

AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
313 Gale Street, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, February 10, 2022
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
INVOCATION
ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

Aurora Township Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led all present in the pledge of allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following Officials and Board members present: Supervisor William Catching; Trustees Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Sam Núñez, and Juanita Wells; Highway Commissioner Jason Owens, and Assessor Davis Offutt. Also present: Director of Community Services Ken Maurice, Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson, and HR Coordinator Jennifer Haurykiewicz. Staff present: Dan Taylor. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks, Ricky Rodgers.

II. Supervisor Catching moved to **Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 27, 2022**, which was seconded by Trustee Núñez. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

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

Supervisor Catching moved to approve the combined Town Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, General Assistance Fund, Town IMRF Fund, R&B IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge Social Security Fund bills. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$77,705.39
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$24,309.83
General Assistance Fund.....	\$4,622.04
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$2,377.58
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$793.13
Social Security Fund.....	\$4,300.04
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$1,298.12

The total for all funds is \$115,406.13. DISCUSSION:Trustee Núñez asked about CIT funding and Supervisor Catching said it was the corporate name of our technical support, Impact Technology. Núñez also asked why the Road & Bridge department was using Napa in Elburn, and Highway Commissioner Owens said they use the local one but this was likely the headquarters. Without further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

IV. REPORTS

a. Assessor's Report

Assessor Davis Offutt gave highlights of his written report, stating that they are doing ownership updates which may include quick claim deeds; that they are working on the three-year ratio study, and that they are continuing to work on their budget which is due April 1, 2022.

a. Highway Commissioner's Report

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens submitted a written report to the board with the usual jobs performed. He also stated that they have begun negotiations with the Teamsters Union and warned that they might not have everything settled in time for the budget.

b. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Catching first introduced our new Human Resources Coordinator, Jennifer Haurykiewicz, to the board. Then he stated that, since state mask mandates are likely to be dropped at the end of this month, he and the staff are working on a plan for the township for the next phase of Covid. Catching also said at the next meeting he will likely bring a suggestion for grant funding for Fox Valley Fellowship Center AA Club on Illinois Ave. They asked for financial support as they have lost a lot of their revenue during the pandemic. Catching said he would investigate

their status and whether they service Aurora Township residents, and said they aren't asking for a lot of money. He said he also referred them to the 708 Board which has money available for mental health and addiction services.

Trustee Wells asked if there was a process for grant funding and there ensued a discussion of what processes are in place, what the state law requires, and how to avoid favoritism. Wells said she favors a process with a paper trail to show why some organizations get a grant and others do not. Trustee Hicks asked if the Fox Valley Fellowship Center AA was a new organization and Catching said no.

Lastly, Catching thanked Ken Maurice for doing double duty as interim HR Director and thanked him and Ms. Richardson for filling in while he was out part of last week for health reasons.

c. Director of Community Services Report

Supervisor Catching led into Ken Maurice's report by praising the new "Books & Basketball Mentoring Program" on Thursdays at the Aurora Township Youth Center, led by Ricky Rodgers, for having sports and studies combined. Director of Community Services Ken Maurice reported that he is in dialog with multiple organizations to have more youth programs. Maurice stated that the Aurora Township Youth Commission has slots for fifteen members and he has reached out to 5 – 7 people to submit applications. He expects to present some to the board soon.

Maurice also said he will meet with the supervisor and with Ms. Richardson to get recommendations for the new budget. He stated that the youth center needs to be up to date on its technology not only for the Dual Purpose Room but also for summer camp possibilities, and said we are lagging behind with IT needs.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 2022-03 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund

Catching moved to pass resolution 2022-03 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Wells asked if the Aurora Township would be honoring Juneteenth this year. Supervisor Catching said that the township follows Kane County's holiday schedule, which does not have it, but since the city of Aurora has just adopted Juneteenth as a paid holiday, we could add it.

Trustee Hicks announced that Senior Services will have a Black History event, sponsored by Aurora Township, on February 25th at 11:30 at the Senior Services Center. There will be three speakers: Ken Maurice, Dr. Peggy Hicks, and Dr. Vince Gaddis, and Brown's fried chicken will be served. Registration is required with a \$3 donation suggested.

Trustee Moore reported that the 708 Board met last Monday by Zoom and had a productive meeting. He also encouraged the Fox Valley AA to contact the 708 Board.

Supervisor Catching added that there was a state bill introduced regarding the previous problems with Dundee Township and the 708 Board and that the bill will fix that situation. Catching said he favors supporting individual townships for the 708 Board.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Peggy Hicks said there are lots of activities for Black History month and they are listed on the *Black History in Aurora* Facebook page.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks. With a unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

The next regular board meeting is on February 24, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassidy Alexander
Aurora Township Clerk