

AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, July 27, 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, Juanita Wells, and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Assessor Davis Offutt and Trustee Sam Núñez were excused absent. Staff present: Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson, Director of Community Services Ken Maurice, HR Director Jennifer Haurykiewicz, Aurora Township attorney Paul Patricoski, and Aurora Township Staff Accountant Chris Tippin. Public present: Dep. Santiago Hernandez of the Kane County Sheriff Department, Mercy Galicia and Melissa Solis of the Tejano Scholarship Foundation, Dr. Peggy Hicks, Jameson Hayes, Jewel Hayes, George Scowins, Ed Ryan, Bob Paolicchi, Kim Thurmond, Frances Jones, Ricky Rodgers of African American Men of Unity, and Rev. John Burch.

II. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of July 13, 2023**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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, 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.....	\$43,126.76
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$62,765.24
General Assistance Fund.....	\$3,483.44
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$597.80
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$6,068.28
Social Security Fund.....	\$1,362.45
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$141.20

The total for all funds is \$117,545.17. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. REPORTS

a. Assessor's Report

Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report of the usual activities of the department.

b. Highway Commissioner's Report

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens submitted a written report of the usual activities of his department. There was no discussion.

c. Supervisor's Report

- Supervisor Catching said the National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 1st and the Youth and Community Center will host, and will have a representative from the Illinois Attorney General's office.
- He added that the repairs and improvements to the Youth Center parking lot are complete.
- Catching stated our energy consultant did not have an energy aggregation program for us this year, because they could not beat ComEd's prices, but they are looking at hybrid programs in the future to save the Township money on energy bills.

d. Director of Finance and Administration's Report

Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson provided the board with June's financial statements and said we are doing fine. She said she's working well with our new staff accountant, Chris Tippin, and that the audit draft is in and the final audit will be presented in September.

e. Kane County Deputy Sheriff's Report

Deputy Santiago Hernandez gave an oral report with statistics for various crimes and incidents in the county, citing the usual duties of the department. Trustee Wells asked if complaints about fireworks are down and he replied yes, they were going down.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Hicks reported a disturbing incident concerning the lack of transportation for her seniors to get to their scheduled dinner/dance in Glen Ellyn last Thursday, and she said she felt humiliated and betrayed. She reported that the seniors, including herself, were standing in the sun at two different locations, waiting for a long time in extreme heat, and then were told there were no drivers for them. She said she had scheduled transportation, and that this had never happened before in all the years they've been doing the senior dinner/dance events and that somebody dropped the ball at the Township. Trustee Wells said we need to examine how to prevent this in the future, and that there should be a paper trail. Trustee Moore said there appeared to be a problem with communication, and that the employee who dropped the ball needs counseling. He said we should keep the chain of command on these matters. Supervisor Catching threw the discussion open to Public Comments.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION: There was a prolonged discussion about how the above incident happened and how it could be avoided in the future, with comments from Paul Henkel of Senior Services, Frances Jones, Kim Thurman, Dr. Peggy Hicks. And Rev. John Burch. Supervisor Catching explained that the buses need drivers with air brake certifications as well as CDLs and there are only two who have that, and neither was available. He apologized to all, saying he takes full responsibility since his name is on the door, and would work to see that this would not happen again.

- On another note, Mercy Galicia thanked Sup. Catching and the Aurora Township for their help with the Tejano Scholarship Festival that was held in June and brought some Mexican pizzas for all to enjoy as a thank you.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Peggy Hicks said her group, Pre-Employment Readiness Training Program of the Hicks-Wright Organization was doing very well with many success stories in its first year and would start up again in August.

- Ricky Rodgers thanked Aurora Township for all their help with the African American Men of Unity programs, such as their Juneteenth event with over 7,000 in attendance.
- Rodgers added that AAMOU will have a Back-to-School Fair on Friday, August 18, 2023, from 4:30 – 7 at Greenfield Park to hand out backpacks and other school supplies.
- Trustee Hicks announced the Aurora Township Foundation Bar-B-Que Fundraiser would be Monday, August 7, at the Youth and Community Center, from 4:30 – 6:30. Tickets are \$16 per dinner and go toward scholarships.
- She also announced that the TRIAD picnic would be Tuesday, August 8, at Philips Park from 11 – 1p.m. Tickets are \$3 and you can purchase them at the Senior Center. Paul Henkel said he expects to have about 150 people there. Aurora Township sponsors the event.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Wells. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting ended at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cassidy Alexander", written in a cursive style.

Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander

