

Aurora Township

Board of Trustees Meeting

Main Offices, 80 North Broadway

Aurora, IL.

Date: Thursday, January 26, 2017

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, January 26, 2017. Notice was sent to all members of the Board as required by statute.

Aurora Township Supervisor, Bill Catching, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Supervisor Catching led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation.

Aurora Township Clerk, Jason Owens, called the roll with the following Board of Trustees members present: Bill Catching – Supervisor; Trustees: Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Juan Reyna, Juanita Wells.

Clerk Jason Owens – Present.

Assessor Davis Offutt – Present.

Highway Commissioner John Shoemaker – Present.

Staff and Public present – see attached.

- II. Motion to approve the amended minutes of the regular Board meeting held on January 12, 2017 made by Supervisor Catching, seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

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 **\$38,561.07**. 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 **\$8,816.70**. 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 **\$13,658.79**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- d. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna to approve the combined IMRF and Road & Bridge IMRF Funds bills in the amount of **\$8,430.53**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- e. Motion made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks to approve the combined Social Security and Road & Bridge Social Security bills in the amount of **\$5,195.79**. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

IV. Reports

- a. **Assessor's Report** – Davis Offutt. Summary: New construction carry over from 2016 to 2017 was inspected and the review process will begin around the middle of February.
- b. **Highway Commissioner's Report** – John Shoemaker. Summary: A significant amount of time is being spent on maintenance of equipment. Rain events are causing flooding in some areas and some overtime was required to run pumps. Main area of flooding was the result of an unmarked COA storm sewer system off of S. Calumet that needed to be jetted. With cold weather following the rain, potholes are popping up and crew is addressing as we can.
- c. **Supervisor's Report** – Bill Catching. Summary: Deputy sheriff asked for help addressing the vacant property at 1108 6th Ave. The deputy reported that drug paraphernalia was found on site. Supervisor Catching reported that he reached out to Kane County Trustee Barb Hernandez for assistance. Ownership of the property, due to foreclosure, is muddled. Assessor Offutt reminded the Board that instances like this vacant house, and their collective ability to assist the neighborhood, exemplify the importance of township government. Two new CDAP loan applications were received. Trustee Moore asked for the loan amounts (\$300,000 and \$250,000). Catching reported that the township attorney, Paul Patricoski, has a conflict of interest with one of the applications and will not be representing the township during the legal phase of the application. Catching asked for a trustee to volunteer to serve on the CDAP loan committee in Patricoski's stead. Trustee Reyna volunteered. Trustee Moore asked about the email from the State of IL which seemed to free the township from any further reporting on the CDAP funds back to the State of IL. Catching said he is still seeking clarification and Chief of Staff Richardson mentioned pending litigation that addresses the usage of CDAP

funds. Catching also said that the guidelines for CDAP loans are restrictive enough that it limits applications received.

- d. **Code Enforcement Officer's Report** – Report included in packet.
- e. **General Assistance Manager's Report** – Suely Cabral. Summary: Nineteen clients were re-approved for financial assistance, with two new applications approved and two clients terminated from the program. Four applicants were approved for rental assistance under the Emergency Assistance program. The Township was reimbursed \$3,205.71 from the Social Security Administration for assistance paid to a former general assistance client.
- f. **Ride In Kane Manager's Report** – Melissa Wilmot. Summary: Supervisor Catching offered condolences to Ms. Wilmot regarding her father's passing. Ms. Wilmot said the PACE inspector was glowing in praise for the state of the fleet and Ms. Wilmot thanked Gloria for her work to make that happen. A number of drivers are still out with various injuries and illnesses, but healthy drivers are continuing to pick up the slack and Ms. Wilmot is grateful for their efforts. Trustee Hicks said that Senior Services received a complaint that Ride In Kane was no longer accepting new clients and asked Ms. Wilmot if this was true. Ms. Wilmot said that it wasn't accurate and will follow up with Senior Services to correct that misunderstanding.
- g. **Presentation of December Financial Statements** – Patricia Richardson. Summary: Chief of Staff Richardson said she is moving some reserve balances in certain funds (citing \$10,000 from General Assistance as an example) from Old Second Bank to Associated Bank to take advantage of a more favorable interest rate. Ms. Richardson reported that the Road District's funds are approximately 50/50 split between Old Second and Associated and also that the CDAP funds remain at Old Second.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. **Resolution 2017-02 Intergovernmental Agreement – Aurora Township Road District Senior Mowing Program 2017.**

Motion to table Resolution 2017-02 Intergovernmental Agreement – Aurora Township Road District Senior Mowing Program 2017 made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

VI. New Business

a. Proclamation – Jo Fredell Higgins Retirement from Aurora Township Youth Commission.

Motion to table Proclamation – Jo Fredell Higgins Retirement from Aurora Township Youth Commission made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Reyna. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion: Supervisor Catching thanked Mary Garza for attending the meeting and reported that Jo Fredell Higgins was unable to make the meeting due to an illness.

b. Determining a date for a Special Board Meeting for the purpose of Reviewing Executive Closed Session Minutes.

Supervisor Catching reported that the minutes from many executive sessions from the previous administration were not created by the then current clerk. Audio tapes from these sessions exist and Clerk Owens is working through the hours of discussion on these tapes to create minutes for the Board to review and determine what content can be released to the public and what content, if any, needs to remain unreleased due to ongoing litigation or personnel considerations. Trustee Wells asked from which executive sessions these minutes would be developed. Clerk Owens reiterated that the executive sessions were not from the current administration, but from the previous administration. Owens said he was not present for these meetings and the audio tapes are of poor quality which makes the creation of minutes difficult. Owens also mentioned that he has contacted the president of the Township Clerks of IL to sort through the requirements and expectations for these missing minutes. Commissioner Shoemaker suggested making the date of review the same day as the Annual Town Meeting in April. Supervisor Catching asked for any other suggestions and received none. Supervisor Catching asked that the missing executive session minutes from the previous administration be ready for review at the Annual Town Meeting in April.

VII. Board Member Comments

None.

VIII. Public Comments

Patricia Richardson – Ms. Richardson wished Trustee Moore a belated “Happy birthday!”

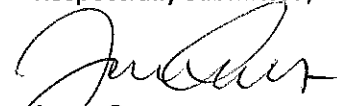
IX. Announcements

Supervisor Catching announced that he will be attending two upcoming events. The first event is the Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board's breakfast on January 27, 2017. Catching also reported that he will be attending the Quad County African American Jazz Brunch on February 7, 2017.

- X. Adjournment** – Motion for adjournment made by Supervisor Catching and seconded by Trustee Hicks. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote at 4:37 p.m.

Next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Aurora Township Office, 80 N. Broadway, Aurora, IL.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Owens
Aurora Township Clerk