

**MINUTES – BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES**

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**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**LAKE COUNTY**

**THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the office of the Town Clerk, 359 Merrill Ct., Libertyville on Thursday, November 13, 2014.**

**Kathleen M. O'Connor----SUPERVISOR**

**Anne Hansen----- 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. Also present were: Martin Neal, Highway Commissioner, Damon Cederberg, Open Space Field Coordinator, Mike Zorn, Highway Department Operations Manager, Pamela Milroy, Financial Director and Gloria Dail Administrative Assistant.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SPECIAL CALL MEETING 10.22.14 AND BOARD MEETING 10.23.14**

A motion to approve the Special Call Meeting minutes 10.22.14 and Regular Board Meeting Minutes 10.23.14 by Trustee O'Connor, and a second by Trustee Nield, all in favor, aye. Motion carries.

**APPROVAL OF BILL**

Supervisor O'Connor asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the **General Assistance expenditures** for the month of August, 2014.

**TOWN FUND**

Motion by Trustee Collins with a second by Trustee O'Connor to approve the expenditures from the **Town Fund** in the amount of **\$8,347.52**. 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 White and a second by Trustee Collins to approve the expenditures from the **Road and Bridge Fund** in the amount of **\$20,549.35**. 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**

Trustee White asked about the bill for Atlas Bobcat, LLC. The item was for a skid steer rental for clearing work. Motion by Trustee White and a second by Trustee Collins to

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approve the expenditures from the **Open Space Fund** in the amount of **\$5,861.68**. On roll call vote: Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

### **Citizens Comments'**

Jim Schuler of Valley Court in Libertyville said he is very pleased to see the various Bull Creek road projects.

Tom Knowak of Casey Road in Libertyville submitted two documents for the clerk to file with the minutes: information on the Biodiversity for a Livable Climate – Restoring Ecosystems to Reverse Global Warming Conference and registration materials and the text of a statement he read to the Board. Mr. Knowak encouraged a low tech low cost approach to restoration.

Chris Geiselhart of Bull Creek stated she is in favor of the Conceptual Land Use Plan. She stated the land was purchased with public money and it is time it is restored for public use and benefit.

### **TOWNSHIP REPORTS:**

**Assessor's Report** – Absent

**Clerk's Report** – Clerk Hansen said the Lake County voter turnout for the November 4 election was over 49%.

### **Highway Commissioner's Report**

Highway Commissioner Marty Neal said the Road District is about 2- 3 years behind with road projects. These projects include paving, culvert replacement and road and bridge improvements. Highway Commissioner Neal is currently looking to hire one more snow plow driver, the application is on the website.

### **Trustee's Report**

Trustee Nield provided the results of a separate survey he distributed. Trustee White asked if this was the same survey unanimously approved by the Board and posted on the Township website. Supervisor O'Connor said no. Trustee Nield said he felt compelled to do his own survey because he thought there were more voters strongly in support of agriculture. Mr. Nield stated his survey results indicated a preference for agriculture. Discussion ensued.

### **Supervisor's Report**

An update of the Food Pantry activities for the month of October was provided.

Supervisor O'Connor and Trustee White attended the Waukegan Park District's River Road Trail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

The Thanksgiving Dinner boxes will be distributed Tuesday, November 25.

The Township received a grant from The Nature Conservancy in the amount of \$999.77. The grant will be used to purchase equipment for the Open Space Volunteer work days.

**CONSERVE LAKE COUNTY PRESENTATION**

**KEITH GRAY, CHAIRMAN**

Supervisor O'Connor said for many years the Township and Conserve Lake County have been strong partners in stewarding the Township's Open Space District. Conserve Lake County provides assistance in pursuing and receiving grants, land management, development of policies and procedures and a host of other services. Keith Gray, Chairman of Conserve Lake County, presented an overview of the services Conserve Lake County provided this past 1.5 years. Mr. Gray said Open Space allows for public access to trails, habitat and growth of plant and animal life, control of erosion, nutrient removal and provides economic benefits. Mr. Gray stated Conserve Lake County strongly supports the Casey Road Land Use Conceptual Plan.

**CASEY ROAD LAND USE**

**REVIEW SURVEY RESULTS**

The Board was given a print out of the responses of the Casey Road Land Use Survey. There were 38 respondents. Of those, 17 were extremely comfortable with the plan, 14 were quite comfortable, 4 were quite uncomfortable and 3 were extremely uncomfortable. Discussion ensued.

**APPROVAL TO ADOPT CONCEPTUAL PLAN – DISCUSSION AND VOTE**

Beginning in October 2013, the Township has been exploring the possible land use options for the 303 acres of Township property on Casey Road under a long term license agreement that is set to expire December 2015. During this process, the Township has received technical and staff support from the Illinois State Nature Preserve, Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and Conserve Lake County. Two public open houses have been held and an on-line survey provided to gather information and provide a forum for public participation. Trustee Nield has raised the issue of the cost the Township may incur with restoration efforts. Supervisor O'Connor stated restoration work will not move forward until funds are secured. Examples were given of several Open Space parcels that have been restored as the result of grants and mitigation wetland banks. Supervisor O'Connor spoke of previous Boards' foresight in preserving and restoring open space property; the plan lays out a road map of where the Township wants to go. It allows future Boards the flexibility to capture revenue from license agreements, grants, mitigation opportunities and other funding sources.

Trustee O'Connor said she does not see any negative in regards to the Conceptual Plan. She said the Township is very prudent about how money is spent. Rollins Savanna, a Lake County Forest Preserve District's parcel, is an example of farm land that was restored and is an absolute treasure. Trustee O'Connor said the Board has the opportunity to do something incredible.

Trustee Nield asked what circumstances would need to be present to have the land stay in agriculture. Supervisor O'Connor said pulling land out of production or keeping it in production will be a board's decision. Discussion ensued.

A motion by Trustee O'Connor seconded by Trustee White to approve the adoption of the Casey Road Land Use Conceptual Plan. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSULTING SERVICES WITH CONSERVE LAKE COUNTY-  
DISCUSSION AND VOTE:**

Supervisor O'Connor said Conserve Lake County has kept their rates flat for several years. The Board was given a copy of the updated contract. The contract calls for the Township to pay \$2,000 per month for 40 hours of consulting services. The term of the contract is for a period of 15 months. Discussion ensued.

A motion by Trustee O'Connor, seconded by Trustee Collins to approve the agreement for consulting services with Conserve Lake County. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Collins, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carries.

**2015 – 16 LIBERTYVILLE TOWNSHIP TAX LEVY – DISCUSSION**

Supervisor O'Connor said the Township is proposing to levy for the amount received in the 2014-15 Levy Extension **\$1,782,333**. Some of the projects for the upcoming year are: Rt. 137/Bull Creek Trail Project, surveying addition parcels, large scale herbicide project, filed maintenance at the ball fields at Lindholm Park and sealcoating for the parking lots. Discussion ensued.

**2015 – 16 ROAD DISTRICT TAX LEVY – DISCUSSION**

In 2014-15, the Road District received **\$1,601,517**. It is recommended the Road District increase its levy by 4% which equates to **\$64,061**; for a **total levy of \$1,665,578**. Of that amount, **\$732,854** will be returned to the municipalities within the Township; the Road District will receive **\$932,724**. Highway Commissioner Neal said the Road District has gone through two construction seasons without any major road projects. Mike Silvestri of Libertyville said there is a dire need for basin cleaning. Commissioner Neal said he will look into that issue. Trustee Nield asked when the tax levies will be approved. Supervisor O'Connor said at the December 11 Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

**SOCIAL SERVICE GRANTS PROCEDURES – DISCUSSION**

Trustee O'Connor requested the Social Service Grant procedures be discussed at the next meeting. In the board packets, trustees were given copies of the schedule, the application and the service agreement.

Trustee O'Connor suggested making Social Service Grant Applications be available on line. Trustee O'Connor suggested splitting the organizations according to size and developing a universal rating system possibly a matrix. Trustee Nield posting the information on the home page of the website. Discussion ensued

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

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**NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Nield asked about a letter received from the Village of Libertyville which stated a violation of building code at the Road District. It was explained the previous Highway Commissioner failed to obtain a permit from the Village for renovation work done in the Road District building. Highway Commissioner Neal is working with the Village to address the issues.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Time: **8:26p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hansen, Township Clerk