

Minutes – Board of Town Trustees

State of Illinois,
Lake County, ss.
Town of Grant,



August 15, 2017
Board Minutes, Final

The Board of Town Trustees met at the Grant Township Administration Building at 26725 W. Molidor Road on August 15, 2017.

Attendees:

Supervisor:	Kay Starostovic	x__ Present	___ Absent
Trustee:	Robert Hamm	___ Present	x__ Absent
	Bob Selle	x__ Present	___ Absent
	Carol Ulasz	x__ Present	___ Absent
	Tom Lippert	x__ Present	___ Absent
Clerk:	Barbara Schau	x__ Present	___ Absent

Ms. Kay Starostovic acting as chairperson and Barbara Schau as clerk, the following official business was transacted:

1.-2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm with the pledge to the Flag.

3. Roll Call of Officials

Present: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Absent: Trustee Hamm

Also Present: Assessor Barr; Highway commissioner Kiesgen; Clerk Schau

4. Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

5. Motion to Approve Minutes

Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2017 board meeting; motion seconded by Trustee Lippert. There being no corrections, additions or deletions, the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

6. Motion to Approve Bills

Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the bills dated July 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017 in the amount of \$203,424.37; motion seconded by Trustee Ulasz. There being no further discussion, the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

7. Motion to Approve Investment Report

Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the Investment Report dated July 31, 2017 in the amount of \$4,035,024.57; motion seconded by Trustee Ulasz. There was no further discussion and the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

8. Miscellaneous

There was no miscellaneous business.

9. Old Business

a. Consider Motion to Approve 2017-2018 Health Insurance Program

Supervisor Starostovic, Highway Commissioner Kiesgen and Assessor Barr met with the township's insurance representative to assess the 2017-2018 insurance opportunities for the employees. Commissioner Kiesgen explained the research.

Medical Coverage Effective September 15, 2017: The representative presented 5 opportunities, 3 of which were eliminated; 2 because they were Non-Erisa, and 1 because it had the highest rates of the 5 presented. The remaining 2 Insurance opportunities came down to Blue Cross/ Blue Shield and UHC. After further research, it was determined that UHC, while less expensive than BC/BS, did not have as many hospitals in its network, and none of the hospitals were outside of Illinois (Aurora, St. Luke's Milwaukee, Froedert, Mayo, etc.), and unfortunately, the Chicago area Northwestern Hospitals were not a part of the network either. After discussion, and much deliberation, and placing emphasis on the needs of the township employees, Supervisor, Commissioner and Assessor determined that BlueCross/BlueShield Platinum program was the best choice. While this plan has an increased deductible to \$2,600 with an annual premium of \$332,017, it allows the township to maintain the same coverage for its employees.

Dental and Vision Insurance: This insurance is with MetLife. The annual increase is \$696; the increase is from the dental portion; there was no increase in the vision coverage. This will become effective October 1, 2017.

There was agreement among board members, Supervisor, Highway Commissioner and Assessor that insurance benefits are a very important part of employees' compensation plan. To this end, a total compensation package will be prepared for and presented to each employee.

There being no further discussion, Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the Health Insurance Program for 201-2018; motion seconded by Trustee Lippert. There were no additional questions nor comments, and the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

b. 5K Report

This will be deferred until the September meeting when Nancy Rogers has all of the results ready. Trustee Lippert thanked the township for recognizing the 100 year anniversary of the Lions International.

c. Walking/Bike Path Update

Highway Commissioner Kiesgen reported that Volo has completed our portion of the Walking/Bike Path, Route 12 to MiddleFork. Going forward, there may be a slight drainage issue with Mr. Fischer in that Fischer Lake storm sewer (off ChristaRoad) collapsed.

d. Fall Festival

Plans for the Fall Festival are moving along; most of the crafters and vendors are confirmed. Children's activities, Touch A Truck, HayRide and more, are all confirmed. Noted around our community are several other similar events; hopefully all are on different dates.

e. Everbreeze Park Update

The park looks great. Supervisor Starostovic visited the site with Team Reil checking to see if more equipment could be added. Under consideration would be a Climbing Wall and possibly a TeeterTotter. No decision has been made.

f. Update on Electrical, Generator, Shelter

Electrical:

An electrician has been out and is beginning to improve the electrical service prior to the OctoberFest in the park.

Also in the park, there is an update on the Concession/Garage building. There was a bad spot on the roof. The roofer has repaired it, but informed us that, even though fixed for the moment, it could turn bad.

Generator:

The purpose of the generator is to provide for the needs of our residents in case of a disaster. We are pursuing the generator project for the administration building, but we are doing it in steps. We will use an electrician to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

Shelters:

We are looking at shelters for the playground. The metal shelters require far less maintenance than wood. We can accommodate an 18foot and 28foot; as an alternative, an octagon shape and a rectangle shape are both available. Costs for each of the options will be reviewed. Commissioner Kiesgen commented that she would like the shelter to complement the color of the equipment in the playground. Trustee Lippert offered to secure costs for various sizes of shelters, and the costs will be reviewed when available. In addition, Trustee Lippert mentioned that there have been a few comments about the artificial turf being quite hot, and the playground in general is hot because there is no shading. An alternative to permanent shelters may be shading systems. They may not be as sturdy as metal/wood shelters.

g. Consider Motion to Approve Backstop for Field #4

Supervisor Starostovic secured an estimate from Meiers Fencing in Fox Lake in the amount of \$17,695. It is a galvanized fence with top, bottom and mid rails; estimate includes new posts, and all labor. Trustee Selle commented that the field is used by both boys and girls and would be appropriate for different age groups. Trustee Lippert commented that he is seeing more netting being used at more baseball fields as a way of reducing costs. There was a consensus that the price appears to be very reasonable. To this end, Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the new backstop for field #4 in the amount of \$17,695; motion seconded by Trustee Ulasz. There being no further comments or questions, the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

h. West Nile Virus in Lake County

Supervisor Starostovic reported that several cases have been reported in Zion; everyone should be aware and cautious in the summer season.

i. Any Other Old Business

None

10. New Business

a. Consider Motion to Approve Grant Township Center Corporation Report

The corporation checklist and report is an annual document that certifies the individuals who hold corporate positions, and those who are directors in the corporation.

President: Catherine Starostovic

Secretary: Barbara Schau

Treasurer: Robert Hamm

Director: Robert Selle

Director: Thomas Lippert

Director: Carol Ulasz

Trustee Selle made a motion to approve the Grant township Center officers and directors; motion seconded by Trustee Lippert. There being no further discussion, the vote was called:

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

b. Consider Motion to Participate in the Senior Expo for \$255

The Fox Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is soliciting participation in the 7th annual Senior Fair. The event will be at Maravela's on Thursday, October 19, 2017 doe 10am until 2pm. The price of the booth includes our participation in sponsoring the lunch. This is a terrific event for Grant Township to reach out to many seniors.

Trustee Lippert made a motion to participate in the Senior Expo; motion seconded by Trustee Selle. There being no further discussion, the vote was called;

Aye: Trustees Selle, Ulasz, Lippert; Supervisor Starostovic

Nay: None

Motion carried

c. TOI Parade of Flags

Grant Township has participated in this event in the past, at the TOI Annual Conference in Springfield. Trustee Selle said he would present our flag at the event.

d. Any Other New Business

Supervisor Starostovic passed out a packet of information from various vendors regarding various new projects and additions to the parks. She suggested that the board members read through the information, and requested that all bring their thoughts and ideas to a work session, 1 hour prior to the next regularly scheduled board meeting, September 19, 2017. The board members agreed a work session would be beneficial and they will participate.

11. Officials' Reports

a. Highway Commissioner Kiesgen

- this is the 4th week of dealing with the flood and it has been difficult
- she has not received a report from FEMA detailing the extent of the disaster and the related costs
- the extreme overtime hours will impact the highway budget; hopefully we will receive some funds from FEMA to help offset our costs
- the county is very interested in creating a Disaster Plan and will be reaching out to towns and townships. The goal would be to have protocol in place to enable townships, villages and towns to be able to immediately respond to their residents with systems and procedures in place.
- Grant Township brought in dumpsters for residents' use
- The Lions Foundation had a grant and was able to serve 213 people in Grant Township who were in distress due to flooding. The Lions used Grant Township Administration Building for distributing food and cleaning supplies.

b. Assessor Barr

Assessor Barr reported that she turned in books July 11, 2017. The taxes were equalized to Dept. of Revenue standards. Unfortunately, the CCAO, Martin Paulson, reversed the values, and imposed a 1.0934% equalization factor on all of Grant Township properties. This is a hardship for taxpayers. Assessor Barr also indicated that many property owners were entitled to an 18% reduction, but instead have the across the board 1.0934% increase. In an effort to tax property fairly, Assessor Barr will schedule a meeting with Aaron Lawlor to submit a request for an impartial opinion from the Attorney General. Assessor Barr is working continuously to make certain that property taxes are fair for everyone. In another initiative, Barr reported that she had a meeting with the Superintendent of Grant Community High School. The purpose of the meeting was to ask for an abatement because the school has significant reserves.

c. Trustees

- Trustee Selle reminded everyone about the upcoming community events; Cardboard Boat Races, Land & Lake event, and Venetian Night.

12. Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business before the board, Trustee Selle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Ulasz. A voice vote was called, all in favor, no nays, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara L. Schau
Grant Township Clerk