

**Aurora Township**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Main Offices, 80 North Broadway**

**Aurora, IL.**

**Date: Thursday, October 8, 2015**

**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, October 8, 2015. 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 Deputy Clerk, Jason Owens, called the roll with the following Board of Trustees members present: Bill Catching – Supervisor; Trustees: Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Juanita Wells and Juan Reyna.

Clerk Ken Christy – Excused Absence.

Assessor Davis Offutt – Excused Absence.

Highway Commissioner John Shoemaker – Present.

Staff and Public present – see attached.

- II. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on September 24, 2015 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 **\$34,420.98**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- b. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve the Road & Bridge Fund bills in the amount of **\$21,392.79**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- c. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells to approve the General Assistance Fund bills in the amount of **\$2,276.67**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- d. 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 **\$10,879.16**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- e. 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 **\$5,567.74**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### IV. Reports

- a. **Assessor's Report** – Report attached. Summary: Assessor Offutt reported that 287 of the 314 Board of Review filings have been completed. The assessor included an historical review of all Aurora Township Board of Review hearings from 1997 through 2015. The invoice for the replacement server will be presented at the next meeting.
- b. **Highway Commissioner's Report** – Jason Owens. Summary: Brush pick up is coming the week of October 19. Senior Lawn program is effectively complete this week. Shouldering newly resurfaced roads will continue to be the focus ahead of winter.
- c. **Supervisor's Report** – Bill Catching. Summary: Supervisor Catching introduced Heather Binder from Rebuilding Together Aurora (RTA) who thanked the Board for the \$5,000 grant. (See attached report.) Ms. Binder explained that the grant allowed RTA to seed other projects within their portfolio (leveraged into over \$30,000 in time and materials), bridge shortfalls on other projects and also demonstrates that RTA works well, and with other local organizations. Ms. Binder also confirmed that RTA has applied for a series of grants from the Dunham Foundation for homes in the Moecherville neighborhood. These applications weren't funded during this cycle, but RTA was encouraged to apply again.
- d. **Ride In Kane Department Manager's Report** – Melissa Wilmot. Report attached. Summary: Ms. Wilmot reported that remaining old RIK buses should be removed from the ATHD lot in the next 10 days. Ms. Wilmot also reported that September saw a large increase in ridership for our service- 258 more riders than August.
- e. **Youth Services Director's Report** – Scot Thurman. Report attached. Summary: Mr. Thurman reported that a reimbursement check (approximately \$27,000) for the State of Illinois for the summer lunch program is expected by October 15. This check will cover approximately \$19,000 in food expenses and \$6,000-\$7,000 in program overhead. Thurman also reported Aurora University (AU) informed him that the \$17,525.00

transportation contract to bus AU students for the My Time afterschool program at East Aurora schools will likely be canceled. This potential cancellation is the result of a late alteration to East Aurora School District 131's requirements that all afterschool employees be graduates of East Aurora High School. Additionally, Mr. Thurman updated the Board on the challenges facing and changes to the Aurora Township Soccer program after several coaches and our coordinator left to start their own, competing program. Mr. Thurman assured the Board that, after meeting with the remaining coaches, the soccer program is still viable and is positioned to expand in new, exciting ways. Thurman also reported that program fees will be reduced slightly to encourage more participation and that the Youth Services department will further reduce fees for those applicants who demonstrate financial need. Trustee Reyna asked that a formalized financial aid application be created. Trustee Moore asked Mr. Thurman about the demographics of the soccer program participants. Mr. Thurman replied that while the program was predominantly Hispanic, the Youth Services staff and coaches are working to expand the participation within all demographics. Mr. Moore suggested that sports is an important way to have kids from all backgrounds work and play together to prevent any prejudices from taking hold. Trustee Hicks reiterated that we are getting these kids young, which is important to combat negative feelings. Trustee Moore expressed that he felt strongly that diversity is not simply a concept, but a practice.

**V. Unfinished Business**

None.

**VI. New Business**

**a. Intergovernmental Agreement with Kaneville Township.**

Supervisor Catching reported that Kaneville Township requested an updated intergovernmental agreement for our administration of their General Assistance and Emergency Assistance programs. They had an applicant in the past week. The update includes a revised fee schedule.

Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Kaneville Township as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

**VII. Public Comments**

Bobbie Cannon, resident – thanked the Board for the Senior Lawn Program and the RTA for work that was completed at her home.

**VIII. Board Member Comments**

- a. Trustee Wells announced that she is preparing topics for seminars to be held after the Township's Annual meeting in April 2016. She asked the Board for comments or recommendations on the following topics: Homestead Exemptions, Senior Homestead Exemptions, Reverse Mortgages, Term vs Whole life insurance.
- b. Trustee Moore mentioned that he attended a meeting for the Mental Health Board this week and had handouts for the Board.

**IX. Announcements**

Patricia Richardson reminded the Board that the TOI Conference was coming up and that their registrations were due.

- X. Adjournment** – Motion for adjournment made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote at 4:43 p.m.

**Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at Aurora Township Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Owens  
Aurora Township Deputy Clerk