

BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MAY 11, 2010

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call ~ Supervisor Pat Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The pledges to the Flag were said and roll call taken with the following Board Members present Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy. Also present Clerk Schabacker, Assessor Helnore and Hwy Commissioner Lee. We have a quorum to do business.

Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes ~ A motion was made by Trustee Zeien to accept the minutes from the last regular board meeting on April 27th 2010. The motion was 2nd by Trustee Robertson and passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a voice vote.

Transfers ~ there are no transfers.

Reports

Supervisors Report ~ no report at this time.

Highway Commissioner's Report ~ Blacktop bids will be opened Thursday at 10:00 am at the County office for road work to be done this year in the County. **Trustee Zeien** questioned **Highway Commissioner Lee** about a \$1,800 bill from Carroll Engineering. Rich stated that the bill was for additional work done for the Regina and Shaw Road intersection.

Assessor's Report ~ the Boone County Comparative Tax Rates handout was given to the Board by Assessor Helnore. The Assessor's books have to be turned into the Supervisor of Assessments by August 1st 2010 for the current tax year. The meetings scheduled with the commercial, rental and car dealership property owners went well. June 3rd the Assessor's office will have a meeting with the industrial property owners.

Clerk's Report ~ The Belvidere Chamber is having a Wine & Beer Tasting Fundraiser on Thursday May 20th from 5:30-8:30 pm at the Apollo Activity Center. The proceeds will provide backpacks and school supplies for disadvantaged elementary students in Belvidere District 100 and North Boone District 200. The cost to attend is \$25.00 for a single or \$45.00 a couple. Contact the chamber for your reservations.

Trustee's Report ~ **Trustee Carlson**, a final punch list has been completed at the Community Building Complex and it all went well. **Trustee Robertson**, nothing to report at this time. **Trustee Zeien**, nothing to report at this time. **Trustee Turner**, nothing to report at this time.

Unfinished Business ~ **Town Budget**, the Board questioned Assessor Helnore about her 15% budget increase over the previous year in light of the hard economic times. Trustee Carlson noted that the Townships proposed budget only had an increase of 3.5%. Assessor Helnore felt that she needed that increase in order to complete her work for the quadrennial year when all parcels need to be looked at. Trustee Carlson asked Assessor Helnore if she could cut back in some areas, she said she would look at it.

Health Insurance Co-Pays, Trustee Carlson made a motion to have the Township pay the additional cost to employees and elected officials of \$20 for Specialists office calls and \$100 for Emergency room co-pays for all Township employees and Elected Officials. This is due to a change by BC/BC after the original contract was signed with them. The motion was 2nd by Trustee Zeien and passed with five ayes no nays on a roll call vote. It was further noted that for payment consideration the EOB (Explanation of Benefits) must be turned into Terri by Friday at 2:00 pm for payment at the next Board Meeting on Tuesday.

Shaw Road and Regina Intersection Update, the work on Regina & Shaw Road has been delayed because of a single homeowner. Highway Commissioner Lee is concerned that the longer this project is delayed the higher the cost will be and the project might not get done this year.

Technology Meeting Update, Trustee Zeien had scheduled a Technology Meeting for Friday April 30th at 4:00 pm to work on formulating a Technology Policy that would safeguard the Township and all the important personal data the Township has. The Assessor has opted not to participate in the development of a Township Technology Policy by having one of her staff members present Trustee Zeien with a legal opinion at the start of the meeting. Trustee Zeien saw no reason to continue the meeting so he canceled it.

Legal ~~ nothing to discuss for legal.

New Business ~~ **HVAC Repair Proposals**, Alpha Controls & Services LLC was asked to evaluate and bid the Township heating and cooling system to see what could be done to improve it. Supervisor Murphy requested that we have Alpha perform the three services they proposed at a total cost of \$2,757. Trustee Carlson made a motion to accept the proposal of \$2,757 from Alpha Controls & Services LLC to repair the heating and cooling system at the Township building. Trustee Robertson 2nd the motion and it passed with five ayes no nays on a roll call vote.

Community Gardens, Supervisor Murphy has opted to donate \$500 as seed money for a Community Garden. The City of Belvidere and the Salvation Army in conjunction with other entities have planned for a Community Garden at Main & Buchanan Streets. Highway Commissioner Lee donated 12 loads of dirt to get the project started. There will be 38-40 families participating with excess produce going to the food pantry.

Medicine Collection Program, this program is sponsored by "Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful" and will be conducted from 9-12:00 am at the Township Building on June 12th individuals can bring their out dated and unused drugs to the Township that day. After collection these drugs will be incinerated.

Treasurer's Report and Approval of Town Bills ~~ Trustee Zeien made a motion to pay the Town Bills the motion was 2nd by Trustee Carlson with a question for Assessor Helnore regarding a bill for \$23.09 to Appleby's Restaurant listed as a Confidential Meeting. Trustee Carlson stated she had a concern paying that kind of a bill and why would you have a confidential meeting in a public place? Assessor Helnore felt that she was well within her rights concerning the bill and felt it was wrong for the Board to question her on it. Trustee Robertson stated that it was the Boards job to look at the bills and approve them and if we get a bill that is questionable then we ask a question. Trustee Robertson stated that he didn't feel that it was an appropriate bill. Trustee Carlson stated that she would approve the bill but wanted it noted that she had question the bill. The motion passed to pay the Town Bills with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a roll call vote.

Public Comments ~~ Executive Assistant Terri Bullard expressed her concern over the apparent tension within the Township building between the Assessor and the Township office and hoped it would end because it is making it difficult to work under those circumstances.

Adjournment ~~ a motion was made by Trustee Robertson to adjourn the meeting at 6:03pm, 2nd by Trustee Turner motion passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted
Judy Schabacker Clerk

