

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 Illinois, on Thursday, April 27, 2017.**

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

Anne Hansen-----CLERK

Lawrence W. Falbe-----TRUSTEE

David Nield-----TRUSTEE

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

Terry A. White-----TRUSTEE

Supervisor O'Connor called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. Pledge to the Flag, roll call and all Board Members were present. Also present were Marty Neal, Highway Commissioner, Richard Mittelman, Township Attorney, Joy Bux, Accounting and Financial Specialist, and Gloria Dail, Administrative Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 11, 2017

A motion by Trustee Falbe to approve the Board meeting minutes of April 11, 2017, seconded by Trustee White. There was no additional discussion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS
TOWN FUND**

Motion by Trustee Falbe with a second by Trustee Nield to approve the expenditures from the **Town Fund** in the amount of **\$52,093.86**. No discussion ensued. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Falbe, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carried.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Motion by Trustee White and a second by Trustee Falbe to approve expenditures from the **Road and Bridge Fund** in the amount of **\$37,746.68**. Discussion. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Falbe, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carried.

OPEN SPACE FUND

Motion by Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Falbe to approve the expenditures from the **Open Space Fund** in the amount of **\$2,783.53**. No discussion ensued. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Falbe, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carried.

Citizens' Comments – None

TOWNSHIP REPORTS:

Assessor's Report – Absent

Clerk's Report – None

Highway Commissioner's Report

Highway Commissioner Neal said Gewalt Hamilton (consulting engineering) is working on obtaining the 2017 Five Year Road and Drainage Plan.

Highway Commissioner Neal has contracted the Lake County Sheriff's Department for additional patrol coverage in the month of May on Casey and Rockland Roads. It appears to have been effective and the Road District has received some revenue from the citations issued. Discussion ensued.

Highway Commissioner Neal attended the Countryside Manor neighborhood meeting.

FAU PROJECTS:

The **Oak Spring Road Bridge** Phase 1 Engineering on schedule for completion.

Highway Commissioner Neal and the engineering firm are working to compile all of the public comments and write up a "Frequently Asked Questions" for the **Casey Road Project**. Once completed, the information will be posted on the website.

Highway Commissioner Neal stated an email was sent on including a letter from the Village of Green Oaks regarding the **Rockland Road Phase I project**. The letter stated there are no plans to connect Rockland Road and Rt. 176. Summary and comments are on the website. A follow-up meeting will be held.

Trustees' Report

Trustee Nield commended Highway Commissioner Neal for his thoughtful and prompt response to the public.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor O'Connor made some general announcements regarding the Food Pantry.

On April 20, 2017, Supervisor O'Connor gave a presentation on Township government to the Lake County Center for Independent Living.

5K FUNDRAISER FOR THE OPEN SPACE DISTRICT ON SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017 – DISCUSSION & VOTE:

Clerk Hansen said she is organizing a Libertyville Township 5K Fundraiser to benefit our Open Space District. Clerk Hansen has received the appropriate permits for the race and has submitted a budget for the Board to approve. Clerk Hansen said the event would be a fundraiser and educate the public about the Township and the Open Space District. Sue

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Behringer, an avid runner, equestrian and businesswoman in the community, is helping organize the event. Discussion ensued.

A motion by Trustee Nield, seconded by Trustee O'Connor to approve the proposal for the 5K Fundraiser for the Open Space District. There was no additional discussion. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Falbe, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carried.

REVIEW EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK UPDATE – DISCUSSION & VOTE:

Attorney Mittelman reviewed the handbook and noted there were minimal changes made.

A motion by Trustee Nield, seconded by Trustee Falbe to approve the updated Employee Handbook. There was no additional discussion. On roll call vote: Trustee White, aye, Trustee O'Connor, aye, Trustee Falbe, aye, Trustee Nield, aye, Supervisor O'Connor, aye. Motion carried.

2017 – 18 DRAFT TOWN FUND BUDGET – DISCUSSION

The Draft Budget has been posted and the notice of the May 11, 2017 Budget Hearing has been sent to the paper. Supervisor O'Connor presented the current fund balances. It was determined the Township needed to significantly scale back the anticipated projects for the upcoming year. It is unlikely the Township will be able to freeze the levy for another fiscal year. Trustee Falbe asked some questions regarding the Assessor's increase in her budget. Supervisor O'Connor explained there were some added insurance costs with some of the Assessor's employees. In addition, the Assessor's office is purchasing new computer equipment. Trustee O'Connor said it would be best for the Assessor to answer questions regarding her budget. Supervisor O'Connor said she will ask the Assessor to attend the Budget Hearing.

2017 – 18 DRAFT ROAD & BRIDGE BUDGET – DISCUSSION

Highway Commissioner Neal highlighted projects and line items for the upcoming year. Trustee Nield noted some projects have been scaled down. Commissioner Neal stated that was in response to the projected end-of-the year fund balance. The Budget Hearing will be on May 11, 2017.

Several residents asked questions regarding the Rockland Road Project. Trustee Falbe stated the budget discussion was not the appropriate time for specific questions on the proposed project.

OLD BUSINESS

Conserv FS completed the Lindholm Park Ball Field Renovations and everything went well.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee O'Connor asked if it was still the Township's policy to not allow food when organizations rent the meeting room. Supervisor O'Connor said yes. The kitchen is typically closed and organizations are only charged \$15 to rent the room. By not allowing

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food, it allows the Township to keep the rental fee. She noted most organizations don't ask if food is allowed. She stated there are occasions when permission is granted. Trustee O'Connor suggested the policy should be revisited since most organizations would be responsible. Supervisor O'Connor stated the Township would revisit the issue.

Trustee O'Connor suggested naming some part of the Casey Road property "The Farmers Prairie" so the farmers that worked the property for generations are recognized. Trustee O'Connor also asked if another portion of the Casey Road property could be named after F.T. Mike Graham. She noted he was the pioneer of Open Space and actively pursued the Open Space Act in Illinois. His efforts led to Libertyville Township creating the first Open Space District. She recognized that there is a grove of trees at the Soccer Complex in his honor and a resolution.

Supervisor O'Connor stated the issue of naming had been discussed in presentations provided by Sarah Surroz. The Donnelly Family has been instrumental in the Township obtaining property on Casey Road and supporting the restoration efforts. The signage will recognize their significant contribution. She stated regarding the Township's Open Space history, the Township did take a significant leadership role. However, at one point the Township had 14 lawsuits because of how the Township went about acquiring property. As much as the Township has benefited from the 1,500 acres of open space, there are many residents who are still furious as to how the Township went about acquiring the property and placing conservation easements. She noted it is important to acknowledge and recognize Mr. Graham's efforts and also acknowledge the huge financial burden some of those actions took. She noted the Township is still addressing some of those issues. Trustee Falbe said in Mettawa they handled a similar situation where there were some controversial residents who were recognized by naming a section of trail in their honor.

Residents of Rockland Road asked if there was a date for the Rockland Road Follow-up Meeting. Highway Commissioner Neal said it is tentatively May 23rd. Once it is confirmed, information on the meeting will be posted and notices will be sent to residents on the unincorporated section of Rockland Road. Powers, Devons, and Delaneys were sent letters in the mail today. Nancy Power and Larry Sholewin requested a laser sign or some type of apparatus that might slow down the speed of traffic on Rockland Road. Peter Zahn said the consequences of Phase II are not a good choice. Holly Devon said she is extremely concerned about the effect on the trees and the drainage with Option II. Trustee Falbe interrupted the discussion and said the issue will be addressed at the follow-up meeting and discussion on the issue should not continue at this meeting.

Holly Devon of Rockland Road said elected officials are supposed to represent their constituent's needs and concerns and said Trustee Falbe was being "rude". Trustee Falbe said the additional discussion should occur at the follow-up meeting. Trustee Falbe abruptly left the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Highway Commissioner Neal stated he was listening to their concerns. He reviewed the anticipated format for the follow-up meeting. He stated representatives from the engineering firm will be in attendance to review the proposed Options and answer any questions.

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn by Trustee Nield and a second by Trustee White. All in favor, aye.
Motion carried. **Time: 9:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hansen, Township Clerk