation letter in the board packets. Trustee Barnes made a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Trentman. Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Supervisor Buchanan explained the process for replacing the Mr. Trentman's seat on the board of trustees. He asked if there was anyone in the audience who was interested in being nominated.

Doris Rebenstorff said she was a registered voter and has lived in the Township for 32 years. She said she was interested because she would like to see how the political organization works.

Guy Don Carlos introduced himself as a resident in the area since 1975 and a homeowner for the past eight. He said he attends the meetings. He is a Senior Project manager for a steel

fabricator and he runs large projects, works with budgeting and does scheduling. He added that is familiar with construction drawings, contracts and documents. He said would very much like to help the Township out.

Cary Lewis V said he was 21 years old, is interested in local government, and he is a student at Lindenwood University. He said the reason he wants to be considered is to prove to the kids in the back of his neighborhood that you guys do care about young black people. He said he does not have as much experience as others in the room, but he is willing to learn. He wants to be considered because he has a diverse background. He said when he attended Southwestern Illinois College he formed an organization called Dreams of Democracy to help kids understand the political process. Trustee Barnes asked if he lived in the Township, and he answered that he stays at 9 Harmony Drive.

Supervise Buchanan asked for nominations. Trustee Bridgman nominated Guy Don Carlos for the open position. It was seconded by Supervisor Buchanan. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Clerk Carroll swore in Mr. Don Carlos. After the oath, Attorney Stiehl left at 7:11 p.m. Trustee Don Carlos joined the board.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 23, 2012

Originally the minutes said that Trustee Schobert told Skip Kernan the Supervisor's position should be part time, and Trustee Schobert said he said he did not say that. The minutes were changed to state that Mr. Kernan had instead come to that conclusion based on the conversation.

Trustee Barnes said he also wanted to change the minutes where it stated that he was frustrated that the health care could not be changed. It was agreed that the transcript would be reviewed and presented again at the next meeting.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 27, 2012

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the November 27, 2012 regular board meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. Trustee Don Carlos and Trustee Bridgman both passed because they were not in attendance. Trustee Schobert-YES, Trustee Barnes-YES, Supervisor Buchan-YES. Motion carries. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report - Trustee Bridgman made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. Trustee Don Carlos passed and all the rest were in favor. Motion carries.

Budget Report - Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the budget report. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. Trustee Don Carlos passed and all the rest were in favor. Motion carries.

Monthly Bills - Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the monthly bills. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. Trustee Don Carlos passed and all the rest were in favor. Motion carries.

Communications - Supervisor Buchanan said there was a letter from Alternative Transportation System (ATS) in the board packets. The other communication was Mr. Trentman's resignation letter.

Supervisor's Report

- Delinquent Sewer Account Report - Supervisor Buchanan provided a report, and said that the delinquencies are starting to spike up again.
- Water Shutoff Notices - The list of notices were distributed to the board members for review and passed back in.
- Insurance Claims - Supervisor Buchanan said there were sewer backups at 128 and 133 Villa Madero. The backup at 133 Villa Madero was more significant and was turned into insurance. He said the owner at 128 Villa Madero rented a sewer auger and cleaned up out his own lines, and also probably cleared the clog in the Townships lines. The resident asked if he could be reimbursed for the rental of the sewer auger. Supervisor Buchanan said that since he probably prevented further problems for the Township, he asked the board if the Township should reimburse him. Trustee Schobert objected to paying for the auger rental because the Township did not have a policy in place anymore. Trustee Barnes felt it was a liability to the Township if he would have gotten hurt. The resident at 128 Villa Madero will not be reimbursed for the sewer auger rental.
- Deferred Compensation Plan - Supervisor Buchanan said the employees' deferred compensation plan, Nationwide, is overseen by the U.S. Council of Mayors. The Council of Mayor's recommended changing carriers because Nationwide is not advantageous to the employees. However, after taking a survey of the employees, all those participating except for Road Commissioner Burk, wanted to stay with Nationwide. There will be no change made, but this will result in no oversight going forward.
- Supervisor's Job Description - Supervisor Buchanan said he has a complete list of responsibilities for the supervisor position, and it is available to anyone who wants a copy. He said he will also post it on the website.

Highway Commissioner's Report -

- Commissioner Burk said the crew is doing maintenance, tarring and trimming at this time.

Supervisor Buchanan said there was a Document of Appointment that the trustees need to sign appointing Mr. Don Carlos to the Board of Trustees. It was passed around and each of the board members signed.

Public Comments

Joe Riley said he lives at 2 Heather Drive in Chanout Place. He said they have new streets in Chanout Place. He is concerned that if a new road has to be patched, that when it freezes and thaws, it will crumble. He wants to make sure the engineering company that did the work has insurance just in case there are problems later.

Business Items:

- A. Accept Trustee Trentman's Letter of Resignation - See above.
- B. Select Replacement Trustee - See above.
- C. Agreement With Midwest Occupational Medicine to do Drug Testing and Work Comp. Injuries - Supervisor Buchanan said the Township had an agreement with St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville to do drug testing and workers comp., but they are no longer going to do this type of work. Midwest Occupational has been recommended. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to approve Supervisor Buchanan to sign the agreement with Midwest Occupational Medicine. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

- D. St. Clair Township Road District Tax Levy- Commissioner Burk said that the road and bridge fund levy will not be raised this year. It will be \$465,000, the same as it has been for the last four years. Supervisor Buchanan reminded the board members that they do not vote on this road levy, but that the board only certifies the road and bridge levy by signing a document.
- E. St. Clair Township Road District Tax Abatement for Permanent Road Fund. Supervisor Buchanan also said there is a permanent road fund and it is the largest road fund, and if it is not abated it will be automatically levied at the maximum amount it can be levied at. He said it has been abated every year since the current administration has been in office. Road Commissioner Burk further explained, that this way you can ask for a lesser amount than if you just accept what is levied. Commissioner Burk said when he took office, he streamlined the road district and started seeing a lot of savings. He added that in spite of the reductions in cost, the Township is still repairing roads at a record pace. He said it is only right to hold the tax burden down for everyone, including those areas where the Township does not maintain roads such as Swansea, Shiloh and parts of Fairview Heights.
- F. St. Clair Township Tax Levy - Supervisor Buchanan directed the board members to the levy he provided. He said originally that he did not think the Township could keep it at the same amount as last year, but after some work he now believes by increasing some areas and reducing others, the levy can stay the same for this year. He pointed out where the changes were made, showed where there were some savings and areas that were up, and answered questions about each of the three funds, General Town Fund, General Assistance Fund and the Park Fund.
- G. St. Clair Township Tax Levy - Supervisor Buchanan said the ordinance provides that the Township request \$191,000 for the General Town Fund, \$74,000 for the General Assistance Fund and \$99,000 for the Park Maintenance Fund for a total of \$364,000. This would be the same that was levied last year. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to approve the St. Clair Township Tax Levy. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- H. Hydro Service Agreement - Supervisor Buchanan pointed out that the agreement was in edited form. Supervisor Buchanan reminded the board that the agreement that covers the sewer operations and lift stations, but not the sewer lines. He said the monthly charge is being increased by \$370 per month or a 5.58% increase over the three year contract. He asked Chad Rhutasel from Hydro Services to go over the three year agreement. Mr. Rhutasel pointed out that the rates have not been raised in six years. After a review of the agreement, Mr. Rhutasel asked for a few minor revisions. Supervisor Buchanan said he did some comparisons, and he feels that Hyrdo Service's rates are reasonable. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the agreement pending attorney's approval of the changes. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- I. Swansea Sewer Use Negotiations - Supervisor Buchanan said the board will be going into executive session to discuss an offer that Swansea has made.

At 8:03 p.m. the board went into executive session.

At 8:36 p.m. the board returned from executive session.

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.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk