

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois

Thursday, October 12, 2023

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

Supervisor William Catching called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and led all present in the pledge of allegiance. Trustee Moore gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and declared a quorum with the following officials and board members present: Supervisor Catching; Trustees Dolores Hicks, David Moore, and Juanita Wells; Assessor Davis Offutt; and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Trustee Sam Núñez attended via Zoom. Staff present: Director of Community Services Ken Maurice, Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson, and Delia Gomez of the Aurora Township Assessor’s Office. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks.

NOTE: Since Trustee Núñez was attending remotely, all votes were by Roll Call.

I. Supervisor Catching moved to **Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2023**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. There was no discussion.
Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. Motion carried.

II. 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, Mental Health 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.....	\$106,581.26
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$74,464.56
General Assistance Fund.....	\$8,350.50
Mental Health Fund.....	\$126,029.70
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$565.47
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$133.54
Social Security Fund.....	\$5,136.91
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$1,134.48

The total for all funds is \$322,396.42.

Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. Motion carried.

III. REPORTS

a. Assessor’s Report

Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report on the usual duties of the office. He supplied the board with additional written information about the tax process which Trustee Wells thanked him for, saying it was good information that we can share.

b. Highway Commissioner’s Report

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens said they are finishing up all summer projects, including landscaping at their recent projects, finishing drainage projects and rebuilding some approaches. He said he is also working on the levy to be ready for November. He thanked the township for providing transportation for the N. Aurora Lions Club.

c. Supervisor's Report

- Supervisor Catching said he contacted Jodie Wollnik, Director of Kane County Department of Environmental and Water Resources, regarding the problem with flooding in the 1100 block of Union Street that was brought up at the last meeting by two residents. She said they have been trying to solve the problem for many years and that it would be a difficult project to build as well as extremely expensive. [See full email exchange attached]
- Catching said he attended the first quarterly meeting with officials of other townships regarding the new categories for which General Assistance monies can be used. He stated it was a productive meeting and worthwhile seeing how other townships are handling the new possibilities. Trustee Wells asked that Supervisor Catching bring a written copy of the new law to the next board meeting so that everyone could see the additional categories now covered by General Assistance.
- He announced that tomorrow was the last day to sign up to attend the Quad County Urban League Gala on October 28, where the township has sponsored a table.
- Catching said the Fox Metro Water Reclamation District will have a reception for local officials at their facility on October 19 from 6 to 8 p.m. and that tomorrow is the last day to RSVP.
- Supervisor Catching stated he attended the last meeting of the Senior Listening Tour 2.0, as did Trustee Wells. He said the agencies that serve seniors will be getting together on October 19 to discuss what to do to help seniors. There followed a discussion on the duplication of services among the township, the City of Aurora and private agencies.

d. Director of Community Services Report

Director of Community Services Ken Maurice submitted a written report on their usual activities, including the new schedule. Youth Services is hosting the African American Men of Unity (AAMOU) Rights of Passage (ROP) which mentors youth, on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays monthly through May 2024 beginning October 7th. He stated that the Handprint bus is still being repaired after one month in the shop. He said it was bought used from schools and may not be worth fixing. Trustee Hicks echoed that sentiment. Maurice commented that a vehicle seemed to have cut through the former YMCA property and left a lot of debris in the Youth Center parking lot. He added that the lot has also been plagued with geese droppings.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2023-33 Declaration of Surplus Township Vehicles**. Trustee Wells seconded.

DISCUSSION: Catching said both 2008 VNA shuttles have significant problems and they are looking at getting another one. He added that there are still issues with getting parts for them. There was a short discussion of how long the township has had the shuttles and whether they were worth fixing.

Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. Motion carried.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2023-34 Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund**. Trustee Moore gave the second. There was no discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. Motion carried.

V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS – none

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

•Dr. Peggy Hicks said the 15th Annual Scholarship Event of the Fox Valley Christian Ministerial Alliance would be held at Ballydoyle Aurora on November 3 from 6:30 – 8:30 for sponsors and friends only.

- Trustee Dolores Hicks said there will be a Senior Resources and Volunteer Fair at the Senior Service Center on October 19 from 9 to noon. There will be exhibitors and refreshments.
- Trustee Hicks added that she is on an Age Guide committee and the organization is doing a lot of work to create lifestyle solutions for seniors. She said seniors now represent the largest age group in the country and growing, so keeping them healthy and active is important. Trustee Moore added that this is a national concern.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Trustee Wells. Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cassidy Alexander", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Cassidy Alexander, Town Clerk

William Catching

From: Wollnik, Jodie <WollnikJodie@KaneCountyIL.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 3:03 PM
To: William Catching
Subject: RE: Re: 1100 block of Union Street

I think the last estimate was 1.2-1.5 million

From: William Catching <william.c@auroratownship.org>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 12:20 PM
To: Wollnik, Jodie <WollnikJodie@KaneCountyIL.gov>
Subject: EX: Re: 1100 block of Union Street

Thank you so much, Jodie. Please define incredibly expensive.

I have been in politics/public service long enough to know that you never tell people that their homes should never have been built but I actually said that to these folks.

Bill Catching
Township Supervisor
Aurora Township
630-897-8777
www.auroratownship.org

From: Wollnik, Jodie <WollnikJodie@KaneCountyIL.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2023 12:05 PM
To: William Catching <william.c@auroratownship.org>
Subject: RE: 1100 block of Union Street

Hi,

Yes, we have a drainage plan for that neighborhood that is extremely expensive. We did soil borings in that area about 5 years ago and hit 6' of running sand blow back and merrill. Its an incredibly tough project to build. We are hopefully that the eventual Montgomery Road project will help get part of an outfall constructed to the interceptor. We have it pretty much designed and modeled to know it will work, but it is a funding and constructability issue. Its been close to 25 years that we have been trying to come up with options on this one.

Jodie

From: William Catching <william.c@auroratownship.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 2:04 PM
To: Wollnik, Jodie <WollnikJodie@KaneCountyIL.gov>
Subject: EX: 1100 block of Union Street

Jodie,

Hope this finds you well.

We had two residents from the 1100 block of Union Street, Aurora Township, at last week's board meeting complaining about flooding issues in their homes after heavy rain storms. The Township owns two vacant lots in that block which we purchased after the flood of '96. They said water is ponding in one of our lots and contributed to the flooding of their basement in a recent storm.

Has this ever been brought to your attention previously? There doesn't appear to be any storm water conveyances other than the street. Any suggestions?

Bill Catching
Township Supervisor
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