

AURORA TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
MAIN OFFICES, 80 NORTH BROADWAY, AURORA, IL  
4 p.m. THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014

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**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 4:00 p.m. on Thursday May 29, 2014. 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 p.m. Supervisor Catching led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the Invocation.

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

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 May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

A. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore, to approve the Town Bills in the amount of \$96,718.18. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

B. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna to approve Road District bills in the amount of \$21,998.73. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

C. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells to approve General Assistance bills in the amount of \$5,177.41. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

D. Motion made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Hicks, to approve Mental Health bills in the amount of \$27,119.53. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

E. Motion made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Wells to approve Liability Insurance bills in the amount of \$20,830.50. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

F. Motion made by Supervisor Catching to pay IMRF AND R&B bills in the amount of \$ 10,731.38. Seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

G. Combined motion by Supervisor Catching to approve SOCIAL SECURITY and R&B SOCIAL SECURITY bills of \$3,726.45. Seconded by Trustee Wells. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### **IV. REPORTS**

**A. Assessor's Report** - Davis Offutt - Attached – Summary : The Assessor's office is approximately 81.25% through reviewing and/or re-evaluating Aurora Township properties for 2014, payable in 2015. Assessor Offutt explained the variance in property tax bills for each property tax levy that impacts the total real estate tax bill.

**B. Highway Commissioner's Report** - Commissioner John Shoemaker stated that the private sewer problem on Indian Avenue discussed at previous meetings has been resolved. Paving there is mostly complete and striping has begun. Mitchell Road resurfacing will start later this summer as a joint venture between North Aurora and a private developer. Drainage work continues at Oakview and Parkside. Landscaping is ongoing, with mowing, shoulder work and maintaining and repairing road culverts to help drainage.

**C. Supervisor Report** – Supervisor Catching reported on some initial complaints on lawn mowing being cut too high. Supervisor Catching notified the contractor to lower the cutting level. Supervisor Catching reported about the success and turnout for the Memorial Day parade.

**D. Code Enforcement Officer's Report** - Supervisor Catching reported that this was Hector Benavides' last day as Code Enforcement Officer. Hector has done an outstanding job!

**E. General Assistance Manager's Report** – As Attached – by Suely Ann Cabral – Summary: Nine clients were re-approved for financial assistance. One new one added. Five clients were approved for rental emergency assistance. We are also getting many inquiries about help with utility bills. There will be a Senior Fair on June 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Prisco Community Center from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in regards to safety for all ages. Lunch will be provided, plus raffles and vendors present.

**F. Financial Report**– by Patricia Richardson – Ms. Richardson gave a detailed report on the Finances of the Township for the month of April 2014. She also reported on the positive progress in regards to the Ride-In-Kane program. Also department heads will have monthly updates on the progress of each department in regards to Budget. Supervisor Catching thanked Ms. Richardson for her dedication and hard work. This was echoed by the entire Board.

#### **V – UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE**

**VI- NEW BUSINESS –**

**A. Certificate of Appreciation Recognizing Retiring Code Enforcement Officer – Hector Benavides**

Supervisor Catching presented Hector Benavides a certificate of achievement for his outstanding commitment and dedication to the Township. Board members also praised Mr. Benavides' outstanding work, and all wished him well in his retirement.

Supervisor Catching also presented a certificate of recognition to Sarah Paul, who is leaving the Township to work for a not-for-profit in Naperville. Sarah was a great contributor to the success at the youth center. She will be missed and we wish her good luck in her new employment. Youth Director Scot Thurman accepted the certificate in Ms. Paul's absence.

**B. Ordinance 2014-11 - Aurora Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.** Supervisor Catching made a Motion to approve the Town Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. Seconded by Trustee- Juan Reyna. Motion was passed on a roll call vote by clerk Christy. YES: Reyna, Wells, Hicks, Moore, and Catching. No: None. Passed and adopted.

**C. Ordinance 2014-12 – Aurora Township Road District Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 –** Supervisor Catching made a motion to approve the Township Road District Budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. Seconded by Trustee – David Moore. Motion was passed on a roll call vote clerk Christy. YES: Reyna, Wells, Hicks, Moore, and Catching. No: None. Passed and adopted.

**D. Electrical Aggregation Program Update –** Mr. Arnie Schramel of Progressive Energy, the Township's consultant, gave a detailed report of finding and recommendations as to the electrical aggregation program. His report is attached. He reported that it is a difficult time with rising electrical rates.

He explained in great detail as to the future of the ongoing program. He recommended that the Township discontinue its electrical aggregation program when it ends with the August 2014 meter reads, and return customers to Com Ed. The drawbacks of discontinuing aggregation are that a resident will have to stay with Com Ed for 12 months unless they pick a new electrical supplier within 60 days. He also warned of telemarketing tactics that will result in not saving money to each consumer by offering initial teaser rates, followed by higher rates.

Supervisor Catching added that the township originally intended to partner with the City of Aurora on the aggregation program but declined after they asked for \$5,000 for the privilege of doing so.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** A very lively and informative discussion was held in regard to the ongoing situation with sidewalks, speeding, noise complaints and road conditions in the unincorporated section near Johnson Elementary School.

Road Commissioner John Shoemaker explained that he has been repaving roads on an aggressive schedule. The road system he inherited included one road that had not been repaved since 1958. He stated that he has repaved more miles of road in the past 5 years than the previous two road commissioners had done in 16 years. He would like to get a cycle of road repavement or reconstruction down to an acceptable level before starting to install sidewalks in areas that have never had them. These factors along with an extremely harsh winter this past year have left him no funds for sidewalks unless he pursues grant funding.

Residents complained of potholes on Indian Avenue in the City section. Shoemaker stated that he cannot repair them by law and he has called them into the City and urged the residents to do also.

One resident asked about the possibility of speed bumps, but Shoemaker said Kane County is the only entity that can approve them. Another resident asked to place a shoulder to divert water that flows from her driveway toward her house, but that could not be done on private property and only to benefit one resident.

In terms of speeding, Shoemaker pointed out that he successfully sought permission from the County to lower the speed limit for all township roads to 25 mph. He did, however, acknowledge that enforcing the speed limit is not a high priority for the Kane County Sheriff's department.

Shoemaker pledged along with Supervisor Catching and County Board member Monica Silva, who was in attendance, to seek solutions to the concerns of the residents of this neighborhood. He further urged the residents to call the city and county – where appropriate - to voice their concerns.

In response to a question, Trustee Moore recommended that the residents document their complaints by letters and petitions and not just rely on phone calls.

Bobbi Cannon – resident – thanked the Board for the Townships' lawn mowing program for senior citizens and that she will be a volunteer monitor as to the frequency of the mowing.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** - There will be a Senior Services meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center, 900 N. Lake Street. We are still looking and also have received a couple of sponsors for the Fays BBQ event on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** - by Supervisor Bill Catching at 5:35 p.m.  
Seconded by Trustee Wells – Passed unanimously by voice vote.

**IX. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:** at 5:48 p.m. Roll call by Clerk Christy. YES: Supervisor Catching, Trustees Reyna, Hicks, Moore and Wells. NO: None.

**X. ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Supervisor Catching made a motion and seconded by Trustee Wells to authorize Supervisor Catching to settle Case No.: 440-2013-05928 pursuant to our attorney's recommendations. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**XI. MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Made by Supervisor Catching at 5:59 p.m. and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Next Meeting – June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014** Aurora Township Building – 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.  
4:00 p.m.

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: May 29, 2014

May 08-May 28, 2014

Permits processed: 182 / Year to Date: 961

Sales processed: 87 / Year to Date: 660

Divisions: 0 / Year to Date: 0

Parcel Count: 39,383

We are approximately 81.25% 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

**Aggregate Assessed Value According to Property Class  
Aurora - 15 2014**

<u>Property Class</u>	<u>Aggregate Assessed Value</u>	<u>Parcel Count</u>
0011 Farm Land with Buildings	\$1,639,894	27
0021 Farm Land without Buildings	\$635,876	168
0030 Residential Vacant Land	\$4,141,971	1,936
0032 Residential Developers Relief 10-30	\$135,434	178
0040 Residential	\$1,079,387,972	32,080
0050 Comm Res More than 6 Units	\$71,506,158	220
0060 Commercial	\$257,207,792	1,997
0062 Commercial Developers Relief 10-30	\$410,216	51
0070 Commercial Office	\$14,064,226	35
0072 Comm Office Developers Relief 10-30	\$50,599	12
0080 Industrial	\$239,838,792	943
0082 Industrial Developers Relief 10-30	\$129,899	21
8000 Exempt	\$0	1,602
8040 Residential Partial Exempt	\$72,596	2
8060 Commercial Partial Exempt	\$233,953	6
8070 Comm Office Partial Exempt	\$75,386	1
8080 Industrial Partial Exempt	\$2,529	1
8260 Commercial Leasehold	\$2,482,602	1
9000 Railroad	\$0	102
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	\$1,672,015,895	39,383