

STATE OF ILLINOIS)  
COUNTY OF KANE) SS  
TOWN OF AURORA)

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

A meeting of the Aurora Township Board of Trustees was held at the Aurora Township office, 80 North Broadway, Aurora, Illinois at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2011. Notice was sent to all members of the Board as required by statute.

Aurora Township Supervisor Christina Campos called the meeting to order. Supervisor Campos led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Aurora Township Supervisor Christina Campos asked for a motion to be made to move New Business under Reports and to add Bank of America and the Old Second National Bank. The motion was made by Bill Catching with a second by Dolores Hicks.

Motion carried. (voice vote)

Aurora Township Clerk, Herbert Hill was absent. A motion was made by Bill Catching and seconded by Dolores Hicks that Suely Ann Cabral be appointed Clerk Pro-tem.

The motion carried. (voice vote)

Suely Cabral did the roll call with the following members present: Bill Catching, Dolores Hicks, Christina Campos, David Moore and Mark Semmler. Highway Commissioner, John Shoemaker was present as well.

**Public Present:** please see attachment.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING OF January 27, 2011.**

A motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on Thursday January 27, 2010, was made by Dolores Hicks with a second by Bill Catching provided that the following corrections are made.

1. Under the Supervisor's report change Visiting Nurses to Student Nurses from Northern Illinois University; section IV number 3.
2. Supervisor Campos asked the board to refer to the accounts spreadsheet that was provided to each of them. She said that the total and approved should be matching hand in hand. It starts from a penny to \$50,000. There were some typographical errors and on the September 23<sup>rd</sup> one, a motion was not made. Supervisor Campos asked for a motion to be made to amend the minutes of the following meetings for corrections of bill payable amounts that were approved at previous meetings.

On April 13, 2010, April 29, 2010, May 13, 2010, September 9, 2010, November 23, 2010 and December 16, 2010. A motion to amend the minutes with the errors was made by Bill Catching with a second by David Moore  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

Supervisor Campos asked for a separate motion to be made to approve the bill for 50,000.00 for building / equipment) from the September 23, 2010 meeting. A motion to approve the bill of 50,000.00 from September 23, 2010 was made by Trustee David Moore with a second by Trustee Dolores Hicks.  
Motions carried. (voice vote)

### **III. APPROVAL AND / OR AUDIT OF TOWNSHIP AND ROAD AND BRIDGE BILLS**

A motion to approve the Town Bills in the amount of \$53,909.10 was made by Trustee Dolores Hicks with a second by Trustee Bill Catching.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

A motion to audit the Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$22, 038.42 was made by Trustee David Moore and seconded by Trustee Bill Catching.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

A motion to audit the General Assistance bills in the amount of \$14,498.66 was made by Trustee Dolores Hicks and seconded by Trustee Bill Catching.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

A combined motion to approve the IMRF bill in the amount of \$7,506.31 and the R&B IMRF bill in the amount of \$1,977.28 was made by Trustee Bill Catching and seconded by Trustee Dolores Hicks.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

A combined motion to approve the Social Security bill in the amount of \$4,715.99 and the Road & Bridge Social Security bill in the amount of \$1,129.61 was made by Trustee David Moore and seconded by Trustee Dolores Hicks.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

### **IV. REPORTS**

#### **1. Assessor Report: Davis Offutt**

Mr. Offutt submitted a written report. Please see attachment.

#### **2. Highway Commissioner, John Shoemaker**

Highway Commissioner said that it snowed Monday evening they were cleaning the snow Tuesday from 7:00 a.m. thru Wednesday 7:00 p.m. He said that they endured. In addition to 4 guys cleaning the snow they had 4 contractors including himself out cleaning snow. He said that the blizzard was classified as an emergency and will be reimbursed by FEMA. Commissioner Shoemaker asked the board for a

special 15 minute meeting for investigating of equipment purchase. He would also like to sell surplus equipment. He said that he has put in an advertisement in the TOI magazine. He has gotten some inquiries.

The stoplight contract for upgrading to new code is due by 2013. He said that there is no reason to rush during the cold weather.

The Highway Commissioner's office will have their own website and it should be up and running by Wednesday. John's new email address is [john@athd.org](mailto:john@athd.org) He said that he is really looking forward to getting their own branding and looking to sponsoring a baseball team.

The Highway department is trying their own cell phone service on a trial basis – off of state contract. He said that he is working with Christina and there may be some potential savings for the Township.

They have begun metering wind energy. He said that the physical meter is in and counting.

The Highway Commissioner said that the staff member that plowed Exposition Drive logged 169 miles, and on the south side Carlos logged 240 miles. He is very happy with the recent salt delivery.

### **3. Youth Department, Vicki Marques**

The community service students have been shoveling snow for 8 seniors including around the Youth Center.

The Delinquency Case Managers have a total of 15 cases.

Aerobics started back up in January. Attendance has been maintained. Three parents came in last night with 3-4 children and were signed up.

Soccer is starting to be a big draw. They average 450 kids per week. They are looking to start their own basketball league.

Summer Lunch Program; Ms. Marques said that they have to start planning in January.

She said that she is looking to renew the Open Kitchen contract they've been awarded the contract for the last 10 years. This year she may not go thru a bid process.

### **V. New Business**

#### **Bank of America, Mr. Anthony Martell**

Mr. Martell said that they are located on Orchard Rd. on the west side of Aurora. He would be very happy to serve Aurora Township if given the opportunity. He said that he can put together a business analysis. It will really come down to providing services once an account is open. He said that they are very capable of the handling of payroll. It can be tailored to specific clients needs. He said that they take pride in what they do and is looking forward to working with Aurora Township.

#### **Harris Bank, Ms. Margot Shewalter and Ms. Sherry Pass**

Ms Shewalter said that she would like to point out that they have a strong focus on working with municipalities. She said that they work with many municipality

clients. She said that they serve public funded entities and have been in the business for over 125 years. Ms. Shewalter pointed out a map of the six closest locations to Aurora Township. She said that they remain very well capitalized. She is the Relations Manager and Ms. Pass's specialty is in cash management services. Ms. Shewalter has been in the banking business for over 20 years. She said that they have had an opportunity to review the Aurora Township current funds (FOIA). She said that the community is key as well as is stability for the bank. She said that they can discuss what structure works best for the township. They explained in detail to the board some of the information that is mentioned in the booklets that they handed out to the board members.

She said that they are very much involved with the community, such as the United Way. "The Harris Bank at Work" is benefits that the employer can pass along to their employees. She said that they are financially strong and well capitalized. She said that they are recognized as being a top treasury provider.

**Old Second Bank, Karen Nelson**

Ms. Nelson said that she was here to answer questions about the bank's stability. She said that in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter the bank had 75 million in losses. They will be writing it off. She said that hopefully as they make profit to be added to profit. Ms. Nelson said that the 10 million quarter margin continues to increase. They have had many challenges and they are entering into 140 years of service to the community.

Ms. Nelson said that funds were never at any risk. There may have been some miscommunication. Ms. Nelson said that she has been with the Old Second Bank for 17 years. She said that Sikich has been working with them and confirms per letter collateral. She said that at this time no fees are assessed to Aurora Township but if you want to start paying fees she can arrange it.

Clarification: Interest bearing accounts were shifted to non-bearing accounts-under the Illinois Public Funds Act it is required that your funds are collateralized.

Ms. Nelson said that the funds are absolutely safe. She said that the worst case scenario is that they would be bought out or go private. She said yes they are struggling but they are doing well. They are the largest market share in Kane County. They are not owned by a foreign corporation they are community based.

Supervisor Campos thanked all of the Bank representatives for addressing the board and providing a presentation.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**A. Telephone System:**

Supervisor Campos said that at the previous board meeting the representatives from Sound Incorporated were here to give a presentation on a new phone system. Aurora Township has had the current phone system for approximately 21 years. Supervisor Campos asked the board to entertain a motion to purchase a new phone system. There was no decision on warranty that was proposed at this time.

Trustee Bill Catching made a motion to go forward with the purchase of a new phone system with a second by Trustee David Moore.

Motion carried. (voice vote)

B. Proposed Aurora Township Board Rules

Trustee, Dolores Hicks said that the posting of Public Notice was not included. More time is needed to review the proposal. Aurora Township Attorney, Trinta reviewed the Open Meetings Act. There was some discussion on this and the board agreed to table it to the next meeting.

C. Proposed Financial Transaction; Highway Commissioner Shoemaker addressed the board and said that in reviewing the statutes, under his direction the township Supervisor can move funds as directed by him. He said that the Supervisor functions as treasurer for the Highway Commissioner.

The Assessor and the Supervisor's funds are under the same tax body.

Highway Commissioner Shoemaker submitted a description of what transfers he wants completed in moving surpluses to have a second source, meaning to Bank of America. Highway Commissioner Shoemaker excused himself thereafter.

The board went into a thorough discussion regarding the banks. Trustee Dolores Hicks said that she does not want to panic. Aurora Township already has some funds at the Harris Bank.

Supervisor Campos said that the Harris Bank did submit a FOIA to be able to come up with their proposal.

Trustee David Moore said that he would like to deal with local businesses. He said that if he had to vote on this he would vote to keep the funds where they are. The representatives from the Harris Bank came very well prepared.

Supervisor Campos recommended to move the big accounts to the Harris Bank and to move the Montgomery account to the Old Second.

Trustee Bill Catching said that if we are not facing financial loss, there aren't a whole lot of local institutions; we need to value the relationship that we have with the Old Second Bank.

Supervisor Campos felt that the Bank of America will not be a good choice for us.

All board members agreed that the funds will continue to remain at the Old Second Bank.

There was some discussion on how utility bills and credit cards are paid. Some bills have been getting paid late due to the wait for board approval on bills. The board agreed that the utility bills can be paid per direct debit. The board did not approve for credit cards to be paid per direct debit.

A motion to pay the utility bills per direct debit was made by Dolores Hicks with a second by David Moore.

Motion carried. (voice vote)

## VII. Public Comment

- 1.) Ms. Peggy Hicks addressed the board and said that she is a long time Aurora Citizen. She said that she is very familiar with the Old Second National Bank. She said that regarding the Highway Commissioner; for one person to be able to move funds as he is, is disturbing to her.
- 2.) Ms. Hicks said that she has often been called a community activist, she said that she would like to say that all bodies should be able to speak at Public Comment.
- 3.) Ms. Hicks had questions regarding basketball at the Aurora Township Youth & Community Center; she said that she has not seen any outreach being done at the Sage Crest Apartments. Where are the African American Men of Unity? She asked where are you reaching out to. She said that the more you help the community the less they get into trouble. She said that she sees a wonderful soccer program but what is being done about basketball. Vicki Marques addressed Ms. Hicks and said that they are looking into starting a basketball program but at this time the schedule for the gym is booked solid until 10:30 at night.
- 4.) Ms. Hicks asked about the Aurora Township hiring policy: when positions are open, how are those positions being filled. She said that they never see employees attend meetings. She asked why new hires aren't being channeled through the proper process. She asked if any new hiring was done and if the proper channels were followed. Supervisor Campos did not clarify an answer to this question but she did say that they had hired one lady from the Put Illinois to Work Program. Supervisor Campos said that there is nobody being hired.
- 5.) Ms. Hicks said that she had one final comment; at the last meeting regarding new meeting rules she was disturbed that Aurora Township Attorney, Trinta consulted with Attorney Brian Pollock. She said that Mr. Pollock is not a Trustee or an elected official. He is not employed by the law firm that represents the township. Attorney Trinta addressed Ms. Hicks saying that what they had discussed was regarding the Robert's Rules of Orders and not township business.
- 6.) Mr. Ben Maravilla also addressed the board; he said that there have been a lot of misconceptions regarding the soccer program. He said that he used to work at Mooseheart, he used to work with the basketball program. He said that he has used his own funds for the soccer program. He said that he goes out to speak to the community on his own time. He has found sponsors to help with the purchase of shirts. He said that they have over 500 participants thanks to the Next Level.

Mr. Maravilla said that out of his own funds he has purchased shirts and medals for poor children in Mexico.

- Mr. Maravilla said that his focus is to get the kids off the streets. He said that they have a lot of volunteers and that family structure is very important to him.
- 7.) Ms. Hicks offered to volunteer and felt that the American Men of Unity could offer some assistance as well. There was some discussion on the possibility of using a gymnasium from one of the local churches for a basketball program.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Trustee, David Moore with a second by Trustee, Dolores Hicks. The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.  
Motion carried. (voice vote)

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2011 and will begin at 3:15 p.m.; to address the Budget workshop. The regular board meeting will take place at 4:00 p.m.

The Youth and Senior Foundation board meeting to follow at approximately at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully, submitted.

Suely Ann Cabral

Suely Ann Cabral  
**Clerk Pro-Tem**