

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, May 9, 2024

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

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee David Moore gave the invocation. Clerk Cassidy Alexander called the roll and established a quorum with the following officials and board members present: Supervisor Catching, Trustee Dolores Hicks, Trustee David Moore, Trustee Sam Núñez, Trustee Juanita Wells, Assessor Davis Offutt and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Staff present: Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson. Public present: R. Paolucci, George Scowins, Adam Pauley, and Dr. Alejandro Benavides.

II. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of April 25, 2024**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried, with Trustee Wells abstaining.

III. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Public Hearing of April 25, 2024**, which was seconded by Trustee Moore. The motion carried, with Trustee Wells abstaining.

IV. 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, Liability Insurance Fund, Equipment & Building Fund, Town IMRF Fund, Road & Bridge IMRF Fund, Town Social Security Fund, and Road & Bridge Social Security Fund bills as presented to the board. It was seconded by Trustee Wells. The bills are as follows:

Town Fund.....	\$118,932.04
Road & Bridge Fund.....	\$28,314.35
General Assistance Fund.....	\$7,383.30
Liability Insurance Fund.....	\$22,110.00
Equipment & Building Fund.....	\$2,502.12
Town IMRF Fund.....	\$566.70
R&B IMRF Fund.....	\$125.74
Social Security Fund.....	\$5,626.47
R&B Social Security Fund.....	\$1,146.15

The total for all funds is \$186,706.87.

Trustee Núñez asked about the mosquito abatement invoice, and Supervisor Catching said this covers all of the unincorporated areas of the township. Director Richardson added that this is the first bill for each of the four summer months. Without further discussion, the motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

V. REPORTS
a. ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Davis Offutt submitted a written report with the progress of the usual duties of the department. He mentioned that the tax bills have gone out and there was a short discussion about taxes.

b. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens reported his main news, that he had a final meeting with Habitat 4 Humanity representatives regarding their project on Jericho Road, and the proposal he previously made as a compromise to placate the Leigh subdivision residents was rejected by the City of Aurora, as the City of Aurora has determined that they can connect the water main without going under the Township road.

c. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Supervisor Catching thanked Highway Commissioner Owens for his leadership working with the Leigh residents, especially meeting with the City of Aurora representatives.
- Catching said the project just north of the township offices will break ground May 20, and there will be fencing and barricades next to the sidewalk on Spring Street. When asked by Trustee Moore if employees would be able to enter the township grounds via Spring St, Catching said no, that there would be a rolling gate across the entrance for the contractors only.
- When asked, Catching said they still haven't gotten the elevator contractor to fix the elevator. He said other companies will not do it, since we have an agreement already. Assessor Offutt said they work around it by coming down to the main floor to meet with anyone who cannot use the stairs.
- The Supervisor said he has been working with Kane County Dep. Demeter to cite the illegally parked cars in Mocherville, which once were cleared out but have come back.
- Catching added that Jennifer Haurykiewicz and Director of Community Services Frank Navarro have been working tirelessly, interviewing for more employees and new summer camp employees.

d. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT - none

e. KANE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S REPORT - none

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Supervisor Catching moved to **Hire Nicole Valazquez for Youth Outreach Worker** and the second was Trustee Moore. Catching provided the board with a written resume. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Ordinance 2024-16 Aurora Township Parking Restriction Rathbone Avenue**. The second was Trustee Hicks.
DISCUSSION: Highway Commissioner Owens explained that there have been multiple resident complaints in the area that too many cars are parking in the Right of Way and it is not orderly. He said some are doubled up in driveways and drivers cannot see to back out. Owens will get help from the Kane County Sheriffs to enforce the new law.
Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The ordinance passed.

c. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Ordinance 2024-17 Aurora Township Parking Restriction Palmer Avenue**. The second was Trustee Hicks.
DISCUSSION: Highway Commissioner Owens explained that this is similar to the Rathbone Avenue issue. He said he was asked by the Kane County Sheriff Department to make No Parking on the east side of Palmer Avenue because there is a long-time neighbor dispute that is becoming dangerous for the Sheriff Deputies to handle, and they feel this will contain it. Owens will get help from the Kane County Sheriff Department to enforce the new law. Owens said for both ordinances he will get approval for signs from the Kane County Department of Transportation.
Roll Call Vote: Catching – Y; Hicks – Y; Moore – Y; Núñez – Y; Wells – Y. The ordinance passed.

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

•Trustee Wells asked about cash boxes on PACE buses, due to her recent experience riding one and finding no cash box available. Catching said they are still on all the Aurora Township PACE buses, but not all PACE buses are from Aurora Township. Wells emphasized that PACE bus service and Dial-A-Ride are important for seniors and the disabled to remain independent.

•Trustee Hicks said the Senior Citizens Service Committee meeting last Friday had very low attendance, and that she believes we need more reminder emails sent to everyone before the meeting.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

•Dr. Benavides commented that when he had some problems with code violations in his neighborhood, he was impressed that he got a call back quickly and they acted on it. He also praised for Highway Commissioner Owens and his efforts to help the Leigh community.

• Benavides also asked about the situation at the proposed African American Museum and would taxpayers get back the money the township spent to fill in the holes and put fencing around the dangerous area. Supervisor Catching said he couldn't say, because, although he discussed the matter with Ricky Rodgers, who is in charge of it, it seems that the whole project is stalled.

•Adam Pauley wished all Happy Mental Health Month, and said he attended a mental health symposium at the City of Aurora last Tuesday. Then he asked if the Narcan machines had been installed yet, and Supervisor Catching said no, that he is waiting for a return call from the man in charge of that. Mr. Pauley also asked if Aurora Township was in charge of fence viewing, and Catching said yes, and we even used to have a Fence Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•Trustee Hicks said there will be a Senior Dance next Thursday at Abbington Banquets.

•Trustee Wells asked if the new buses will require a CDL and Catching said no, that regular licenses will do.

•Trustee Hicks asked when the surplus buses will be disposed of, and Director of Finance and Administration Richardson said they are going to auction them and they are working on the process which requires notices in the paper, determining minimum bids, and so on.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Catching moved to adjourn which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting ended at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander

