

**Aurora Township
Board of Trustees Meeting
Main Offices, 80 North Broadway
Aurora, IL.**

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018

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, December 13, 2018. Notice was sent to all members of the Board as required by statute.

Aurora Township Supervisor, Bill Catching, called the meeting to order at 4:10 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 Brenda Hernandez.
Clerk Reginald Campbell – Excused Absent.
Assessor Davis Offutt – Present.
Highway Commissioner Juan Reyna – Present.

Staff and Public present – see attached.

- II. Motion to table the approval of the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on November 20, 2018 made by Trustee Hernandez, seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Trustee Hernandez expressed concern about the details of her comments during the November 20, 2018 meeting and would like to address Clerk Campbell at the next Board meeting.**

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 **\$53,566.87**. 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 **\$22,510.94**. 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 **\$8,682.06**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Trustee Hernandez asked for clarity on GA vs Emergency Funds expenses.
- d. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve the Equipment and Building Fund bills in the amount of **\$8,337.00**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- e. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells to approve the Joint Bridge Fund bills in the amount of **\$1,183.96**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- f. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the combined IMRF and Road & Bridge IMRF Funds bills in the amount of **\$14,295.28**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- g. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve the combined Social Security and Road & Bridge Social Security bills in the amount of **\$10,993.46**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Reports

- a. **Assessor's Report** – Davis Offutt. Summary: Assessor Offutt said the last day for Aurora Township Kane County Board of Review hearings was Thursday, December 6, 2017.
- b. **Highway Commissioner's Report** – Juan Reyna. Summary: Commissioner Reyna passed out a written report and highlighted a few items. Commissioner Reyna mentioned that the Highway Department has received several truckloads of salt, so they are prepared for the winter season.
- c. **Supervisor's Report** – Bill Catching. Summary: Supervisor Catching reported that he will be attending a meeting with representatives from the City of Aurora and VNA Health to discuss the recent PACE bus route reductions (Farnsworth and Route #529 serving the west side) and possible solutions, including a PACE shuttle van program. County Board Trustee Monica Silva offered a correction that the bus routes are only being eliminated on Saturdays and not entirely.
- d. **Ride in Kane Manager's Report** – Melissa Wilmot. Summary: Ms. Wilmot reported that the State of Illinois audit was completed and issues were resolved to the state's satisfaction. Ms. Wilmot also reported she is making home visits to register residents who cannot otherwise come in to the downtown office.
- e. **Youth Services Director's Report** – Written report.

V. Unfinished Business

None.

VI. New Business

- a. **Ordinance 2018-30 Aurora Township 2018 Tax Levy Ordinance.** Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve Ordinance 2018-30 Aurora Township 2018 Tax Levy.

Discussion: Trustee Hernandez asked Supervisor Catching about several line items within the budget in an effort to highlight areas she believed could be reduced or eliminated completely. Trustee Hernandez asked how Supervisor Catching was able to reduce the original funding request of the ordinance to 10.68%. Supervisor Catching said he and the staff decided to reduce the funding request after listening to comments and concerns of residents. Trustee Hernandez asked if there was a savings to the Township by the Highway Department administering the Senior Mowing program. Supervisor Catching said there was a substantial savings. Deputy Clerk Owens mentioned the initial savings was approximately \$15,000 from the third party vendor bids. Trustee Hernandez asked about the importance of the mosquito abatement line item. Trustee Hernandez asked that the grants and sponsorships line item of \$60,000 be reduced or eliminated completely. Trustee Hernandez asked if Kane County could pay for the summer lunch program at the Youth Center. Supervisor Catching said the program is fully paid for through a grant from the State of IL. Trustee Hernandez asked where the money for a full-time human resources manager came from if the initial request was for a part-time position. Supervisor Catching said there were no qualified candidates willing to take a part-time position. Trustee Moore stated that the Township had part-time human resources managers previously and that there were numerous issues (including lawsuits) with personnel and that the Board felt a full-time human resources manager would be more appropriate and hopefully head off as many future issues as possible.

Mr. Paolicchi (resident) stated administrative expenses at the Township were slightly above average. Trustee Hicks said that administrative costs are down significantly from previous administration and that the Township offices are run with a "skeleton crew" that does a great job.

Trustee Moore stated that many of the suggestions brought before the Board were attempted in the past. Trustee Moore said he would like the disparate stakeholders to meet and work together. Trustee Moore stated the Aurora Township Community Mental Health 708 Inc Board was very important and other funding must be available for the most vulnerable citizens.

Supervisor Catching stated that the \$483,691 funding level was less than the electorate approved on the referendum. Catching reiterated the funding requests for all Township programs were flat and that the funding level requested for the 708 Mental Health Board was the CPI level allowed by statute. Supervisor Catching stated that funding levels from the State of Illinois were decreasing and that Township government should be an advocate for the vulnerable residents (seniors, youth and mentally ill) in the community. Supervisor Catching mentioned that AID will be adding a referendum for funding for their programs in an upcoming election. Supervisor Catching stated that he and the Board were honoring the will of the people who voted and passed the referendum.

Deputy Clerk Owens called roll. Supervisor Catching voted yes. Trustee Hernandez voted no. Trustee Hicks voted yes. Trustee Moore voted yes. Trustee Wells voted yes. Ordinance passed with four yes votes and one no vote.

- b. **Ordinance 2018-31 Aurora Township Road District 2018 Tax Levy Ordinance.** Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve Ordinance 2018-31 Aurora Township Road District 2018 Tax Levy.

Discussion: None.

Deputy Clerk Owens called roll. Supervisor Catching voted yes. Trustee Hernandez voted no. Trustee Hicks voted yes. Trustee Moore voted yes. Trustee Wells voted yes. Ordinance passed with four yes votes and one no vote.

- c. **Resolution 2018-32 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund.** Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve Resolution 2018-32 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund in the amount of **\$1,800.00**. Motion passed with four “yes” voice votes and Trustee Hernandez abstaining.
- d. **Resolution 2018-33 Transfer of Appropriation – General Assistance Fund.** Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore to approve Resolution 2018-33 Transfer of Appropriation – General Assistance Fund in the amount of **\$250.00**. Motion passed with four “yes” voice votes and Trustee Hernandez abstaining.
- e. **Resolution 2017-34 Transfer of Appropriation – Road Fund.** Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Wells to approve Resolution 2018-34 Transfer of Appropriation – Road Fund in the amount of **\$2,500.00**. Motion passed with four “yes” voice votes and Trustee Hernandez abstaining.

VII. Board Member Comments

None.

VIII. Public Comments

- a. Richard Leonard – Resident. Suggested youth services funding should be cut. Commented that taxes are too high.
- b. Robert Paolicchi – Resident. Asked the Board to coordinate with other service providers to uncover possible redundancies in services.
- c. Theresa Barreiro – Resident and County Board member. Stated that Kane County offers youth service programs.
- d. Annette Johnson – East Aurora School District 131 Board president. Suggested that the Board needs to look at coordinating services.
- e. Marjorie L. – Resident. Thanked the RIK drivers for their hard work and dedication.

IX. Announcements

Supervisor Catching announced that the Road District Roof Replacement Project Bid opening will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Aurora Township Main Office Conference Room, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

- X. Adjournment** – Motion for adjournment made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote at 5:24 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 27, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at Aurora Township Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Owens

Aurora Township Deputy Clerk