

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: June 14, 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

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Stuckel

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Gruberman
Dean Wallen
Skip Kernan
Rhonda Burk

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the St. Clair Township Board was called to order by Supervisor, Tim Buchanan with the Pledge of Allegiance. All present, except Assessor Robert Knee.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 10, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the May 10, 2011 Regular Board Meeting minutes with corrections. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Minutes approved.

Minutes of the Executive Session held on May 10, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Barnes to approve the May 10, 2011 Executive Session minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on May 19, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the May 19, 2011 Special Board Meeting minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-YES, Buchanan-YES. Minutes approved.

Minutes of the Executive Session held on May 19, 2011:

A motion was made by Trustee Barnes to approve the May 19, 2011 Executive Session minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor

Monthly Supervisor's 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.

Monthly Bills

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

Communications

Supervisor Buchanan directed the Board to a letter from State Representative Eddie Lee Jackson, Sr. addressing changes in the laws to sell surplus property without having to wait for an annual meeting. There was also information about the 2011 Legislative Conference to be held in September with the Board's material.

Supervisor Buchanan asked if the Board could move to "Authorize Kuhlmann Design Group to advertise Vicksburg Sewer Sag Project," in order to not keep Engineer Ron Stuckel longer than needed. Ron gave an update on the project and said the Board would need to authorize the project. Trustee Schobert made a motion approve the Vicksburg Sewer project and to advertise for bids for the Vicksburg Sewer Sag Project. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

The Board next moved on to item "Northland Sewer Sag Project." Ron Stuckel gave a summary of the project and what the proposal will consist of and what Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will require. Supervisor Buchanan asked if the settling has stopped in that area. Mr. Stuckel said that IDNR had quit monitoring it some time ago so it has stopped moving.

Mr. Stuckel also reported that Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) is adding an addition to their Liberal Arts building and relocating their private sewer lines. The sewer lines run to the Weatherstone lift station. He said he will be checking to make sure that station will not be overloaded.

Supervisor's Report

- Insurance Claims - Supervisor Buchanan said the owner at the Northland Drive has retained and attorney and they have sent our insurance company a letter.
- Delinquent Sewer Accounts – The report was provided to the Board.
- General Assistance Fund - Supervisor Buchanan said the auditors have recommended that the GA fund reimburse the Sewer fund for employee sharing.
- Sewer Ordinance Publication. - Supervisor Buchanan said he had been hopeful that the Journal would be a paper of general circulation that the Township could use to publish the sewer ordinance and be less costly. However, it was determined that it was not. He said he did go back and negotiate with the News Democrat to lower the cost of publishing the sewer ordinance from \$6,859 to \$5,000.
- Publication Laws - Supervisor Buchanan said the Illinois House and Senate did both unanimously approve changing the law to reduce some publishing costs to local governments and it will become active on 1/1/12 if signed by the Governor. He said this will benefit municipalities with regard to publishing the annual treasurer's report.
- Health Insurance Rate Increase - He said the health insurance rate went up 15% and that the Township's rating went down from a C+ to a C.

- Community Development Block Grant - The County Board awarded \$60,000 of the \$75,000 block grant requested for the Glen Addie sewer project. Supervisor Buchanan said that even though the County Board has approved this, it still needs to be approved by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The work will be completed in 2012 if the grant is approved.

Highway Commissioner's Report

- Commissioner Burk said the East Main project was awarded to Hanks, and the cost should come in under what was projected. They are experiencing some problems with the utilities, and the work should begin in July.
- The Mine Haul Road vacation is complete, and the Township will no longer be responsible for chipping and oiling about half of that road. Hwy Commissioner Burk said a ditch has to be dug, and they plan to use the dirt from the ditch to mound up at the end of the road. He also said the Township will need to put up a "Dead End" sign at the Frank Scott entrance. Bob Trentman said he wanted it to go on record that he thinks it is a safety issue.
- Commissioner Burk said Gleason was awarded the bid for the for the Stookey Terrace project. He said it is moving along well and the residents are very happy.
- Commissioner Burk said there is a law requiring the Township to put don't pollute stickers or stenciling on all drains throughout the Township. He found it be more cost effective to do the stenciling.

Public Comments

Dean Wallen pointed out that trespassers have rights with regard to dead end roads. He also mentioned that he read an article about the Belleville Sewer District being required to make an addition to their sewer plant by EPA. He wondered if this would affect the Township's rates since some of the Township's sewer goes to Belleville. Supervisor Buchanan said that he talked to Belleville already, and he said they had previously adjusted their rates so it should not affect the Township much.

Skip Kernan asked how the sewer negotiations with Swansea were going. He said he didn't think Supervisor Buchanan should be part of the negotiations. Supervisor Buchanan said the sewer negotiations were being handled by the Township's engineer, and the Board has been fully informed during the process. The board will make the final decision. Supervisor Buchanan felt confident we will have something soon that the Board could act on.

Skip Kernan said at the last regular meeting he attended he asked about video taping the meetings, and wanted to know if this had been considered. Supervisor Buchanan said the Board did discuss it at the last special meeting. He said no one felt it was needed and it would be an added expense.

Skip Kernan asked why some members of the Board did not have a difference of opinion when voting. He said that when he was on the Swansea Board he often voted differently from others. Supervisor Buchanan said that he votes for what he believes is best for the Township.

Mark Burk added that he is very happy with what the current Board is doing for the Township versus the past administration's practice. He is pleased they are saving money for the taxpayers.

Skip Kernan wanted to know how the arbitration for the laid off road employees was going. Supervisor Buchanan said that the arbitration is under the Hwy Road Commissioner's jurisdiction, and the Board of Trustees has no authority over that. He said Mr. Kernan would have to discuss that with Commissioner Burk.

Business Items

A. Open Sealed Bids for Salt Barn Property There were two bids received. One from Budde's Lawn and Landscaping in the amount of \$32,500 and the second one from Wilson's Landscaping & Lawn Service, Inc. for \$30,000. The Wilson Landscaping bid also stated, "In the event you receive a higher offer from another interested firm/party, the \$30,000 of which we just submitted will change. We then elect to provide you with our 2nd offer/bid to reflect \$1 more than the highest bidder of record which you receive." Supervisor Buchanan said the Township attorney suggested they could discuss whether the bids were acceptable in Executive Session. Trustee Schobert said he did not think it needed to be discussed in Executive Session, and he made a motion to accept the highest bid. There was no second to the motion and the motion died.

B. Open Sealed Bids for 1994 Chevrolet Truck- There was one bid for the truck from Aaron Meurer and it was agreed to discuss if the bid should be acceptable during Executive Session.

C. Authorize Kuhlmann Design Group to Advertise Vicksburg Sewer Sag Project - See above.

D. Swansea Sewer Use Negotiations - This agreement is being worked on and hopefully a draft document will be ready to discuss at the next meeting.

E. Sewer Ordinance 2011-3 - Supervisor Buchanan said that we should probably amend the first paragraph of Article XI of the ordinance for future publications. After some discussion, he said it probably wasn't necessary now, and we would amend it later if it comes up again.

F. Prevailing Wage Ordinance 2011-4 - Trustee Schobert made a motion to read Ordinance 2011-4 by title only. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor. Clerk Carroll read Ordinance 2011-4 title only. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve Ordinance 2011-4. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

G. Tentative Budgets for Township and Road District - Supervisor Buchanan reviewed the Township Budget and answered related questions. Hwy Commissioner Burk then reviewed the Road District Budget and answered related questions.

H. Health Insurance - Supervisor Buchanan said in order to purchase the health insurance through the State of Illinois it will need Board approval. Trustee Schobert a motion to allow Supervisor Buchanan to sign the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for health insurance for the Township employees. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

I. Attorney Agreement. - Supervisor Buchanan asked for permission to sign the agreement to work with the Belsheim & Bruckert, L.L.C law firm. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to allow Supervisor Buchanan to approve the agreement. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

J. Personnel - Supervisor Buchanan said that Denny Milam has not turned in a letter of resignation yet, but he has given every indication that he will be retiring. Supervisor Buchanan

asked the Board if they wanted to vote to replace Denny Milam with Jeff Carmack for the supervisor position. Trustee Schobert made a motion to wait until Denny Milam turns in a letter of resignation. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

K. Northland Sewer Sag Project - See above.

At 8:40 p.m. Trustee Barnes made a motion to go into closed Executive Session for purposes of considering the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by St. Clair Township, 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 Schobert. Roll call vote. All yes.

At 9:08 p.m. the Board came out of closed Executive Session and returned to the Regular meeting.

Trustee Schobert made a motion to accept the bid for the salt barn in the amount of \$32,500 from Budde's Landscaping. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. Trentman-NO, Bridgman-YES, Schobert-YES, Barnes-NO, Buchanan-YES. Motion passes.

Trustee Schobert suggested that the proceeds are put in the General Assistance fund instead of the Town fund.

Trustee Schobert made a motion to accept the bid for the truck in the amount \$2,011 from Aaron Meurer. Roll call vote. All in favor.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 9.25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk