

## Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: May 26, 2015  
TIME: 7:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: St. Clair Township Bldg.  
107 Service Street  
Swansea, IL

### CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of St. Clair Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Barnes  
Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis, Greg Hipkind  
Absent: none

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed, Road Commissioner Skip Kernan

Others Present: Curt Regensberger                      Dean Wallen  
Joyce Johnston                                      Bob  
Bob Buechler                                        Vladimir Halupa  
Jill Halupa

### APPROVE MINUTES

Trustee Sturgis made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2015 meeting. Trustee Carroll seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Supervisor Barnes read the beginning and ending balances of each fund for the month of April.

	<u>April 1, 2015</u>	<u>April 30, 2015</u>
General Town Fund	\$ 418,946.69	\$ 408,555.45
General Assistance Fund	\$ 56,982.67	\$ 55,133.91
Park Maintenance Fund	\$ 160,956.76	\$ 160,124.65
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 419,865.69	\$ 422,743.18
Permanent Road Fund	\$ 638,276.54	\$ 538,656.63

Sanitary Sewer Fund                                      \$ 4,857,089.94                                      \$ 4,829,043.11

The beginning balance of the General Town Fund is \$12.33 more than and the beginning balance of the Sanitary Sewer Fund is \$12.33 less than the previous month's stated balances because of an error in payroll calculations. Trustee Hipskind made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Supervisor Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

BUDGET REPORT

The budget report did not include the current year budgeted amount nor the percent of budgeted amount used. There was no motion on the budget report.

COMMUNICATIONS

Rob Reidelberger, Financial Advisor from Bank of Springfield, presented what BOS can offer for investing \$1M in certificates of deposit. He suggested laddering (1 year, 18 months, 2 years) CDs so the township would have some liquidity if needed. Interest would be paid out into a money market account and all the money would have full FDIC coverage.

Supervisor Barnes said an Illinois Clean Energy Grant in the amount of \$38,565 has been approved for sewer plant Phase II improvements. He is waiting to hear if an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity: Illinois Energy Now Grant in the amount of \$115,695 will be awarded. The total cost of Phase II improvements is expected to be \$280,500.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Road Commissioner Kernan stated there are flooding problems throughout the township. He stated roads flooding have been a problem for years but the amount of water accumulating is increasing and sometimes keeps residents from getting to their homes for 10 to 12 hours. The problem areas are on private property (often rental property) and owners have not been cooperative about addressing the issue. He stated the only recourse would be for affected property owners to file a lawsuit against property owners unwilling to alleviate problem areas.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Barnes stated past due sewer bills total about the same amount as in May 2014. He added the township is using Local Government Collection Plan on accounts too small to file a lien.

Supervisor Barnes stated the employees' health care insurance renews in July. He said the medical insurance premium will decrease about 4% while the dental insurance premium will increase 3%. He suggested getting bids biannually to assure the rates are competitive.

### PARK BOARD REPORT

Township Park Board President Dean Wallen reported Heartland Conservancy is creating a long-term plan for clean-up and improvement of Centennial Park. He said another volunteer day is being considered but he had no details yet. The park board suggests expansion of the parking lot at Centennial Park. He stated the park committee still supports a restroom at Loop Creek Park even if nearby residents are concerned.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jaynie Wells pointed out the flag in front of the township office needs to be replaced and should have a light on it at night.

Joyce Johnston presented pictures showing tall weeds growing in a ditch on "B" Street Road that are causing a drainage problem. She stated she has lived on "B" Street Road for years and there has not historically been a problem with weeds or drainage. She asked how residents could get something done about the problem.

Dean Wallen suggested the road district and sewer departments share equipment to save money.

Jill Halupa suggested the excess in the road budget could be used to do road improvement in Stookey Terrace.

### BUSINESS ITEMS

- Ordinance 2015-1 – An ordinance amending section 6.02(a) establishes a \$7.34 monthly transport fee for township residents being billed by Swansea as stated in the Township / Swansea Sewer Agreement. Supervisor Barnes made a motion to accept Ordinance 2015-1, Amending Its (the township's) Wastewater Facilities Ordinance, establishing a monthly charge of \$7.34 for transport fee for those township residents being billed by Swansea. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Barnes. No – Wells, Hipskind. Motion passed.
- Reactivate lift stations – Supervisor Barnes provided a letter from Brian Buchheit, HMG Engineers, Inc. in which he gave a cursory evaluation of reactivating inactive lift stations. It stated significant improvements would be necessary at the sewer plant to service additional wastewater but long-term planning could include those improvements. The trustees asked to have Mr. Buchheit attend a meeting to explain the details he discussed

in the letter. The trustees asked Supervisor Barnes to contact the IEPA to get their general opinion. No motion was made.

- Lawn Mower – Supervisor Barnes researched Scag, John Deere, and Cub Cadet mowers. He said the John Deere (\$8,700) and Cub Cadet (\$9,500) mowers are less expensive than Scag (\$11,630) but they are expected to need more service. The township currently owns a Scag with about 850 hours clocked. He said the life expectancy is 1,500 to 2,000 hours. The old mower could be sold by sealed bid instead of trading in. Trustee Sturgis made a motion to continue using the mower we have until the end of the season and reevaluate our options at that time. Trustee Carroll seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- \$1M to Certificates of Deposit – Supervisor Barnes said the \$1M put in the CDs would be from the line item Swansea Reserve Account in the Sewer Fund with the rest to come out of either the checking or savings account. Earlier in the meeting Rob Reidelberger, Financial Advisor at BOS, explained the benefit of laddering. Trustee Carroll made a motion to move the money into a 9 month special CD at 0.7%, an 18 month CD at 0.75 and a 2 year CD at 1% interest. Supervisor Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Barnes. No – Wells, Hipskind. Motion passed.
- Medical Catastrophic Insurance Program – The Medical Catastrophic Insurance covers Township residents on General Assistance. The premium is \$2,360 per year with a \$25,000 deductible. With the current federal medical insurance program all General Assistance clients have insurance cards making this policy unnecessary. Trustee Hipskind made a motion to not renew the Medical Catastrophic Insurance. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no business to discuss in Executive Session.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 p.m. Trustee Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Barnes seconded the motion. Voice vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Reed  
St. Clair Township Clerk

Approved: 6/16/2015