

**AURORA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway Avenue
Aurora, IL**

Date: December 15, 2011

Time: 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Aurora Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:01 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at the Aurora Township office, 80 N. Broadway Avenue, Aurora, IL. Notice was sent to all Board members as required by statute.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Aurora Township Supervisor Christina Campos called the meeting order. Supervisor Campos led the pledge of allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

A motion was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Moore to appoint Brian Pollock as Clerk pro tem for the meeting in the absence of Clerk Hill. Motion carried (voice vote).

Clerk Pro Tem called the roll and the following Board members were present: Supervisor Campos, Trustees Hicks, Moore and Semmler. Trustee Catching was not present at roll call but arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Public Present: See attached sheet

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF NOVEMBER 22, 2011**

A motion was made by Supervisor Campos to approve the minutes with the following corrections (listed below and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried (voice vote).

-- #4 on Page 3, Change to: "Supervisor expressed thanks to the Trustees and volunteers for their support in the Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser for the Youth and Senior Foundation, as well as the community Thanksgiving dinner on November 23, 2011, of which the Township was a sponsor."

-- #4 on Page 3: Change to "Laborers' Local 149"

--Item E on Page 4: Change to "Resolution 2011-14 Regarding 2012 Board Meeting Schedule."

--Public Comments: The fourth paragraph misidentified the speaker as Diego Perez. Instead, the speaker was Griselda Garcia (a previous youth volunteer). Diego Perez did make a public comment (after Peggy Hicks) and thanked the Township for its strong presence in the community.

A motion was made by Supervisor Campos to amend the minutes from the August 25, 2011; September 22, 2011; October 27, 2011; and November 10, 2011 meetings, to show correct bills amounts as approved by the Board. Trustee Moore made a motion to table the motion until the next meeting and was seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried (Voice vote).

Trustee Hicks stated that Clerk Hill is having computer problems and is unable to complete his responsibility to file the minutes from previous meetings.

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

A motion to approve the TOWN BILLS in the amount of \$130,014.29 was made by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion was amended by Trustee Moore after Highway Commissioner Shoemaker added a bill for Sam's Club for consideration to be paid in these bills and was seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried (voice vote).

A motion to approve the ROAD AND BRIDGE BILLS in the amount of \$11,262.98 was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried (voice vote).

A motion to approve the GENERAL ASSISTANCE BILLS in the amount of \$19,256.17 was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried (voice vote).

A motion to approve the combined IMRF and ROAD AND BRIDGE IMRF BILLS in the amount of \$8,913.60 was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried (voice vote).

A motion to approve the combined SOCIAL SECURITY and ROAD AND BRIDGE SOCIAL SECURITY BILLS in the amount of \$5,386.28 was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried (voice vote).

VI. REPORTS

A. Assessor's Report

Assessor Offutt submitted a written report. He stated that 462 assessment appeals hearings have been scheduled so far with Kane County and those hearings will begin soon. He addressed the issue of authorization for small amounts for events such as making magnetic signs for vehicles and luncheon fees for which he reimburses the Town Fund. He asked for preauthorization for these small amounts. Discussion among the Trustees ensued. The Board decided to work on formulating a policy at the next meeting.

B. Highway Commissioner's Report

Highway Commissioner Shoemaker mentioned that he saw the Highway Department's new truck but it was sent back for additional repairs. He states that Exposition View project is almost complete. He attended an asphalt concrete management conference at the University of Wisconsin. The Highway Dept. has completed nearly all of its assessment for 2012 road projects.

C. Youth Services Director's Report

A written report was submitted by Director Justine Bennett. Justine mentioned that the Youth Dept. was involved in the community Thanksgiving dinner on November 23. The Township sent some youth to be volunteers, solicited raffle prizes, and were represented by Supervisor Campos and Justine on the planning committee. The Township is looking into purchasing a previously-used school bus or a lightly used smaller bus, and discussions will continue. Justine, Vicki Marques, and Trustee Semmler have been involved in the vehicle search.

D. Code Enforcement Officer's Report

A written report was submitted by Hector Benavides.

E. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Campos submitted a written General Assistance report. She mentioned that she rode with all seven bus drivers in the Ride in Kane program and described some of the special needs of the clients served by the Township, including a patient going for dialysis and an individual going to work. Supervisor Campos provided an abbreviated list of some of the activities in which Aurora Township has participated during the past year:

Aurora Township blood drive, food collections to local food pantries, and troops' supply collection, planting flowers for aurora seniors; hosted soccer, baseball, football summer camp for youth; building a youth playground at the Township soccer field with the assistance of a \$10,000 grant from Kane County and the assistance of Laborers' Local 149; distributing hundreds of books to children at community events; awarding \$55,000 to local agencies through Funders' Consortium; providing assistance to victims of local tragedies, including fire on Claim St; funding local agencies through Aurora Township Youth and Senior Foundation; Healthy Habits and Breast Cancer Awareness workshops by Rush-Copley, TRIAD prescription drug abuse seminars and annual senior picnic; Hope Series youth educational seminars, AITCOY- gang violence discussion; African-American Heritage Achievers Academy leadership summit; Community Development Assistance Program's business loan breakfast meeting, Ice Cream Social meet & greet, Navy Seals visit to Youth Center; City of Aurora's Dia de Los Ninos; working with Rebuilding Together Aurora to repair youth center; Sierra Club clean up day; Aurora Sports Festivals; Aurora Green Lights festival; Celebrate our Children at McCarty Park; National Night Out, Community back to school event; Soulfest & black business expo; Veterans' Day luncheon; Community Thanksgiving dinner, Senior Services Holiday Dinner at 3rd ward club, City of Aurora parades for 4th of July, Memorial Day, Puerto Rican festival,

and Fiesta Patrias; Serving 16,000 breakfasts and 35,000 lunches through free summer program at 33 sites in the community; Community Resource fair, Latina Health fair, Team Illinois community fair, Senior health fair, Kane County health fair;

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bid Opening for Sale of Township Property

A bid for \$200 was made for the 1992 Oldsmobile Silhouette van. A bid for \$300 was made for the 1994 El Dorado van. A bid was made for \$450 for the water tank. A motion was made to accept the bids by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Semmler. Motion carried (voice vote).

B. Presentation by Mike Bellinger of Better Business Planning (tabled until January meeting)

C. 2011 Town Fund Tax Levy, Ordinance 2011-16. A motion to approve the Town Fund tax levy was made by Trustee Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried 5-0 (roll call vote).

D. 2011 Road District Tax Levy, Ordinance 2011-17. A motion to approve the Road District tax levy was made by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried 5-0 (roll call vote).

E. Adopting a Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy, Resolution 2011-18. A motion to approve the annual policy was made by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried 5-0 (roll call vote).

F. Recommendation for placement of Human Resource Coordinator through Opti Staffing Group. A motion to approve the annual policy was made by Supervisor Campos and seconded by Trustee Catching. Discussion ensued regarding the hiring process and the role of the Trustees in the process. Several suggestions were made regarding filling this vacancy, including using a service to handle HR duties. A motion to table the issue was made by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion carried (voice vote).

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peggy Hicks mentioned that she had filed a FOIA regarding hiring/employment policies. She also stated that the Township should hire someone with human resources experience.

Mattie Coble asked a question regarding statements allegedly made by a Township employee.

Jennifer Laesch stated that she thought that Township should place employment notices in local newspapers. She also said that she was following up on a public comment about reinstating a former Township employee.

Trustee Catching responded to Ms. Laesch by saying that there are no plans to reinstate the former employee.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Happy Holidays

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Catching and seconded by Trustee Moore. Motion carried (voice vote). The meeting was adjourned by Supervisor Campos at 5:16 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Pollock
Aurora Township Clerk Pro Tem