

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, April 25, 2024

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

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Dolores 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 Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Assessor Davis Offutt and Trustee Juanita Wells were excused absent. Staff present: Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson, and Director of Community Services Frank Navarro. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks, Adam Pauley, Curtis Wilson, and Dr. Alejandro Benavides.

II. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of April 9, 2024**, which was seconded by Trustee Moore. The motion carried.

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

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

Town Fund.....	\$104,982.47
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$24,745.56
General Assistance Fund.....	\$1,151.30
Equipment & Building Fund.....	\$11,579.24
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$482.10
Town Social Security Fund.....	\$4,712.20
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$26,433.00
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$159.30

The total for all funds is \$174,245.17. The motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

a. ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report with the progress of the usual duties of the department.

b. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens submitted a written report with the progress of the usual duties of the department. •Owens stated the guardrail on Deerpath Road will be removed by Kane County Department of Transportation without cost to the township, due to the cost of repairing it often. •Owens added that there will be a neighborhood meeting May 7 at 7 p.m. at the Baptist Church on Jericho & Orchard concerning the final arrangements for the Habitat 4 Humanity project near Leigh subdivision. There was a short discussion of the details.

c. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

•Supervisor Catching said he attended Lobby Day in Springfield to work to defeat HB5050, which in several ways gives counties unprecedented power over townships without public input. •Catching said he was in the Beacon News regarding his speaking about township government to the Diabetes Club of the Fox Valley in North Aurora. • The Supervisor said he was recently made aware of the dangerous condition at the African American Museum site, where a foundation had been dug which was full of water and not adequately fenced in. He said he reported this to Kane County but they did not act quickly, and since children were nearby, he had Highway Commissioner Owens pump the water out. A fencing company will secure the site. The township is paying for both services. • Supervisor Catching said it is official that the Ride-In-Kane program will not have an increase for the cost of a regular ride, but rides of over ten miles will see a small increase.

d. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson presented the board with the March financial statements. She added that the auditors started Tuesday and will be doing field work in June. She said all township officials and employees will receive a confidential survey by Sikich Auditors to complete and return.

e. KANE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S REPORT - none

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Ordinance 2024-08 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Aurora Township** which was seconded by Trustee Moore. Catching said it had been on display for 30 days as required and there was a public hearing just before today's meeting. Roll Call vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – abs. The ordinance passed.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Ordinance 2024-09 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Road District** which was seconded by Trustee Núñez. Catching said this had also been on display for 30 days and had a public meeting just before today's meeting. Roll Call vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – abs. The ordinance passed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-13 Authorizing Supervisor to Purchase Used Vehicle**. The second was Trustee Hicks. Catching said this was for the Youth Center Programs and that this smaller van does not require a Commercial Driver License, which had made hiring drivers especially difficult. Director of Community Services Navarro added that eventually they will have two vans. Trustee Núñez said this was a good idea. The motion carried without further discussion.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-14 Declaration of Surplus Vehicles** which was seconded by Trustee Moore. Catching said it was for two buses no longer being used, and Director of Finance and Administration Richardson confirmed they were the Handprint bus and the International "party" bus. The motion carried.

c. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-15 Supporting the Proposed Aurora Township Historical Neighborhoods: "West Eola Mexican Boxcar Camp" and "Historical Austin-Western Immigrant Working-Class Neighborhood"**. It was seconded by Trustee Núñez. Supervisor Catching thanked Dr. Alejandro Benavides for bringing this to pass, and said the immigrants made Aurora. Catching said he will work with Highway Commissioner Owens on the signage.

VII. EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

Supervisor Catching moved to go into executive closed session to discuss PERSONNEL. The second was Trustee Hicks. The motion was approved by voice vote and the open meeting ended at 4:44 p.m.

VIII. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Supervisor Catching moved to Reconvene into Open Session. The second was Trustee Hicks. Roll Call vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – abs. Executive session ended and the open board meeting resumed at 5:10 p.m.

IX. ACTION RESULTING FROM EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

a. Supervisor Catching moved to Approve the Hiring of Brenda Delatorre for Youth Outreach Worker Position which was seconded by Trustee Moore. Catching provided a resume for all board members. The motion carried.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to Approve the Creation of a New Full-Time Position of Junior Youth Outreach Worker which was seconded by Trustee Núñez. The motion Carried.

c. Supervisor Catching moved to REMOVE the Approval of Hiring Laura Lopez for Junior Outreach Worker Position. The second was Trustee Hicks. Catching explained that she turned the offer down. The motion carried.

d. Supervisor Catching moved to Approve the Reclassification of Youth Administrative Assistant Rocio Torres from Part-time to Full-time Status. The second was Trustee Núñez. The motion carried.

e. Supervisor Catching moved to Approve a Separation Agreement for Dan Taylor. It was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried.

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Moore commented that the striping in front of the Youth Center building was great. Director Navarro said that it was done by his predecessor, Ken Maurice.

Supervisor Catching congratulated Trustee Dolores Hicks and her daughter, Dr. Peggy Hicks, for their recognition in the Beacon News for long-time contributions working socially for the City of Aurora and Aurora Township, and added this was good representation for Aurora Township. •Catching also thanked Director Navarro for his work at the Youth Center, which Catching said was the face of the township.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adam Pauley asked for an update on the Narcan situation and Supervisor Catching said they will soon have a newspaper-style vending machine in the main office lobby and a vending machine-style machine at the Youth Center.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Hicks said the Senior Citizens Service Committee will meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow at the VNA. •Hicks also thanked Frank Navarro for scheduling the bus service so well for the senior dances.

Trustee Moore said his sister talks with quite a few of her friends regularly and they all experienced joy from the senior dances.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Núñez. The motion carried and the meeting ended at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander