

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: June 21, 2016
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
Absent: Trustee Greg Hipskind

A quorum was present.

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed, Road Commissioner Skip Kernan

Others Present: Engineer Ron Stuckel
Terry Bruckert, Bruckert, Gruenke, & Long, PC
Sue DonCarlos Guy DonCarlos
Carol Haslett David Donley
Dean Wallen Steve Duff
Zia Nizami Joe Bustos
Bob Buechler Vladimir Halupa

APPROVE MINUTES

Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve the May 24, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Trustee Wells 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 May.

	<u>May 1, 2016</u>	<u>May 31, 2016</u>
General Town Fund	\$ 429,864.02	\$ 412,544.08
General Assistance Fund	\$ 65,201.65	\$ 65,212.63
Park Maintenance Fund	\$ 166,080.56	\$ 163,670.02
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 329,166.60	\$ 304,783.61
Permanent Road Fund	\$ 235,714.07	\$ 195,587.71
Sanitary Sewer Fund	\$ 4,847,657.69	\$ 5,012,439.44

Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

BUDGET REPORT

Supervisor Barnes made a motion to approve the Budget Report as presented. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Wells, Sturgis, Barnes. No – Carroll. Absent – Hipskind. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barnes reported a township employee found a person unconscious on the trail at Centennial Park last week. The employee performed CPR on the person until medical personnel arrived.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Road Commissioner Kernan reported the hearing about reopening Mine Haul Road at Route 158 showed heavily in favor of reopening the road. He expects it to be about two weeks before bids are open for the project. That project will be a priority. He said the road district has received an \$80,000.00 grant for Short 11th Street. He has received approval from the county and is waiting for approval from the state. Road Commissioner Kernan questioned how the board could discuss item 9F on the agenda, Amended Road District Budget, without his original budget included in the meeting packet.

Supervisor Barnes explained Mr. Kernan needed to provide an amended budget for the board to review.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Barnes reported 53 shut-off notices were sent with June sewer bills. He reported the amount past due from sewer accounts now billed by Swansea decreased \$100.00 from the previous month.

Supervisor Barnes reported the entrance to Loop Creek Park and the tennis court parking lot there have been sealed. He also reported the Centennial Park parking lot expansion is almost complete. He also stated the butterfly gardens at the schools are ready for flowers to be planted.

PARK BOARD REPORT

Park Board President Dean Wallen reported a Volunteer Day at Centennial Park is planned for Saturday, July 16 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Wolf Branch Boy Scouts and High Mount Girl Scouts are expected to be there. Supervisor Barnes added he hopes the union does not file another grievance about letting volunteers do work in the park.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Duff said the complaints he heard at the Mine Haul Road Hearing were about excessive speed on Route 158. He stated he is surprised there is such little sense of community in that the union filed a grievance. He stated he is against adding another road district employee until a study of some kind could show the necessity of a fifth employee. He also suggested off street parking would be a good addition at the roller hockey rink at Wolf Branch.

Tim Buchanan stated anyone he has talked to about Mine Haul Road wants the road reopened because of the unsafe conditions at the intersection of Frank Scott Parkway and Route 158. He stated his hope that the road commissioner would investigate what can be done to improve the safety of that intersection because reopening Mine Haul at Route 158 will not eliminate the concerns residents have about speed and visibility at the Frank Scott intersection.

Dean Wallen reminded everyone there have always been township road projects that benefit residents outside the township's tax jurisdiction.

Robert Buechler wanted to clarify why a grievance was filed about volunteers doing work at the park. He stated that an employee was laid off and the township workers are not able to maintain the parks because of the reduction in manpower.

Dave Donley suggested a study be done to substantiate the need for five road employees.

Howard Thorpe reminded the board they should come together to find a solution to the question of budgeting for five road district employees.

Mary Carroll stated she has a list of 228 township residents who are against amending the road budget to add a fifth road employee.

Sue DonCarlos stated the most recent list of road work on the website was for June 2014. She requested the list be updated so she can see where taxpayer dollars are going.

Guy DonCarlos stated he hopes the butterfly gardens do not get vandalized. He said he and his neighbors shovel snow from their street because the plow blades seem to be lifted near his property.

Keith Sturgis stated his neighbors have asked him why it appears the snow does not get plowed in front of his property on State Street Road.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Sewer Plant Roof – Engineer Ron Stuckel stated two bids were received for the project. Shay Roofing had the low base bid at \$26,543.00. Their price for a roof tear off, if needed, was also lower at \$4,957.00. A 25 year warranty would be an additional \$1,150.00. Mr. Stuckel’s recommendation was to accept the bid from Shay Roofing. Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve the bid from Shay Roofing with the alternate amounts. Supervisor Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- Prevailing Wage Ordinance 2016-1 – Attorney Bruckert stated the state has not published 2016 wage rates. Until the wage rates are updated it would be appropriate to use the rates published for 2015. Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-1 Prevailing Wage. Trustee Wells seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- Base Sewer Rate Ordinance 2016-2 – Supervisor Barnes reminded the board the reduction in the base sewer rate was approved at the last meeting. This is the ordinance establishing the new basic user charge of \$11.00 per month. Trustee Wells made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-2 with it being effective the day it was passed, May 24, 2016. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- Transport Fee Ordinance 2016-3 – Supervisor Barnes reminded the board a reduction of the transport fee charged to township residents being billed by Swansea was approved last month. This is the ordinance establishing the rate of \$4.00 per month as the transport fee for those township residents. Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-3 with it being effective the day it was passed May 24, 2016. Trustee Wells seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- Article IX Section 9.06 Ordinance 2016-4 – The words “reasonable costs of collection” were added to what would be collected if a civil suit is filed in connection with collecting

delinquent sewer fees. Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve Ordinance 2016-4. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

- Amended Road District Budget – With no amended budget to review there was no discussion on an amended Road Budget.
- Mulch for Loop Creek Park Playgrounds – Supervisor Barnes received two bids for mulch products for the playground. The least expensive bid was for a product called Fibar from All Inclusive Rec. Township employees were satisfied with the product’s performance in the past. Trustee Carroll made a motion to approve the bid from All Inclusive Rec in the amount of \$3,890.00. Trustee Wells seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.
- Grant Application Loop Creek Park Compost Restroom – The Township can apply to the county for a park grant annually. It is a \$30,000 matching grant. The deadline for application is July 15, 2016. The board discussed if it would be better to apply for the restroom or playground equipment this year. The consensus was to wait to make the grant application for restrooms in 2017. No motion was made with regard to the grant for the restroom at Loop Creek.
- Grant Application Loop Creek Park Playground – Trustee Wells made a motion to apply for a grant from the county for playground equipment at Loop Creek Park. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no business to be discussed in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:18 p.m. Trustee Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Voice vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Reed
St. Clair Township Clerk

Approved: July 26, 2016