

Wesley Township
21333 W Ballou Road, Wilmington IL 60481

Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2018 – 7 p.m.

Bill Strawson as acting Supervisor

Meeting called to order by Rich Welchko

Pledge of Allegiance led by Rich Welchko

Roll Call taken by Clerk Norton

Present – Trustees Kennedy, Welchko, Strawson, Spinale – quorum present

Present - Clerk Norton, Assessor Jones

Absent – Supervisor Quigley, Road Commissioner Parsley

Minutes approval – an error was noted in the transcription of the minutes, approval tabled until next month to allow for correction of error

Bill presentation –

Road bills – Merchant bank \$340.71, Nuway disposal \$141.93, Depke \$21.60 – totaling \$504.24

Town bills - \$1197.65

Park – Galloway \$100.00, Drop Zone \$225, Elite engraving & design \$75.00, Service Sanitation \$50.16 - \$450.16

Town – Macchietto Roth and Company \$63.75, Julie Quigley \$140.00, Mary Jones \$240.14, McGrath Equipment \$135.00, Surf Air Wireless \$150.00, Sarah Norton \$4.06, Vickie Garvey \$80.00 - \$747.49

Discussion of assessor bills – questions regarding getting clarification prior to payment – Motion to approve road and town bills except assessor bills by Trustee Kennedy, second by Spinale – aye - Kennedy, Welchko, Strawson, Spinale – motion passed

Financial report presented ending balances of bank accounts –

Building and Equipment \$24,508.67, General Assistance \$67,394.00, Joint Bridge \$93,866.21, Park \$222.62, Road Bridge \$408,706.62, Town \$39,615.91

Payroll summary reported

Motion to approve financial statements Motion by Trustee Spinale, second by Welchko – aye Kennedy, Welchko, Strawson, Spinale – motion approved

Levy packet to be reviewed

New phone purchase – phone, difficulty hearing voice mail review, electrical damage – purchase of new phone system discussion held

General Assistance Manual Adoption – tabled until next meeting

Reports

Trustee Report

Trustee James Spinale –

Sargent at arms consideration - Motion to remove from consideration a Sargent at Arms by Trustee Strawson to second by Welchko – approved by voice vote – motion approved

Handicapped sign purchased by Trustee Spinale – motion to remove handicapped sign consideration from table by Trustee Welchko, second by Strawson – approved by voice vote

Discussion of removal of equipment from township property on Elevator road and 102 – notice or removal of equipment was to be sent by road commissioner. Board members will prepare a letter to send to the owner of equipment to have it removed in a specified time or the equipment will be removed at his expense. Trustee Spinale will prepare the letter and have it ready for the next meeting.

Park closed hours – discussion of closed hours proposed as open at dawn, close at sundown – park gate is currently open at all times – to discuss at next month’s agenda

Handicapped parking pavement – accessibility with solid surface in the area designated as handicapped parking to be discussed at next month’s agenda

Trustee Welchko - TOI conference discussion – found the information to be helpful, very interesting and informative to improve the township operations

Kennedy – park last garbage bill – will report income and expense bills for the year on the park.

Assessor Report

Getting set up and settled in – video monitoring system access requested

Requested to be informed when wi-fi password changed

Assessor’s computer is not to be turned off for remote access from her home

Moved files around in file room, will get keys made for cabinets - binders, books, maps, etc. are private

Requested access to Wesley township website to have an assessor tab for updates

Requested copy of Wesley township logo to place on business cards

Wants personal phone number removed from park district application

Township officials list to put assessor’s cell phone number on website

Has scheduled to be at the township office Tuesday and Thursday 9 to 5 by prior appointment

Requested payroll change to salaried

Requested copy of monthly expense to date

Tentative assessor’s budget due in December

Need copy of signed and sealed oath of office submitted to assessor’s office

Requested a copy of her letter be attached to the minutes

Trustee Bill Strawson reported the contractor who has been working on Thornton and Mary Byron Roads, damaged by the pipeline, was going to come tonight to report on the status of the repairs. Mr. Strawson reported some of the work has been completed but due to weather the work has been suspended. Mr. Strawson did not have any specific information on the costs or specifications of the repair work. Mr. Spinale stated the work was not from shoulder to shoulder on the road. No further information on the specifications of the repairs completed in the township are known to the board.

Matters from the Public

John Persic Jr voiced concerns regarding road condition of Wood Street in front of his mother's house. Would like to someone check the conditions of the road. Mr. Spinale lives on Wood Street, he concurred with Mr. Persic's report

Sue Lyday regarding levy requested no increase in levy due high taxes, requested clarification of Surf Air bill, Clerk Norton explained it is the township internet service. Spoke to her FOIA request being late. Clerk Norton spoke to the FOIA information obtained at TOI conference and is now working on completing all FOIAs with the requested information. Mr. Strawson asked Ms. Lyday if she spoke to the Road Commissioner that she relay a message that Mr. Strawson had been attempting to contact him having made about 14 calls to the road commissioner who has not responded. Mr. Strawson further reported a fallen tree blocking the road causing live electrical wires to be on the ground during a recent storm being reported to the road commissioner with no response. Mr. Strawson subsequently contacted the Will County Sheriff who called back about a half hour later asking if there was a secret phone number to contact the road commissioner because they were not getting an answer, maybe she could tell him that she would tell him the township provided phone was to be used to respond to township business. Clerk Norton reported a call had received by the township today, the caller stating he was trying to contact the road commissioner without success.

Becky Becker spoke regarding FOIA request for township and Mr. Karlock agreement for the park acquisition documents. Clerk Norton responded stating the records are in the loft files on the road district side of the building and the road commissioner has refused her access to those files. Ms. Becker questioned building ownership stating the township only owns one third of the building.

Trustee Spinale responded the file cabinets in the loft are not accessible due to the locked door between the hall and road district to which the board has not been given a key. He stated the lock on the door should be changed. No trustees have not had access to the road district side of the building since June. Mr. Strawson spoke to the frustration of not knowing what is happening with the equipment, winter preparations or road issues.

Connie Forsythe Hale spoke up stating the road commissioner had been treated badly and was pushing back. Mr. Spinale hoped we get past, Mr. Strawson concurred with Mr. Spinale. Mr. Strawson went on to say that being told 'I don't want to put up with the shit show' well who does, discussion held.

Leonard McCubbin – \$408,000 dollars in the road budget, reflected no tar and chip money had been paid. Mr. Strawson stated that was under the impression the road work done earlier in the year was done with Motor Fuel Tax. Mr. McCubbin stated he did not believe bills should be paid for this work until the board gets some response back from the companies with the specifications the road work was done properly. Will pay the road district's monthly bills, when were they paid. Discussion was held with multiple board members Questioned new cell phone purchase, Clerk Norton stated the phones are for the office landline. Park fund line item elite engraving bill plagues for the donated park tables, disagreed with expenditure. Ms.

Kennedy spoke to the fact that eight tables were donated with a plaque for \$15 per table. Debit card use questioned.

Sandy Marshall wanted to know if we have hired a bookkeeper. A handout to attest to all payments, effective in January 1st. Discussion held. Thank person who put non-potable water sign at Park.

Connie Forsythe Hale does anyone watch the security videos. Clerk Norton reported she does look at them regularly.

Carol Treadman wants to know how much Cold Storage paid for their park event. Assessor's report asking the board to follow up on clerk.

Sue Lyday appreciated the transparency tab on the website. Difficulty reading information raised.

Mr. McCubbin stated the website is illegal as it has to be current. This meeting is illegal because it was not posted on the website. Has a financial liability due to the posting the time limits.

Mr. McCubbin stated no records can be destroyed. Discussion held regarding topic.

Karin Wilson reported that she had requested meeting minutes for 2014, 2015, and 2017 as well as annual reports with response to check website. Stated requested information was not on website. Discussion held. Clerk Norton stated she has not received the 128g jump drive required to fulfill the request, arranged to have flash drive dropped off on Saturday.

Susanna stated she did not consent to videotaped prior to asking how many persons present were part of the Edgar County Watchdogs. Multiple people speaking at the same time, unable to understand discussion.

John Norton stated he had obtained motor fuel tax records from the County Engineer as of 9 am this morning. Raised voices, unable to understand. FOIA request from Road Commissioner has not been responded to and I have contacted the attorney general's office.

Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Welchko, voice vote, motion passed

Adjournment at 8:15pm

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

December 11, 2019 – 7 p.m.