

MINUTES of the AURORA TOWNSHIP BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING
80 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois
Thursday, November 14, 2024

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

Supervisor Bill Catching called the meeting to order at 4:04 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, and Trustee Juanita Wells, Assessor Davis Offutt and Highway Commissioner Jason Owens. Staff present: Interim Director of Community Services Jennifer Haurykiewicz. Public present: Dr. Peggy Hicks, George Scowins, Bob Paolicchi, Annette Johnson, and Bonnie Kunkel.

II. Supervisor Catching moved for **Approval of the Minutes of The Regular Board Meeting of October 24, 2024**, which was seconded by Trustee Hicks. The motion carried unanimously.

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

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Town Fund..... | \$103,344.27 |
| Road & Bridge Fund..... | \$59,552.34 |
| General Assistance Fund..... | \$7,117.07 |
| R&B Equipment & Building Fund..... | \$4,350.61 |
| Town IMRF Fund..... | \$1,093.26 |
| Town Social Security Fund..... | \$10,068.03 |
| R&B Social Security Fund..... | \$2,244.34 |
| R&B IMRF Fund..... | \$261.29 |

The total for all funds is \$188,031.21. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. 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 there were, to date, 240 hearings still in process.

b. HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Highway Commissioner Owens submitted a written report. He said they are wrapping up for the season and he added he met with two neighborhood resident groups.

c. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

• Supervisor Catching said he attended the annual Township Officials of Illinois conference in Springfield last week, which was well attended. He announced that he was elected First Vice President of TOI Supervisors of Illinois, which is for a two-year term.

d. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT

Interim Director of Community Services Jennifer Haurykiewicz submitted a written report on the Youth Center, including new outreach through two "Trunk or Treat" events, new shirts with a new Youth Center logo for participants, new commercial-grade coolers, and the retirement of the "vintage" van.

e. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Director of Finance and Administration Patty Richardson submitted the October financial statements to the board but was not able to attend due to illness.

f. KANE COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S REPORT - None

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Supervisor Catching moved to approve **Resolution 2024-27 Appointment of Emily Hinton to 708 Inc. Board**. The second was Trustee Hicks. Catching explained that the appointment was needed due to a resignation and presented the board with Ms. Hinton's credentials. The motion was carried.

b. Supervisor Catching moved to approve the **Employee Handbook Addendum of Sick Time (Assessor's Office Only)** which was seconded by Trustee Wells. Both Human Resources Director Jennifer Haurykiewicz and Assessor Davis Offutt explained that this was needed since Illinois passed the Paid Leave for All Workers Act earlier this year. The addendum will simplify the calculations for employee time off for paid leave, personal days and sick days without taking away any benefits. The motion carried.

c. **Determination of 2024 Aurora Township Tax Levy**

Supervisor Catching announced that the levy will be posted and no action was needed now. The final approval will be at the first meeting in December. He said some funds need less money and some will need a little more, but even with the Consumer Price Index being up by 3.4%, and an increase in the equalized assessed value of Aurora Township properties, because of new construction there would be an average overall decrease in tax.

d. **Determination of 2024 Aurora Township Road District Tax Levy**

Highway Commissioner Jason Owens said the levy will go up because they deal with consumables, which continue to increase in price, but he was confident they would not go over 5%. Again, the levy will be posted and approval comes in December.

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Moore read a statement announcing that he would not seek another term as Aurora Township Trustee and acknowledged that it was an honor to serve and thanked everyone for their support.
- Trustee Wells also said she is not running for any elected office again but will continue to be active in politics and thanked everyone for their support.
- Trustee Hicks said she also attended the annual Township Officials of Illinois Conference in Springfield and said she was particularly impressed with Daryl Pass's sessions on Narcan and the dangers to our young people and suggestions for handling them.

- Trustee Núñez thanked Trustees Moore and Wells for their service and for their help and said it was a pleasure to work with them both. Trustee Hicks added it was a pleasure for her to work with them, as well.
- Clerk Alexander announced she would not be seeking another term as Town Clerk for technical reasons. She added that she has enjoyed working with everyone on the board, learned a lot, and has tremendous respect for all that the township does.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dr. Peggy Hicks said she also attended the annual TOI conference and said that Aurora Township is known on a state-wide level and is respected as a well-run township. She added that our senior programs are also looked up to as good models.
- Annette Johnson, the Executive Director of Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry, presented a short summary of what it does. She said it has unique programs, has a presence in both the east and west sides of Aurora, has a veterans program, E.A. Paws program, and delivers food to seniors at their doors and has served over 100,000 families. Supervisor Catching added that it was one of the successful applicants for senior grants from Aurora Township.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Trustee Hicks said a Senior Services luncheon will be held on Nov. 22 at 11 a.m. at Senior Services on Plum Street.
- Supervisor Catching announced the Annual Holiday Meal program for seniors 60+ will take place December 14 in person at the 3rd Ward Club at 612 5th Ave. in Aurora OR for home delivery. To register, call Senior Services at 630-897-4035 no later than December 6.
- Trustee Hicks said she wants to do a food drive for the Marie Wilkinson Pantry soon.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Town Clerk Cassidy Alexander