

MINUTES – BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
LAKE COUNTY**

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the office of the Town Clerk, 359 Merrill Ct., Libertyville on Thursday, August 28, 2014.

Kathleen M. O'Connor----SUPERVISOR

Anne Hansen-----TOWNSHIP CLERK

Phil Collins-----TRUSTEE

David Nield----- TRUSTEE

Robin M. O'Connor-----TRUSTEE

Terry A. White-----TRUSTEE

Supervisor O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge to the Flag, roll call and all Board members were present except Trustee O'Connor. Also present were: Mike Zorn, Highway Department Operations Manager, Chris Slago and Damon Cederberg, Open Space Field Coordinators, Pam Milroy, Financial Director, and Gloria Dail, Administrative Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 14, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes of August 14, 2014 by Trustee White, and a second by Trustee Collins, All in favor, aye. Motion carries

Trustee O'Connor joined the Board 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Nield with a second by Trustee White to approve the expenditures from the **Town Fund** in the amount of **\$23,474.38**. On roll call vote: Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, aye Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Motion by Trustee Collins and a second by Trustee White to approve the expenditures from the **Road and Bridge Fund** in the amount of **\$10,347.59**. On roll call vote: Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

OPEN SPACE FUND

Motion by Trustee O'Connor and a second by Trustee White to approve the expenditures from the **Open Space Fund** in the amount of **\$849.97**. On roll call vote: Trustee

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Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Evan Craig of 116 Hamilton Place, Vernon Hills thanked the Board for the open and collaborative efforts made by the Township to restore the open land to its natural habitat. Mr. Craig said farm land may look nice but it is not a good neighbor. He stated the phosphorous run off is damaging to the water, native plants and animal life. Mr. Craig asked the Board to have the courage to follow the plan.

Tom Nowak of 31470 N. Ranch Road, Libertyville is supportive of returning the land to its native chemistry and appreciates all the work that has been done. Mr. Nowak said he does not think an anonymous survey is a good idea.

Lisa Moreno of 18637 W. Casey Road, Libertyville said the survey monkey is an excellent idea, although it should have been done first. She stated her area has been asking the Road District for help with drainage issues for years and nothing has been done. She also said the Township should quantify dollars and usage of land in the plan.

Chris Gieselhart of 1408 Bull Creek, Libertyville said she has been a resident of the township for 42 years and appreciates the inclusion of the public in the development of the plan. Ms. Gieselhart said she is concerned about pesticides and shared the Lake County Audubon's Society's newsletter. She does not think a survey would be useful.

Dan Brouillard of 18167 W. Casey Road, Libertyville said he has witnessed erosion, and silt build up from farming for over 30 years; nothing has been done about it. He stated a survey would only stall efforts. If done, it would need to be unbiased.

Cathy Jackson of 31270 N. Ranch Road, Libertyville asked about having culverts installed in her neighborhood where flooding has been an ongoing issue for years. Ms. Jackson said she and her neighbors have been trying to get help from the Township for over 35 years. She stated the plan does not include anything that would help their situation. Ms. Jackson also asked how the Township is going to maintain all of the land. She recommended not trying to do it all at once, and taking small steps toward progress. Supervisor O'Connor explained drainage work is handled by the Road District which is a separate entity. Trustee White said this was the first time a resident of Liberty Acres has raised issues about drainage problems.

TOWNSHIP REPORTS:

Assessor's Report – Absent

Clerk's Report

Clerk Hansen said she will be registering voters at the Nursing Homes and Assisted Living residences in Libertyville Township next month.

Highway Commissioner's Report – Absent

Trustee's Report – None

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor O'Connor made some general announcements regarding donations to the food pantry.

The Libertyville Soccer Township Complex may hold a building dedication for the new facility. It is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 13, time to be determined.

AMENDMENT OF TIF AGREEMENT – APPROVAL

Supervisor O'Connor said the Village of Libertyville is requesting permission to amend the TIF agreement to allow exploration of parking opportunities on the east & west side of Milwaukee Avenue. The only change to the amendment is the addition of the word "west". A motion by Trustee O'Connor, seconded by Trustee White to approve the amendment of the TIF agreement as stated. On roll call vote: Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

CASEY LAND USE

Conceptual Design – Review and Discussion

Supervisor O'Connor reviewed each phase of the Conceptual Design Plan and answered questions from the Board. Trustee Nield stated he felt the plan "happened to them" as opposed to them cooperatively developing the plan with full open communication. Trustee Nield also said he has been asking for financial estimates regarding the plan and has not received them. Supervisor O'Connor said every month since November 2013 there has been a presentation and preliminary financial information was provided to the board. Supervisor O'Connor reiterated it is a "Conceptual Plan". The Township has not committed to spending any money and no action has been taken. Chris Slago, Open Space Field Coordinator, said the Township will only be able to complete phases from the plan we can fund. Those funds can be acquired through grants, money from the already existing Open Space Fund, and levied tax funds. Ms. Milroy also pointed out the Township has money in the Open Space Fund intended for such projects. Trustee Nield said the Board cannot go forward with financials being a gray fog and he does not want to take from the Open Space Fund. Supervisor O'Connor said the Township has never operated in the red and never will. Dan Nield of 622 Downing Road, Libertyville said the financial part of this plan is very important.

Paul Gieselhart of 1408 Bull Creek, Libertyville commented he loves the plan, and stated the Township has an opportunity to correct problems and damage to the land that has been going on for years.

CASEY LAND USE

Casey Land Survey – Discussion and vote

Trustee Nield drafted a Survey Monkey regarding the future use of 303 acres of Township land parcels. He proposed the survey would be linked to the Township website for residents to voluntarily take. Supervisor O'Connor asked what is to be accomplished by the survey that the public open houses did not achieve. Postcards were mailed to each household in the Township, information is posted on the website, and coverage has been provided in the newspapers.

Trustee White said the survey is not going to tell us what to do and he does not see the value in doing the Monkey Survey.

Chris Slago said people who take the survey may not be educated with the reality of the situation. Supervisor O'Connor commented it is not as simple as "corn or prairie". There are various land uses involved in the plan.

Trustee O'Connor said the Survey Monkey will be used extensively to test the waters. Trustee Nield said he is hoping for responses in the hundreds and handed out a rough sample of the survey he would like to use.

A motion by Trustee O'Connor seconded by Trustee Collins to approve the Township conducting a survey to seek additional public opinion on the potential land usage for the 303 acres of Township parcels. On roll call vote: Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, nay, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, nay. Motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor O'Connor said the Board has been given copies of all the social service grant applications. Twenty four applications were picked up, and the Township received 24 completed applications. At the September 11th meeting, the Board will begin the process of determining the allocations. At the September 25th meeting, the Board will be voting on the actual allocation.

NEW BUSINESS – None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn by Trustee White and a second by Trustee O'Connor. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Time: **9:07p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hansen, Township Clerk