

AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
313 Gale Street, Aurora, Illinois  
Thursday, November 18, 2021  
MINUTES

**I. Call to Order**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation**

**Roll Call and Establish Quorum**

Aurora Township Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and led all present in the pledge of allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation. Township Clerk Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following Officials and Board members present: Supervisor Catching; Trustees Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Sam Nunez, and Juanita Wells; Deputy Highway Commissioner Jason Owens; Director of Community Services Ken Maurice, and Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson. Assessor Offutt was excused absent. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks, and Lashon Harden.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting October 28, 2021**

Supervisor Catching moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting of October 28, 2021, which was seconded by Trustee Wells. There was no discussion. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**III. 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, R&B IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge Social Security Fund bills. It was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$79,483.26
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$26,883.01
General Assistance Fund.....	\$3,974.06
Mental Health Fund.....	\$16,041.61
Equipment & Building Fund	\$1,284.44
CDAP Fund.....	\$41.25
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$8,521.21
Social Security Fund.....	\$7,886.60
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$2,613.97
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$2,685.68

The total for all funds is \$149,415.09. Without discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**IV. Reports**

**a. Assessor's Report**

Assessor David Offutt turned in a written report to the board, which states that the Kane County Board of Review hearings have been ongoing by Zoom and continue through November 30.

**b. Highway Commissioner's Report**

Deputy Highway Commissioner Jason Owens turned in a written report to the board, stating normal activities. There was no discussion.

c. Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Bill Catching said most of the board members attended the virtual Township Officials of Illinois Education Conference earlier in the week.

d. Director of Community Services Report

Director Ken Maurice said repairs and upgrades are continuing at the Youth Center, with lights all around the building and the inside lights replaced, the roof hole repaired, and masonry work done. More improvements will be made. He continues to do outreach to other youth groups.

e. Director of Finance & Administration Report

Director Patty Richardson said we received the final property tax revenue for this year, and 99.97% of taxes were collected. The tax levy is coming up soon. She also suggested we review and update policies and procedures per the Township Officials of Illinois Educational Conference suggestions.

**V. Unfinished Business**

a. Accept the highest bids for surplus vehicles at the bid opening held on October 28, 2021

Supervisor Catching moved to accept the highest bids for surplus vehicles at the bid opening held on October 28, 2021. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. There was no discussion, and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

**VI. New Business**

a. Resolution 2021-62 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund

Bill Catching moved to approve Resolution 2021-62 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund which was seconded by Trustee Hicks.

Discussion: Trustee Nunez asked if these transfers were a one-time thing, and what was the \$5,000 for? Director of Finance Richardson said they are one-time transfers and that youth wages were a little less than budgeted this year, so the money will help with the building repairs at the Youth Center. With no further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

b. Resolution 2021-27 Senior Citizens Services Grant Funding 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

Supervisor Catching moved to approve Resolution 2021-27 Senior Citizens Services Grant Funding 2021-2022 Fiscal Year. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. Supervisor Catching said the Aurora Township Senior Services Grant Commission met three times. They had requests for a total of \$628,350 but only \$488,000 was available for distribution. He added that A.I.D. did not apply last year and that the Kane Senior Council distributes Meals on Wheels and worked in conjunction with DuPage Senior Council. The recommendations are as follows:

Senior Services Associates.....	\$300,000
Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry.....	\$75,000
Living Daylight Organization.....	\$55,000
Association for Individual Development....	\$55,000
Kane Senior Council.....	\$3,000

Discussion: Trustee Nunez asked about the Living Daylight Organization. Trustee Hicks talked about the Alzheimer's Association's plans to develop Memory Cafes to help individuals with dementia. With no further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

c. Resolution 2021-28 Declaration of Surplus Vehicles –2003 Chevrolet Mid Bus

Sup. Bill Catching moved to approve Resolution 2021-28 Declaration of Surplus Vehicles– 2003 Chevrolet Mid Bus. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. Director of Community Services Maurice said it was not worth repairing and would be put up for auction. Without further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

d. Approval of Requests for IMRF Benefit Protection Leave, IMRF Form 6.32

Sup. Catching moved to approve the request for IMRF Benefit Protection Leave, IMRF Form 6.32 for a particular employee, whose name was disclosed to the board. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. Catching said a few others had applied, and that the board must approve when employees “purchase” service credits for time elapsing during furloughs, for transparency, because the township must contribute their share toward the credits. With no further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

e. Determination of 2021 Aurora Township Tax Levy and 2021 Aurora Township Road District Tax Levy

Sup. Catching announced that the Determination of 2021 Aurora Township Tax Levy and 2021 Aurora Township Road District Tax Levy will be less than the 5% threshold for tax levy hearing purposes.

Director of Finance & Administration Richardson presented a written tax levy analysis with worksheets for all funds. She stated that we plan to raise the grant levels for General Assistance to compare with other townships and explained that they did not have as many requests for rental assistance as they had expected this year, due to other available resources, so they will reduce the 2021 levy to avoid accumulating more than 2 ½ years’ worth of funding in G.A. Mental Health Fund will be increased by the Consumer Price Index of 1.4% plus .22% for new construction in the levy calculation. The Senior Citizens Services Fund will be increased by the CPI adjustment only (1.4%), but all other Town Funds will remain flat. She explained that the Town Funds levy is down .71% overall, though the EAV was growing, due to much new construction.

Deputy Highway Commissioner Owens stated that the Road Funds levy for 2021 will be increased by the CPI of 1.4% plus .22% for new construction in all funds for a total increase of 1.62%.

f. Approval of the 2022 Holiday Schedule

Bill Catching moved to approve the 2022 Holiday Schedule for the township, which was seconded by Trustee Wells. Catching stated that we mirror the county schedule. Richardson added that we usually had both President’s Day and Lincoln’s birthday off, but one falls on a Saturday, so we lose one holiday. Without further discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

g. Authorizing Supervisor to Enter PACE Subsidy Agreement

Supervisor Bill Catching moved for approval Resolution 2021-29 to enter into the PACE Subsidy Agreement as presented in written form to the board. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. Catching said PACE subsidy estimates will go up 15%. There was no discussion, and the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

h. Discussion Regarding Easement to City of Aurora

Bill Catching informed the board that, because of the \$70 million apartment complex slated to be built just north of the township offices, there needs a fire lane ceded to the City of Aurora from the township. Catching said we are negotiating with our lawyer, but we will need a special town meeting on the conveyance of land, as it must be approved by the electors. It may be slated before the annual town meeting in April. Trustee Nunez asked exactly where this lane was to be and was told it is on the north side, toward Jake’s Bagels. There was no further discussion.

i. Accept Applications for Appointment of Highway Commissioner Replacement

Catching suggested we publicly declare a vacancy for the Highway Commissioner in the Beason News and ask for applications, stating the qualifications needed. He said the person must have voted on a Democratic ballot in the last election and must reside in Aurora Township. He suggested we state that resumes must be submitted by

December 6, or 7, so that they can be presented at the next meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Nunez asked if the process was usually so fast, and Catching said it's usually is a bit longer, but he was caught off guard by Reyna's sudden resignation at the last meeting. There was no further discussion, and the plan was okayed by the board.

**V. Board Member Comments**

Trustee Hicks said we should find a way to let more people know that there is General Assistance available, which started a discussion of various requirements, and the particulars of Emergency Assistance vs. General Assistance.

Trustee Moore announced he had attended a veteran's ceremony which Rep. Lauren Underwood also attended, and that the veterans of the Fox Valley Veterans Breakfast Club want to go on a trip in the spring.

**VI. Public Comments**

Dr. Peggy Hicks said she had called the governor's chief of staff to suggest that, since the government rollout of Covid granted money is so slow and complex, that we would be better served if local non-profit groups were given the money to handle the distribution better. She also announced that the Fox Valley Christian Ministerial Alliance will bring young people together with seniors to help with the senior's technology questions with their tablets.

**VII. Announcements**

Supervisor Catching said the senior snow removal cost was under \$20,000, so we don't need a Request For Proposal and we will stick with Bradley Barajas and add one or two more service providers. Trustee Nunez asked if this was the same list as the senior mowing list and Catching said it was.

**VIII. Executive Closed Meeting – Personnel**

At this point, Supervisor Catching moved to go into executive session: Reason - Personnel. The roll call vote was: Sup. Catching – yes; Trustee Hicks – yes; Trustee Moore – yes; Trustee Nunez – yes; Trustee Wells – yes.

The public board meeting began again at 5:48 p.m. Clerk Alexander called roll. Present were Supervisor Catching, and Trustees Hicks, Moore, Nunez, and Wells.

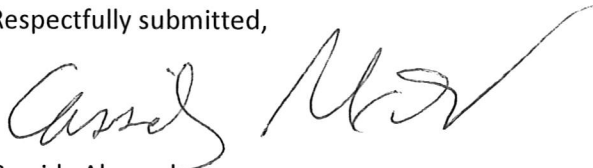
**IX. Motion to Authorize the Aurora Township Supervisor and the Deputy Highway Commissioner to Execute a Separation Agreement with a Road District Employee.**

Sup. Catching moved to authorize the Aurora Township Supervisor and the Deputy Highway Commissioner to execute a separation agreement with a Road District employee. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. Without discussion, the motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**X. Motion to Adjourn**

Catching moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Trustee Wells. The motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 5.51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cassidy Alexander  
Aurora Township Clerk