

**AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**INVOCATION**  
**ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Hicks gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following officials and board members present: Supervisor Catching, Trustees Dolores Hicks, David Moore, Sam Núñez and Juanita Wells, Assessor Davis Offutt, and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Staff present: Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson and Director of Community Services Ken Maurice. Public present: Dep. Brian Demeter of the Kane County Sheriff's Department, and Dr. Peggy Hicks. NOTE: Trustee Sam Núñez was traveling for business and participated remotely via Zoom, and therefore all votes were by roll call.

**II. Supervisor Catching moved for Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of February 9, 2023, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion carried without discussion.**

**III. Approval and/or Audit of Township and Road District Bills**

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve the combined Town Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, General Assistance Fund, Equipment & Building Fund, Town IMRF Fund, R&B IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge Social Security Fund bills as presented to the board. It was seconded by Trustee Moore. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$29,978.57
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$27,176.51
General Assistance Fund.....	\$1,599.49
Equipment & Building Fund.....	\$2,723.12
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$544.67
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$144.41
Social Security Fund.....	\$4,869.88
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$1,149.02

The total for all funds is \$68,185.67. [NOTE: at the presentation of this motion Trustee Núñez lost connectivity, and despite best efforts, the board was forced to carry on without him.] The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**IV. REPORTS**

a. Assessor's Report

Assessor Davis Offutt turned in a written report and summarized that they are in process of reevaluating properties and neighborhoods and upgrading the property photos on file. He noted all deputy assessors wear identifiable vests and badges to quell homeowners' fears.

b. Highway Commissioner's Report

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens stated the road department prepared for yesterday's ice storm although it did not happen as predicted. He also said he would not be presenting his department's budget yet, as they need to re-bid on a new truck.

c. Supervisor's Report

- Supervisor Catching said the City of Aurora has started work on the old YMCA building and that they will need to clear the property as well as demolish the building. He said there are significant issues involved and it would probably take a year or so.

- Catching attended the Township Supervisors of Illinois meeting in Bloomington, IL. He reported he has been appointed chair of the legislation committee.

- Sup. Catching, following up on the matter of the new development planned next to Lee subdivision, said there would be a regular meeting of the Lee Subdivision on March 7 at the church at Orchard & Jericho and he asked the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity to attend, but as yet has had no response. Hwy. Com. Owens added that he has asked our lawyer to look into what authority he, Owens, has in the matter.

- Catching stated that the code enforcement officer was in Mocherville on Feb. 7 and progress was made to clean up many code violations. Dep. Sheriff Brian Demeter, who was assisting the effort, said the team would put stickers on illegally parked vehicles on March 7 and tow them two weeks later if they remained. Catching announced that April 22 is a planned clean-up day for the area, including a tire dumpster. They plan to go to each subdivision and clean up. Dep. Demeter said they plan to get English/Spanish fliers into mailboxes and doors to inform residents what is going on.

d. Director of Finance and Administration's Report

- Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson provided the board with January's financial statements and said we are in good shape, but that she would not present a budget at this meeting, as there are some big projects that still need to be assessed. She added that annual evaluations for employees will be happening soon and salaries may be reset. There were no questions.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Supervisor Catching moved to pass Resolution 2023-08 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. [NOTE: Trustee Núñez established connection again during the reports so the vote was by roll call. Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion carried.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to pass Resolution 2023-09 Requests for Proposal Lawn Mowing and Maintenance Services. The second was Trustee Hicks.

Highway Commissioner Owens explained that the road district has had numerous problems getting enough qualified people to work part time on this program for seniors. He added the department at times had to assign Teamsters to do it last year, but the department simply cannot afford that. The program has grown to about 150 properties. This motion would ask for bids from private contractors.

DISCUSSION: Trustee Hicks asked if they would get several bids, and Catching said he would and he wanted to make it friendly for smaller, local companies. Trustee Núñez asked what the financial impact would be and Catching replied that, by keeping the township and road departments under 50 full-time employees, we have saved about \$100,000 on insurance, so that makes up for the private company bid.

Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion carried.

c. Supervisor Catching moved to pass Resolution 2023-10 Appointing Valerie Arroyo to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee. The second was from Trustee Moore. Sup. Catching said one of the board members resigned. He shared Arroyo's resume with the Board, and said she is a retired Farmers Insurance commercial underwriter. Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion carried.

d. Supervisor Catching moved to TABLE Ordinance 2023-11 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance – Town Fund which was seconded by Trustee Wells. There was no discussion. Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion to TABLE carried.

e. Supervisor Catching moved to TABLE Ordinance 2023-12 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance – Road Fund which was seconded by Trustee Wells. There was no discussion. Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion to TABLE carried.

#### VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Moore commended the Supervisor, Highway Commissioner and Sheriff Department for working together so effectively, both with the Lee Subdivision and with Mocherville code enforcement. He said it takes a team effort.
- Trustee Wells commended Hwy. Com. Owens for repairing the light on her street, which she said is still working and is making a huge difference on her street.

#### VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dr. Peggy Hicks commended Trustee Wells for the Black history trivia quiz she brought to the Tuesday night Black History event. Hicks said she and the seniors learned a lot and really enjoyed it. Dr. Hicks also thanked Aurora Township for its support of the Black History Committee for this month's events and said there were some good discussions. She added that the Aurora Township youth have been a blessing to the seniors and commended Director Maurice for his good work. She also mentioned that the Township soccer team won 4 trophies in competition.

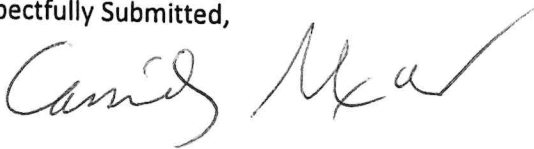
#### VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Hicks reminded all that the Senior Services Black History Luncheon would be tomorrow, Feb. 24 at 11a.m.

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Núñez. Roll call: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The motion carried and the meeting ended at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander