

AURORA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAIN OFFICES: 80 N. BROADWAY
AURORA, ILLINOIS
Date: March 24, 2011
Time: 4:00 p.m.
AMENDED MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGENCE
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, Illinois at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday March 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 Clerk Herbert Hill did the roll call with the following members present: Bill Catching, Delores Hicks, Christina Campos, David Moore, and Mark Semmler'

Public Present: Please see attached.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF
March 10, 2011**

A motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting held on Thursday March 10, 2011 was made by Delores Hicks and seconded by David Moore. Motion carried. (Voice Vote) Subject to amendment.

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

A motion to approve **the Town Bills** in the amount of \$38, 114.73 was made by Delores Hicks with a second by David Moore. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

A motion to audit the **Road and Bridge Bills** in the amount of \$58, 782.62 was made by Delores Hicks with a second by David Moore. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

A motion to audit the **General Assistance Bills** in the amount of \$8, 094.00 was made by Delores Hicks with a second by Bill Catching. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

A combined motion to approve **the IMRF BILL** and the **R&B IMRF Bill** in the amount of \$9, 511.08 was made by Bill Catching and seconded by Delores Hicks. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

A combined motion to approve **the SOCIAL SECURITY** and **R&B SOCIAL SECURITY Bill** in the amount of \$5, 830.62 was made by David Moore and seconded by Bill Catching. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

A motion to audit the **EQUIP. & BUILDING Bills** in the amount of \$4, 495.00 was made by Bill Catching with a second by David Moore. Motion carried. (Voice Vote)

IV. REPORTS

1. Assessor's Report

Mr. Davis Offutt also filed a written report. See attached.

Mr. Offutt explained that his office has three (3) digital cameras available for anyone who cares to have them.

The Exxon Mobile bill reflects the end to last year's Bd of review hearings in Geneva. All other matters should go to County.

2. Roads & Bridges

Jason announced that Brush pick-up will begin on April 18, 2011. Mailers will be sent to people as reminders.

When whether clears the dept will begin pick-up and paving.

Jason also reported that the Verizon Wireless phones were going very well, which represents a huge improvement.

The Farnsworth project is reopened with gravel patching and paving problems with people going through as work is in progress.

3. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Campos reported that the "Ride in Kane" program had 38 new registrants.

On Tuesday March 22, 2011 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. the Aurora Township hosted an informal breakfast meeting for the Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) Revolving Loan Fund. The meeting was held at the Aurora Township Office and went very well. See attached brochure for overview and purposes of the program.

David Moore stated that the meeting was very good and productive.
Bill Catching stated that Harriet Parker at Wabaunsee helped with bus planning.

Supervisor Campos advised that HB 1811 as well as HB 268 are bills that we should keep an eye on as they relate to consolidating local governments.

Delores Hicks was aware of the pending legislation and wanted to know if the Township had local lobbyists working on our behalf.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2011-02. Financial Review Procedures

Supervisor reported on the “bonding issue” relating to “Resolution B” (Resolution 2011-02 - “Resolution B” – involved a second signature in township disbursements.

Supervisor Campos stated that the Supervisor’s bond was in the amount of 10 million and that if the Supervisor was ill and otherwise unavailable TOIRMA would provide appropriate signature.

The additional cost issue for bonding the second signature required additional research. TOIRMA referred an agency that required thousands of dollars and background and credit checks to actually determine cost.

Supervisor Campos explained the present billing and check paying process. A check list procedure similar to the procedure used by Batavia Township. A Trustee would look at all bills and payroll to cross check proper name, check number, etc.

Check list – must be approved by Trustees before signing bill.

David Moore explained that the procedure was a cost efficient means.

Bill Catching suggested that the Check list issue should be tabled until the next meeting, motion was seconded by David Moore.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by Jerry Murphy, Executive Director of Inc. Board.

Mr. Murphy presented Brochure’s to the Trustee’s outlining community Mental Health Funding Alliance providing funding for mental health, developmental disabilities and substances abuse services for eight (8) Townships including Aurora.

The Brochure and related information provided statistical information of services rendered from 12/31/10 to date, as well as the Aurora Township Mental Health Tax Levy. See attached brochure and included information for analysis.

The purposes of Mr. Murphy's appearance before the Board were to explain a modification of the 2010 Tax Levy. Mr. Murphy met with Supervisor Campos after the Tax Levy was submitted to County.

His concern was that when additional money for the Levy was added the increase came out of and at the expense of Mental Health. See highlights on attached mental health tax levy.

The consensus figures show the number of people being served increased, and if the tax levy is restricted to 2% it hinders the ability to provide services.

When a reduction occurs in this year it impacts next year funding and thereafter because the money lost can never be recovered.

Mr. Murphy explained that Aurora gets 70-80% of the services and 68-69% of the levy. The levy is always passed through Aurora 708 Board before it gets to the Inc. Board.

Mr. Murphy's assistant (John) added that 17,000 plus people could not be served under the existing levy.

It is important to keep the base as high as possible because we would be drastically affected in Aurora.

Delores Hicks inquired if Hope Wall was included in services. She was advised that it was not, but that Keeler School is attached to Hope Wall and is included.

The Mental Health levy is the only one voted on by the tax payers. The levy should be reconsidered because of need, especially Mental Health.

The County will give 2-5 days to change or correct Tax Bills.

Supervisor Campos will look for areas of increase before Tax levy is due in May. She will be looking for base and what we can add.

Bill Catching stated an increase of \$13,000 (3.02% of new construction), would want transferred to increase levy, would help in the future. This money would come from General Assistance.

Mr. Murphy stated that this would provide 10 hours per week in employee services.

B. Approval of 2011-2012 Tentative Budget

Supervisor Campos explained that a work-shop was held last month to review the 2011-2012 Tentative Budget.

Discussed procedures for approval.

Bill Catching questioned that if we approve the Tentative Budget, can changes be made? Or are we locked in to the Budget.

Supervisor Campos explained that we would be locked in to the Budget and called for a motion to approve.

Delores Hicks expressed concern not to be locked in.

Bill Catching moved to pass or table the Budget for further discussion. Motion was seconded by David Moore.

David Moore questioned the numbers contained within Proposed Budget. Supervisor Campos explained that the numbers presented are the same numbers discussed in the work-shop last month.

Supervisor Campos suggested that the proposal be table until next month since the budget is not due until July. (Table for procedural process).

Patty Richardson, Adm. Asst. explained the procedure for public review and comments before the levy is due to County. Budget can be approved and discussed without rescheduling.

Bill Catching's questions were raised because of issues raised by Jerry Murphy. "What is the purpose of adding more money to a fund where we have not spent all of the money budgeted in the fund? So Catching questions why should we shift money from General Assistance to something else when you don't use it all in G.A.

Jerry Murphy explained the urgency to answer the question in increase shown since County would want a response almost immediately.

C. Approval of April 12, 2011 Annual Town Meeting Agenda

Supervisor Campos called for motion to approve Town Meeting Agenda for April 12, 2011. Motion made by Bill Catching seconded by David Moore. (Voice vote) Motion carried.

D. Approval of Resolution 2011-05

Motion to approve Resolution 2011-05: Line Item Transfer – Highway Department by Bill Catching seconded by David Moore. (Voice vote) Motion carried.

Catching and Moore had discussion on levy issue. Catching explained his vote against the measure. Since the budget numbers show \$300,000 under budget, why should we not shift it back to G.A., since the budget is padded. See budget FY 11-12.

Catching reasoned that since we have not spent the budget there is no harm in giving it back.

Catching would make motion to make budget recommendations consistent with Jerry Murphy.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Eva Rodgers (Sr. class) made special tribute to Danny Taylor for his outstanding respect and appreciation for seniors, and also expressed appreciation for the commitment of Justine Bennett.

Yvonne Dominquez gave special thanks to Christina Campos for her support and help at the Youth Center.

Davis Offutt raised questions and initiated discussion on budget concerns. When we remove monies from one area to another do we create budget problems?

Catching explained.

Atty. Edwin Trinta: responding to question – Can the Board take action that was not on the agenda? Atty. Trinta explained that you may discuss the issues but you may not take action. Could there be discussion and approval as part of the Tentative Budget issues.

Catching questioned, what about a Special Meeting to discuss the tabled vote on the Tentative Budget? The issue is not to affect the time line for filing.

Motion was made by David Moore and seconded by Bill Catching to recess for five (5) to ten (10) minutes to investigate filing time line. Motion carried (Voice vote).

Recess at 5:15 p.m. Motion to Reconvene 5:35 p.m., by David Moore seconded by Delores Hicks. Motion carried. (Voice vote).

Supervisor Campos found notice from County of Tentative Tax extension due date of April 1, 2011.

With advice from Atty. Edwin Trinta, the Trustee's call a Special Meeting on March 30, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. to discuss Tentative Budget issues. Information to local papers for announcement and publication.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Campos announced:

African American Hope Fair March 26, 2011, West Aurora High School from 8:a.m. to 12:p.m.
Aurora Township Senior and Youth Foundation Meeting March 24, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION – Discussion of purchase or lease of real property, tabled until April meeting

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Catching and seconded by David Moore. Motion carried and the Meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 12 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

Herbert Hill
Aurora Township Clerk