

Board Meeting of Aurora Township
Youth & Community Center
313 Gale Street, Aurora, Illinois
July 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Roll Call and Establish Quorum

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and led all present in the pledge of allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation.

Township Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and declared a quorum. The following officials were present: Supervisor Bill Catching; Trustees Dolores Hicks, David Moore, and Sam Nunez; Deputy Road Commissioner Jason Owens. Highway Commissioner Juan Reyna was excused absent. Assessor Davis Offutt was excused absent. Trustee Juanita Wells arrived at 4:15 p.m. Also present: Chief of Staff Patty Richardson. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks of Aurora, Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain.

II. Approval of Audio Recording of Board Meetings by Township Clerk.

Supervisor Catching moved to approve audio recording of the board meetings by the township clerk. It was seconded by Trustee Nunez.

Township Clerk Alexander voiced her reasons for wanting to record the meetings, stating they would not be for publication but just for facilitating accurate minutes. Trustee Wells said the motion should have been put under New Business.

Trustee Hicks was not in favor of it. Trustee Moore said it was a bad idea and unnecessary. Trustee Nunez said he was for it and Trustee Wells was not opposed. Supervisor Catching moved to table the motion to approve audio recording, which was seconded by Trustee Nunez. The motion was tabled by unanimous voice vote.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 8, 2021.

Supervisor Catching moved to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting of July 8, 2021. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. 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, Mental Health Fund, Equipment Building Fund, CDAP Fund, Town IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, R&B Social Security Fund and R&B IMRF Fund** bills. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. The bills are as follows:

- a. Town Fund in the amount of \$54,142.95
- b. Road & Bridge Fund in the amount of \$33,547.03
- c. General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$524.09
- d. Mental Health Fund in the amount of \$33,865.44
- e. Equipment Building Fund in the amount of \$7,517.92
- f. CDAP Fund in the amount of \$156.00
- g. Town IMRF Fund in the amount of \$4,414.50
- h. Social Security Fund in the amount of \$4,364.38
- i. R&B Social Security Fund in the amount of \$1,328.19
- j. R&B IMRF Fund in the amount of \$1,342.84

The total for all funds is \$141,203.34

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

V. Reports

a. Assessor's Report

There was no discussion on the assessor's written report.

b. Highway Commissioner's Report

Deputy Highway Commissioner Jason Owens presented the written report. There was no discussion.

c. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Catching stated that the township is getting numerous handyman service applications. Catching said that our budget for this year was \$50,000 but that about \$15,000 was already spent on one major repair. Trustee Wells said that we need to have a cap on how much money we spend on any one request. Catching pointed out that we can move money from the Contingency line item if needed, and we will continue to work with other organizations and the City of Aurora to address the needs of the Township residents.

Supervisor Catching announced that a National Night Out Event will be held at the Youth Center on August 3rd from 4-7:30 pm.

d. Sheriff's Report

Kane County Sheriff Ron Hain presented an oral report. He named some of the social services the Kane County Sheriff's Office provides, including addiction treatment, job fairs, and OSHA training.

He said they just got a new radio system, updated from a 1970s system and paid for with CARES Act funding so no local taxpayer dollars were used.

Hain reported that generally 25% – 30% of the released jail population goes out to Aurora, and stated his goal to tear down walls between the Aurora Police Department and Kane County Sheriff's Department so they can blend services. He said the Kane County Sheriff's Office now has two sheriff's deputies working with the Aurora Police Department.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

VII. New Business

Resolution 2021-18 Authorizing the Supervisor to Purchase Used Vehicles

Supervisor Catching moved to approve the authorization to purchase used vehicles and Trustee Moore seconded it. Catching received quotes for a used shuttle bus with a wheelchair lift and a used charter bus for our youth center fleet. He stated that they are in good repair in general and that we are well under budget even with minor body panel repairs, tags and licenses, etc. Catching stated this authorization is specifically to buy these two vehicles. The resolution carried by unanimous voice vote.

VIII. Board Member Comments

Trustee Wells said she would like to see new items have a discussion at one meeting and then vote on them at the next meeting, to give time for more thought. There was a general discussion about how to do this and whether it would be good. Trustee Hicks stated you can table items when you're not certain and Supervisor Catching said there may be some items where the township needs to move quickly.

Supervisor Catching stated that he was approached by the West Aurora Cemetery Board asking the Township to take over the maintenance of the West Aurora Cemetery on Lake Street. He related that there are major repairs needed including tree removal and fence repairs, and the costs of taking on this project would be expensive. It was agreed that further discussions are needed before any action will be taken on this matter.

IX. Public Comments

Dr. Peggy Hicks, of Aurora, said that words used in the official minutes are important and stated that Grammarly is a good application to help write reports. She suggested it could help the township clerk write the minutes.

X. Announcements

Dr. Peggy Hicks said that LEEDS, the pre-jail diversion program for non-violent offenders which started in Elgin out of the State's Attorney's Office, would have a meeting at the Geneva Library on July 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. She said they want public input.

Dr. Hicks reminded all that the TRIAD Picnic is August 10.

XI. Adjournment

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn, and Trustee Hicks seconded it. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cassidy Alexander", followed by a checkmark.

Cassidy Alexander
Aurora Township Clerk

[illegible]