

Special Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: July 8, 2016
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: St. Clair Township Bldg.
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of St. Clair Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Barnes asked for a moment of silence in regard to events in Dallas and around the world.

ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Barnes
Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis
Absent: Trustee Greg Hipkind

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed, Road Commissioner Skip Kernan

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Road Commissioner Skip Kernan read a statement to support his budget that allows for five road district employees. He cited a statement from TWM that said five road district employees would save over \$3,000,000.00 by not needing to hire outside contractors. He reminded the board they have no jurisdiction over who he hires. Mr. Kernan requested the board amend the budget to allow for five road employees.

Mrs. Kernan, Clinton Trentman and Vladimir Halupa conceded their time to Mr. Kernan so he could finish his statement.

Robert Goins made the point that the township board sets the budget. He thanked the board for sticking to their decision to not budget for five road district employees.

Randy Kurll asked the board why they decided the road district does not need five employees. He reminded the board that at the special town meeting held about the road district budget the majority vote was to allow for five employees.

John Tiernan read a letter from Trustee Hipskind in support of a budget for five road district employees.

Jeff conceded his time to Mr. Tiernan.

Dan Varady said township residents voted at the special town meeting to approve a five employee road budget. He requested the board amend the budget to what it was when originally submitted.

Steve Duff questioned the method used to write budgets for both the township and road district. He questioned why another employee is needed if the work is getting done.

Robert Buechler said the roads were neglected with the previous road commissioner. He expressed support for five road employees

Jeff Carmack stated public comments portion of the meeting should be changed to a question and answer format instead of comment only and the time limit should be extended.

Mary Ellen Zaks-Kurll conceded her time to Dan Varady.

Dan Varady stated the statement from Trustee Hipskind should have been read by a board member. He suggested the board should provide a time study that shows five employees are not needed.

Bob Trentman stated Skip has done a good job the last three years. He stated the roads are in good shape and he hears very few complaints. He reminded the board about the support for five employees expressed at the special town meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Amended Road District Budget – Supervisor Barnes reminded everyone that the recommendation from the special town meeting was for the board to look at an amended Road District Budget. The amended Road District Budget was emailed to the board members. Board members expressed concern about the maintenance line item being reduced by \$300,000.00 to \$250,000.00. With one road project expected to cost \$125,000.00 there was concern the four other projects slated for 2016-17 could be completed with only \$125,000.00. There was concern that using funds to pay for a fifth employee by reducing the maintenance line item would not be prudent. There being no

further discussion, Supervisor Barnes asked for a motion. No motion was made. He stated the item died for a lack of motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:40 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