

Minutes - Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
Kane County,
Town of Geneva,

} ss.

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the

office of the Town Clerk at 400 Wheeler Drive on October 16, 2008,

PRESENT: Patrick Jaeger Supervisor
Barbara E. Olson Town Clerk
Richard Sharp Town Trustee
Sharon R. Brazill Town Trustee
Denise D. LaCure Town Trustee
Mark Wissing Town Trustee

Mr. Patrick Jaeger acting as chairperson and Barbara Olson as clerk. The following official business was transacted:

Also Present: John M. Carlson Highway Commissioner
Aubrey V. Pratte Assessor

Supervisor Patrick Jaeger called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Highway Commissioner John Carlson led the Pledge to the Flag.

Clerk Barbara Olson called the roll.

Trustees audited the bills presented for payment.

Minutes of the Thursday, September 18, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting were presented for approval. Motion by Trustee Sharp/second by Trustee Brazill to approve the Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter dated October 8, 2008, from Darlene Marcusson, Executive Director of Lazarus House was read regarding area service providers. She requested information regarding services provided by Geneva Township.

2009 Kane County Community Investment Initiatives: Applications for three county programs are available for municipalities and non-profit agencies until January 9, 2009. Funding is available for worthwhile projects that benefit Kane County residents.

REPORTS:

Senior Center Director:

Gayle Kennedy announced interest by the United States Census Bureau in using a room to interview people for the next area census. Gayle will ask for more information before a decision is made. Trustee Sharp thought parking for sessions involving 35 people may be a problem during the winter month of January. Gayle noted that there were computer problems working with the newsletter and three senior center computers were not working. It was stated that some of the lighting fixtures have been overheating and an electrician will be contacted to correct the problem. Gayle described some of the new programs and stated that the center had added 110 new members in the last few weeks with membership now totaling 560.

Pat Brazill had surveyed the membership and shared the following: 74 members are between the ages of 65-70; 254 members are between 70 and 80, and 133 members are over 80.

Assessor:

Aubrey Pratte announced that there had been 40 residential appeals during the most recent assessment cycle.

Kane County has suggested lowering the multiplier for the next two years to help reflect lower property values.

Highway Commissioner:

John Carlson reported that the Wenmoth Road bridge has a new load limit posted at 10 tons. He is preparing to have a new deck replace the old one. Mr. Carlson is asking the Kane County Sheriff's Office to patrol the road to make sure the new load limit is being enforced. The normal load limit had been 40 tons. Trustees asked about a timeline for the deck replacement. Mr. Carlson noted that the estimated cost of replacement is \$390,000.00 with the county and state helping to fund the replacement. This amount includes widening the deck by four feet. Mr. Carlson stated that the county engineer has assured him that the bridge is safe.

Supervisor:

Patrick Jaeger announced the clinic gave 200 flu shots, lower than the 475 flu shots given in 2007. It was noted that there was a decline in other VNA clinics and this was attributed to the fact that so many other sites were available for flu shots. Trustee Wissing suggested sending a thank you note to the VNA. Supervisor Jaeger thanked all who helped make the clinic a success.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

TOWN FUND	\$47,942.91
GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND	3,319.50
ROAD & BRIDGE FUNDS	30,246.90
TOTAL	\$81,509.31

Motion by Trustee Brazill/second by Trustee LaCure to pay the bills as audited. Trustee Wissing asked about a bill for Mark Kennedy totaling \$3,803.21. He said he noticed trends in the road district budget and asked for clarification. He wanted to know if the road district employee was enrolled in IMRF and health insurance programs. Mr. Carlson stated that the employee has the health benefit, but not the IMRF benefit. The employee is paid a salary, two times a month which is 64 hours every two weeks. His salary is \$25,000.00 per year. There is no vacation time included in the position.

Trustee Wissing asked if there is a job description for this position.

Mr. Carlson stated that he requests that certain work be completed and assigns special projects to be completed by the employee. He said the employee works more hours in the winter than in the summer.

Trustee Wissing asked if the employee does mechanical repair work.

Mr. Carlson stated that a mechanic is available in the same building where the trucks are housed.

Mr. Carlson was asked about the employee's relationship as a contractor, an employee and as the owner of the building where the township's equipment is housed.

The employee has hired people to make repairs to a road, but he does not add an additional charge for himself.

Trustee LaCure was concerned about Mark Kennedy as an employee and as a contractor. She asked about invoices for additional labor. Mr. Carlson noted that some work requires more than one laborer to complete a project.

Trustee Wissing asked if it would be more efficient to sell the township trucks and use Markaty's trucks.

See
additional
comment
11-20-08

Highway Commissioner John Carlson thought renting a truck and driver by the hour would cost more than \$200.00 per hour. Finding a place to house the trucks and salt is difficult.

TOWNSHIP BUSINESS:

SETTING SALARIES FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES:

One hundred and eighty days before the township election, salaries must be set for those positions. The Geneva Township election will be held April 9, 2009.

Supervisor Jaeger reviewed salaries set October 21, 2004 for this four year term. Trustees reviewed salary surveys conducted by Township Officials of Illinois and Sugar Grove Township personnel.

SUPERVISOR: Trustee Wissing noted that the supervisor's salary in Geneva Township was significantly lower than other townships of the same size. Supervisor Jaeger spoke about the current economic conditions and that none of the positions were fulltime except for the assessor's position. Trustee LaCure agreed with the idea of fiscal responsibility, but thought there should be an increase in the supervisor's salary.

SUPERVISOR: Motion by Trustee Wissing/second by Trustee Sharp to set the supervisor's salary at \$15,000.00 plus health and IMRF benefits. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Wissing asked about the duties of the treasurer. Supervisor Jaeger stated that the treasurer works with investments, budgets, levies and banking.

TREASURER: Motion by Trustee Wissing/second by Trustee Sharp to set the salary of the Treasurer at \$500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

CLERK: Motion by Trustee Brazill/second by Trustee Sharp to set the salary of the Clerk at \$8,200.00 plus health and IMRF benefits. Motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEES: It was noted that the salary for the past four years has been \$120.00 per meeting.

Motion by Trustee Sharp/second by Trustee Wissing to set the salary for the trustee position at \$100.00. Trustee Wissing thought \$100.00 was not sufficient considering all the time the trustees put in, in addition to the regular meetings. There has been no increase during the past eight years.

A vote was taken with three nays and one yea. Motion failed.

Motion by Trustee Wissing/second by Trustee Brazill to set the salary for each trustee position @ \$120.00. Motion carried unanimously.

ASSESSOR: Supervisor Jaeger noted that the assessor will earn \$60,000.00 as of January 1, 2009. Discussion ensued as to credentials for the position and the position as a career. Alternatives were discussed, such as per diem or hourly. Trustees agreed that the assessor's position is fulltime.

See added comment 11-20-08

Motion by Trustee Brazill/second by Trustee Sharp to set the salary of the Assessor at \$66,000.00 per year with a 4% yearly compounded increase plus health and IMRF benefits.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER: Trustee Sharp thought all the road district equipment should be sold. There would be no rent and all work should be contracted. Mr. Sharp reviewed some of the expenditures for the road district.

Trustee LaCure was concerned about the expenditures; spending too much on rent and contracts and not enough on the roads. Trustee Wissing noted that the cost of housing the trucks has been a concern of the trustees.

Motion by Trustee Sharp/second by Trustee Brazill to set the salary of the Highway Commissioner at \$24,000.00 plus health and IMRF benefits.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Wissing proposed that a letter be sent to Highway Commissioner John Carlson, asking him to provide answers to questions that have been of concern to the trustees.

Supervisor Jaeger suggested that Trustee Wissing send the letter on his own and add the subject to the November 20th Board of Trustees Meeting.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Clerk Barbara Olson announced that election packets for the local Consolidated Election are available in her office. The Consolidated Election for Geneva Township offices will be held April 9, 2009.

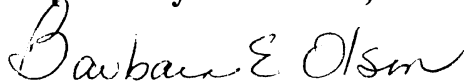
No other business was brought before the Board of Trustees.

Motion by Trustee LaCure/second by Trustee Brazill to adjourn.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Barbara E. Olson
Township Clerk**