

**Aurora Township**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Main Offices, 80 North Broadway**

**Aurora, IL.**

**Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016**

**Time: 4:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

- I. **Call To Order**  
**Pledge of Allegiance**  
**Invocation**  
**Roll Call and Establish Quorum**

A meeting of the Aurora Township Board of Trustees was held at the Aurora Township office, 80 North Broadway, Aurora, IL, at 4 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, 2016. Notice was sent to all members of the Board as required by statute.

Aurora Township Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Supervisor Catching led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation.

Aurora Township Clerk Jason Owens called the roll with the following Board of Trustees members present: Bill Catching – Supervisor; Trustees: Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Juan Reyna, Juanita Wells.

Clerk Jason Owens – Present.

Assessor Davis Offutt – Present.

Highway Commissioner John Shoemaker – Excused Absence.

Staff and Public present – see attached.

- II. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on August 11, 2016 made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**III. Approval and/or Audit of Township and Road District Bills.**

- a. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the Town Fund bills in the amount of **\$63,101.79**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- b. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the Road & Bridge Fund bills in the amount of **\$10,763.23**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- c. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve the General Assistance Fund bills in the amount of **\$9,042.73**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- d. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells to approve the Equipment & Building Fund bills in the amount of **\$1,668.32**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- e. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna to approve the combined IMRF and Road & Bridge IMRF Funds bills in the amount of **\$11,117.08**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- f. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the combined Social Security and Road & Bridge Social Security bills in the amount of **\$5,910.88**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**IV. New Business**

- a. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore amending the agenda to allow Brian LeFevre of Sikich LLC to present the Audit Report prior to Departmental Reports. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Presentation of Annual Financial Report for the Year ended March 31, 2016.**

Brian LeFevre from Sikich LLP reviewed the audit findings for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. Mr. LeFevre said that all funds are now in a positive position and that no adjustments to the financial statements were needed, which is the exception in the auditing world. Mr. LeFevre said that the General Fund now maintains a level of reserves that could warrant discussion for managing (low risk investing) the funds. All deposits are now in compliance with deposit controls. Mr. Lefevre also pointed out that, new this year, is a report on the Township's IMRF funds and obligations. He said that while there is a large unfunded obligation, the figure is based on actuarial projections and could actually be lowered in the future. Mr. LeFevre pointed out that the Highway Department must create a written petty cash policy. Finally, Mr. LeFevre commended the work that Chief of Staff Patricia Richardson has done over the years, along with the efforts of the Board, to improve the financial health of the Township.

## V. Reports

- a. **Assessor's Report** – Report attached. Summary: Assessor Offutt said his office is being swamped by calls due to the equalization factor. Offutt also mentioned that the deadline for Board of Review appeals is August 31, 2016.
- b. **Highway Commissioner's Report** – Jason Owens. Summary: Two proposed No Parking Ordinances for the corner of Bangs and Melrose was passed out to the Trustees. They will ask for board approval at the next regular meeting. Weather slowed down the senior mowing program, but allowed the department to catch up on vehicle maintenance.
- c. **Supervisor's Report** – Bill Catching. Summary: Supervisor Catching reported that he has contracted a vendor to take down one tree at 1138 Bangs Street and trim up another at 1.139 Gates for a total cost of \$4500. Both trees are on Township-owned lots, which the Township purchased with federal funds after the flood of 1996. Catching reported that he attended a recent United Way cardboard boat race and will be attending a Township Officials of Kane County meeting on August 31, which will discuss consolidating or eliminating townships with local legislators.
- d. **Code Enforcement Officer's Report** – Bill Catching. Report attached. Summary: Supervisor Catching reported that the Township paid for the removal of a large hornet's nest.
- e. **General Assistance Manager's Report** – Suely Cabral. Summary: Ms. Cabral reported that ten clients were reapproved for financial assistance, three new clients added and three clients terminated from the program. Ms. Cabral also reported eight applications were approved for rental assistance under the Emergency Assistance program.
- f. **Presentation of July Financial Statements** – Patricia Richardson. Report Attached. Summary: Ms. Richardson reported that July was a quiet month and that August is looking good as well. She expects the second large property tax distribution to arrive in September. Ms. Richardson mentioned that the first payments under the new medical premiums were paid and that the Board will likely need to approve line item transfers to the budget to make certain that the increase is covered. Ms. Richardson also said that she is hopeful that the IMRF liability will be able to be paid down, even with the increase in medical premiums, with a goal of December for a reduction payment.

## VI. Unfinished Business

None.

**VII. New Business**

**b. Resolution 2016-23 Authorizing a Grant to Living Daylight Corporation.**

Discussion: Peggy Hicks, representing Living Daylight Corporation, provided a written outline (attached) of the STEM program that the proposed grant supports, in part. Ms. Hicks apologized that Dr. Vincent Gaddis, history professor at Benedictine University and program leader, was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Hicks said the grant supports a three-week STEM camp that mainly serves kids from School District 131. The camp engages grade school students who aren't normally exposed to the connection between science and art through field trips and other activities. Ms. Hicks said that the program was so successful that SD 131 will continue it as an after-school activity.

Trustee Wells asked if the program will be continuing as a standalone program. Ms. Hicks said that it will continue and that the field trips and other experiences will change so participants' exposure is widened.

Trustee Reyna said that a program like this is important for kids and once the kids see the connection between STEM subjects and art, it can have a lasting impact.

Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to pass Resolution 2016-23 Authorizing a Grant to Living Daylight Corporation. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**c. Board Member Comments**

- a. Trustee Wells said the LaSalle Street Auto Row car show was a success. She estimated that over 100 cars and 500 people attended the event.
- b. Trustee Reyna thanked Patty for her hard work and pointed out that the auditor's report bears out the good work she is doing.
- c. Trustee Moore reported that the Aurora Sundowners annual banquet on August 14 went well. Moore also thanked the Board for their good work, represented by the success of the Living Daylight STEM camp, as an example of local government adhering to its mission to wisely spend public money to make a positive impact in the community.

**d. Public Comments**

- a. Betsy B. (St. Charles Canoe Club) spoke to the Board about the June 11<sup>th</sup> Kids in Boats event held at Phillips Park. She expressed her hope that the Board will continue to sponsor this event in the future, as well as other related events.

She said that the adult volunteers and parents were very emotional as they saw the children's joy as the day progressed and their fear of the unknown evaporated...even as the kids themselves got wetter and wetter.

- b. Karl T. (St. Charles Canoe Club) also spoke to the board about the Kids in Boats event. He said the volunteers were very eager to do the event again and that they also had as much, if not more, fun than the kids.
- c. Peggy H. (resident) thanked Patty for her good work on the Township financials. She thanked Supervisor Catching and the Board for their support for kids and kids' programs since they took office.

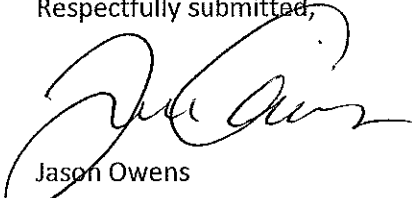
**e. Announcements**

- a. TRIAD Senior Academy will be held on September 7, 2016 at the Aurora Police Department (1200 E. Indian Trail) from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Educational Sessions on "Frauds and Scams" and "Fires and Falls" to be presented. A tour of the station will conclude the free event. Coffee and bagels provided.

- f. **Adjournment** – Motion for adjournment made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote at 5:02 p.m.

**Next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at Aurora Township Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Owens  
Aurora Township Clerk