

**AURORA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAIN OFFICES
80 NORTH BROADWAY
AURORA, IL.
4 p.m. THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014**

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 April 24th, 2014. Notice was sent to all members of the Board as required by state statute.

Aurora Township Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Supervisor Catching 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 of Trustees members present: Bill Catching – Supervisor, Trustees: Dolores Hicks , David Moore, Juanita Wells and Juan Reyna.

Assessor Davis Offutt – Excused Absence
Highway Commissioner John Shoemaker --- Present
Staff & Public present – as attached.

II. MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES of the Regular Board Meeting on April 8th, 2014, made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Wells. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

III. APPROVAL AND/OR AUDIT OF TOWN AND ROAD DISTRICT BILLS

A. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve the Town Bills in the amount of \$44,944.34. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks, to approve Road District bills in the amount of \$ 30,126.05. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna, to approve General Assistance bills in the amount of \$ 4,951.18. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Combined motion made by Supervisor Catching to pay IMRF AND R&B IMRF bills in the amount of \$10,770.51. Seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

E. Combined motion by Supervisor Catching to approve SOCIAL SECURITY and R&B SOCIAL SECURITY bills of \$ 4,907.40. Seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. REPORTS

A. Assessor's Report - Attached – Summary – We are approximately 55% through the reviewing and/or revaluing Aurora Township properties for 2014, payable in 2013. Supervisor Catching complimented Assessor Offutt for his cooperation in working with him and his staff.

B. Highway Commissioner's Report - Commissioner Shoemaker reported spring brush pick-up will end on or about April 25. Approximately 300 people registered for this service. There is mulch available at the Township Highway division and at the North Aurora public works building. Road re-paving will be under way. The Indian Avenue re-surfacing is on hold because of two sewer repairs and will be until these properties are repaired. Repair to these properties must be made by the property owners. Fox Metro has confirmed this responsibility by inspecting the properties.

C. Supervisor Report – Supervisor Catching reported that he attended training with Patricia Richardson in regards to Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. He also attended a seminar with Suely Ann Cabral in regards to General Assistance programs. Both training seminars were very informative. Supervisor Catching has revised the qualifications for emergency assistance to reflect the 2014 HUD guidelines. Supervisor Catching reported that has met with Keith Gregory of the Aurora Housing Authority in regards to the Jericho Circle property in its use for future soccer fields. He would like to eventually have multiple soccer fields so that our current fields do not get over-used.

D. Code Enforcement Officer's Report - by Hector Benavides – Report Attached. Hector further reported that the former site of the African-American Museum formerly owned by Dr. Smith and now owned by Mr. Andy Williams will be demolished in cooperation from Kane County.

E. General Assistance Manager's Report – As Attached – by Suely Ann Cabral – Summary: Reported on March clients, the prescription amount has decreased because of the effects of the Affordable Care Act. Report further stated there was an African American Health Fair on Saturday March 29th. It was well attended. The Senior Services Committee will meet April 25th at Sunnymere at 9:00 a.m. She also thanked all those who sponsored her for the Rockin' Around the Clock event at Sunnymere Retirement Home.

F. Financial Report and Audit Update – by Patricia Richardson – Ms. Richardson stated that a financial report was sent to all Township Officers. Sikich LLP, our auditing firm, will be in the Township Office on May 13th to begin the audit. Confirmation letters will be sent to all elected Township officials in conjunction with the audit. Audit results should be ready by early July. After this audit, we may switch auditors as we have had Sikich as our auditing firm for many, many years, and a change – and a fresh set of eyes - would be beneficial.

Ms. Richardson also reviewed the statement of revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 2014. She also reported that the Pace invoices for the cost of the program sponsorship have been reduced because changes enacted in the Ride In Kane Program. Our most recent invoice was less than \$20,000. This is a reduction from PACE invoices of \$60,000 a month a year ago. The Assessor budget has also been reduced by \$20,000.00. Employee Health Insurance estimate of costs for the policy year beginning in August will likely increase. We will know this information at a later date. The Youth Center is looking at grants for summer employment of up to 22 people. This will result in a cost to the Township for background checks and Social Security payments, but the State of Illinois will pay the employees' salaries. Trustee Hicks commented on her appreciation to Ms. Richardson of her outstanding work as Chief of Staff.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tentative Approval of 2014-2015 Town Budget – Motion by Bill Catching, Seconded by Juan Reyna, a discussion followed. The budget presented by Supervisor Catching was reviewed. In regards to capital outlay, he explained the need for software upgrade at The Township and Assessor's offices. Trustee Moore thanked Supervisor Catching for the very transparent budget compared to previous budgets. Each department manager had input on the budget and will have monthly updates on where they stand with month-to-date and year-to-date information. Trustee Wells asked if the budget could be shared, in advance with the Board. Supervisor Catching said the current procedure is for he and his staff to prepare a budget, and it can then be reviewed by the Board. The budget has a 30 day review. Trustee Reyna asked about where the budget will be posted. Supervisor Catching stated the notice will be posted on our web page at the township offices and also other legal notices as per law. Tentative budget was approved by unanimous voice vote.

B. Tentative Approval of 2014-2015 Road District Budget: - Motion made by Supervisor Bill Catching, seconded by David Moore for tentative approval for 2014-2015 Road District Budget. Shoemaker commented that in the budget he lowered his typical expenditures on materials but increased expenditures in regards labor costs. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

C. Amendment to 2014 Board Meeting Schedule – To meet the 30-day requirement of having the Town's and Road District's budget on display, Supervisor Catching said he was recommending that we move the previously scheduled meeting of May 22, 2014 to Thursday May 29, 2014 rather than hold a regular meeting and a special meeting. Motion by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Juan Reyna to approve the 2014 change in the meeting schedule. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gianno Caldwell, a principal of Caldwell Strategic Consulting, commented that it was a pleasure to be at the meeting and he is a federal lobbyist in the area of Transportation grants. He further explained the type of grants and would be available for any further communications.

Annette Johnson commented on the budget presented with a compliment on how the Budget was transparent.

Peggy Hicks commented on how well the Township Board is back on track. She further commented on the need for privacy with any information made public from Executive sessions.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Summer Lunch Program Bid Opening, Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. – Aurora Township – Main Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

B. Town and Road District Budget Hearing, Thursday, May 29, 2014 at 3:30 p.m., Aurora Township, Main Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

C. Saturday, April 26th from 9:00 a.m. till Noon-the Sierra Club will be cleaning up the banks of the Fox River. Any volunteers would be appreciated. The Township has made the use of its bathroom facilities available for this event.

D. Trustee Juanita Wells presented a summary of the event of the well water presentation that followed the Town Meeting on April 8th. She thanked all the co-sponsors of this event and the Township officials for their involvement. It was a great success.

E. Road Commissioner Shoemaker announced that the Second to None 5K race benefitting Communities in Schools and the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry will be held Sunday April 27th.

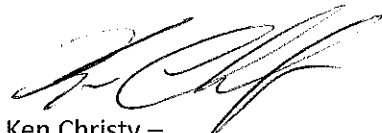
F. Clerk Christy announced that on May 10th, the annual Letter Carrier food drive will take place throughout the United States. Residents and Businesses can leave non- Perishable food and supplies by their mail box, for pick-up by their Letter Carrier. This Food Drive is the biggest one day food drive in America, raising more than 73 million pounds of food nationwide.

G. This Friday April 25th at Dietrich School from noon to 1:30 p.m. a play by a drama group from Guanajuato, Mexico will be present as well as at the Dia de Los Niños on Saturday April 26. Everyone is welcome.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN at 4:54 p.m. by Supervisor Bill Catching, seconded by Dolores Hicks, passed unanimously by voice vote.

Next regular meeting – Thursday, May 8, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Aurora Township Building – 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Ken Christy –
Aurora Township Clerk



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: April 24, 2014

Apr 08-Apr 23, 2014

Permits processed: 81 / Year to Date: 631
Sales processed: 71 / Year to Date: 491
Divisions: 0 / Year to Date: 0
Parcel Count: 39,382

We are approximately 55% through the reviewing and/or revaluing Aurora Township properties for 2014 payable 2013.

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