

AURORA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAIN OFFICES, 80 N. BROADWAY, AURORA, IL.
4 p.m. NOVEMBER 14, 2013
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 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois, at 4 p.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2013. Notice was sent to all board members as required by state statute.

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

Aurora Township Clerk Ken Christy called the roll with the following Board members present: - Bill Catching – Supervisor, Trustees: Dolores Hicks, Juan Reyna and Juanita Wells.
Trustee David Moore – Excused absence.
Assessor – Davis Offutt – Present
Highway Commissioner – John Shoemaker --- Present

Staff and public present – as attached.

II. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting on Oct. 24, made by Catching, seconded by Reyna. Trustee Wells asked for a correction to her statement under New Business as reflected in the minutes. Catching agreed to amend his motion as did Reyna. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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

A. Motion made by Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the Town Bills in the amount of \$81,418.24. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Motion made by Catching and seconded by Hicks to approve Road District Bills in the amount of \$46,907.47. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Motion made by Catching and seconded by Reyna to approve General Assistance bills in the amount of \$4,130.69. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Combined motion made by Catching to pay IMRF AND R&B IMRF bills in the amount of \$10,429.76. Seconded by Hicks. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

E. Combined motion by Catching to approve SOCIAL SECURITY and R&B SOCIAL SECURITY bills in the amount of \$5,135.23. Seconded by Wells. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. REPORTS

A. Assessor's Report - by Davis Offutt – Report Attached – Summary – There are a total of 500 Kane County Board of Review filings for Aurora Township. The first Board of Review hearings begin on December 5 and will run through February 2014.

B. Highway Commissioner's Report - John Shoemaker –As part of transition from fall to winter operations, his employees are preparing for snow. The recent snowfall helped identify equipment issues. He is seeking funding for a sidewalk on Eastern Avenue between New York and Liberty streets. A brief discussion was held about the Ashland Avenue bridge and its maintenance.

C. Supervisor Report – Supervisor Bill Catching - The Township Officials of Illinois seminar in Springfield over the Veterans' Day weekend was well attended and very educational and helpful – particularly with General Assistance questions. Closer to home, the township provided transportation, tent, and shuttle service for the Moving Wall at West Aurora High School. At noon on Nov. 22, there will be a luncheon and celebration of the new Bingo board at the Senior Center. Supervisor Catching reported he voted against the TIF proposal in Montgomery along Aucutt and Orchard roads. Additional comments were made by Commissioner Shoemaker on this subject.

D. Youth Services Report - Scot Thurman reported Youth Services received a \$1,600 grant from the Aurora Rotary Club Foundation to purchase equipment and a pool table. The Dart Container Foundation gave a grant for sports equipment and gym dividers. We have also received a grant from the Rhoades foundations of \$12,000 toward a basketball program. The Youth Center foundation has also received \$2,500.00 from the Semmler Family Foundation for lighting installation and improvements. There is \$800 remaining from that donation. We are very fortunate in receiving many interns from Aurora University helping in the areas of Social Work and volunteering in programs such as art, cheerleading, and mentoring. Indoor soccer is ongoing under the direction of Mr. Navarro. Our community service workers will be helping in the construction and installation of the Festival of Lights at Phillips Park. On Nov. 19th, there will be a Youth Commission meeting. Sarah Paul is leading the mentoring program for the youth. We are already looking at grants to upgrade our computer systems from businesses like Target and Dollar General.

E. Ride In Kane Report - by Supervisor Catching – Ridership report indicates that there were 1864 riders, 1730 trips and 10,784 miles driven in October. As of November 13, the RIK waiting list for Aurora Township is at 186. We are sad to report that driver Jerry Jordan passed away in late October. Jerry was a well-liked employee and driver with many friends on staff and amongst his passengers. Our sympathy goes out to his family. Our buses were inspected by PACE earlier this month and no major

deficiencies were cited. The township is working on a mailing to all Ride in Kane users about the Jan. 1 fare increase (from \$3 to \$4) and other changes in the program.

F – UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

V. – NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Blackberry Township Intergovernmental Agreement for General Assistance. After a brief discussion, Catching made a motion to table this subject. Seconded by Reyna. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Presentation of 2012- 2013 Audit Report by Brian LeFevre, Sikich. Mr. LeFevre reviewed the Audit Report with the Board. In his review, he covered all areas of Township financial policies and procedures as well as their review of financial records with recommendations on implementing checks and balances and other procedures. Mr. LeFevre pointed out that the Town Fund balance of \$6,269 at the end of the 2012-13 fiscal year is negative considering that \$155,785 in expenses to PACE were unpaid at the time. Sikich recommends at least three months operating expense in its general fund reserve. Fund balances in the Road District funds meet or surpass that standard, LeFevre said.

C. Preliminary Discussion on 2013 Tax Levy. – Supervisor Catching reported that we are conducting Township business with fewer employees. Considering the results of the audit, Catching said the Township needs to build its fund reserves, which are dangerously low. He stated that TIF District #2 in the City of Aurora, which included the Chicago Premium Outlet Mall, expired effective at the start of the year and the Township can expect additional revenue as a result.

VI. -PUBLIC COMMENTS – Peggy Hicks complimented the work done in improving the Township by Supervisor Catching and Patricia Richardson.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Commissioner Shoemaker reported that Township employee Jason Owens' father-in-law passed away suddenly and extended his sympathy to his family. Trustee Wells thanked the board for allowing the privilege of attending the recent seminar in Springfield. She stated that it was educational and informative. Peggy Hicks announced that at 6:30 p.m. tonight there will be a meeting and rally about a Living Wage seminar at Prisco Center, hosted by Northern Illinois Jobs for Justice.

IX – EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – Motion to move to Executive closed session by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Hicks at 5:31 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

X – RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION - on a motion by Bill Catching – seconded by Juanita Wells at 5:55 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

XI – ADJOURNMENT – Motion to Adjourn by Trustee Wells, seconded by Supervisor Catching.
At 5:56 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next board meeting will be held at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 26, 2013, at the aurora Township offices, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois.

RESPECTIFULLY SUBMITTED,

Ken Christy
Aurora Township Clerk

AURORA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
ATTENDANCE - SIGN-IN

MEETING DATE: Nov 14, 2013

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE
Brian LeFevre	Sikich		
Peggy Hicks	Citizen		
Patricia Richardson			



Aurora Township Assessor

Davis R. Offutt

Certified Illinois Assessing Officer - Master #20
State Certified General Real Estate Appraiser #553.000892



TO: Aurora Township Board

RE: Assessor Report

DATE: November 14, 2013

Oct 24-Nov 13, 2013

Permits processed: 288

Sales processed: 109

Divisions: 0

Parcel Count: 39,382

There are a total of 500 Kane County Board of Review filings for Aurora Township.

The first Board of Review hearings begin December 5th and will run through February 2014.

The bills presented for approval represent the typical expenses incurred during the general operations of the Assessor's Office.

As always, I will make myself available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Davis Offutt
Aurora Township Assessor