

Executive Session - Township Meeting

DATE: September 14, 2010

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

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

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

STAFF PRESENT Dave Rodden, Engineer
Bill Stiehl, Attorney

At the regular meeting of the St. Clair Township board, Trustee Barnes had made a motion to move that the Board go into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of St. Clair Township and discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for approval by the Board of Trustees of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. All were in favor.

Swansea Sewer Agreement

Dave Rodden suggested the Township maintain their own flow monitoring rather than contract it out, to save expenses.

All the members were provided a copy of a memo dated 9/10/10 from Dave Rodden to Supervisor Buchanan with a written summary.

Mr. Rodden then gave an oral summary of the meeting with the Village of Swansea representatives on 9/10/10 at 10:30 a.m. Those present from Swansea were John Kurowski, Attorney, Roland Thouvenot, Engineer, and Vicky Wade, Engineer. Representing the Township was Ron Stuckel, Engineer and Dave Rodden, Engineer. Bill Stiehl, the Township's Attorney, arrived at noon. Mr. Rodden pointed out that John Kurowski and Dave Rodden did the majority of the talking.

Mr. Rodden said the plant capacity issue did not go anywhere. But he said this still needs to be resolved.

He said that Kurowski suggested a fee for service rate, which would be some percentage of what they charge their customers. He said a formula would need to be worked out.

Mr. Rodden continued to brief the group on the meeting and there was questions and discussion.

Trustee Schobert made a suggestion to let Swansea have the Township sewer customer's whose wastewater flows to Swansea's plant. There were a few questions raised. Would Swansea charge them more if they are not in the Village of Swansea? Who would assume the liabilities? It was agreed this could possibly be a solution if Swansea would agree to it.

Mr. Rodden passed out a document titled Swansea Wastewater Rate Agreement(s) with St. Clair Township. This outlined the terms and conditions that he feels the Township wants Swansea to consider. After some discussion around this, Supervisor Buchanan suggested that Mr. Rodden present this document to Swansea. Everyone was in agreement.

Closed Minutes Review

Supervisor Buchanan then passed out minutes from prior closed executive sessions and it was agreed they would all need to stay closed.

Sewer Dept. Personnel

Supervisor Buchanan said he meets with Denny Milam every week and he also gets a weekly report of the work the Sewer Dept. is performing. Supervisor Buchanan believes the Sewer Dept. could do the work with one less employee and proposes a layoff of one employee at the end of October, 2010. He asked for questions and/or comments. Trustee Barnes asked why the end of October? Supervisor Buchanan said there is some bridge work that needs to be completed. Trustee Schobert said they should be cleaning sewers everyday, and there is always something that can be done. Trustee Trentman wanted details on what the employees' roles are. Supervisor Buchanan explained that there are four township employees who perform maintenance on the sewer lines and help at the sewer plant when needed. These same four employees take care of the parks. Hydro Services is the company we contract with to manage the plant and they employ one full time employee. Supervisor Buchanan said he feels strongly that the work they are doing now, can be done with three people. If he is wrong, he said he will call the employee back. Trustee Trentman made a suggestion of a revolving contract with all four employees so that every fourth week, one employee takes a furlough. Supervisor Buchanan appreciates the suggestion, but with the union contract he did not feel this is something we could propose. If they employees suggest it, it could be considered. Trustee Bridgman said that he appreciates that Supervisor Buchanan has reviewed this thoroughly and that he went through all four season to make sure he could see the full cycle of one year's work. Supervisor Buchanan said this will be on the next agenda to vote on.

Trustee Barnes made a motion to close the Executive Session and Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. and returned to the regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk

