

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: October 12, 2010

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: St. Clair Township
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL 62226

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor
Mary Carroll, Clerk
Mark Burk, Road Commissioner
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Bob Trentman, Trustee
Robert Knee, Assessor

STAFF PRESENT: Dave Rodden
Bill Stiehl

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Wallen Scott Wilson
Luke Potts Jeff Carmack
Dennis Milam Sue Gruberman
Clinton Buechler Bob Buechler
Mike Greenfield Pat Craig
Margy Pearson Tom Pearson
Mike Katz Steve Joyce
Jeff Harris

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the St. Clair Township Board was called to order by Supervisor, Tim Buchanan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call found that all board members were present.

Supervisor Buchanan notified the meeting attendees that at 7:30, the Board would be going into an executive session with the professional staff.

To accommodate the visitors at the meeting, he said he would offer public comment at this time.

Public Comment:

Bob Buechler of 408 Winslow Road said at the last meeting he said he was concerned about his road and signs. He said he did not like that Hwy Commissioner Burk rode his motorcycle down the road to check into this situation.

Clint Buechler of 1409 Jay Street said he is upset about the layoff of Township employees.

Jeff Carmack said he saw there was a personnel issue on the agenda, and asked if there could be another chance for public comments after the executive session.

Trustee Schobert said he felt the employees should be allowed public comments after the executive session.

There was no further public comment at this time. Supervisor Buchanan said he would allow Scott Wilson to address the board regarding the salt barn property now. Mr. Wilson provided each of the board members a packet of information. He addressed each of the items in the packet including a Memorandum of Agreement, 2010/2011 Interim Transition, Suggested Interim Fix Until Purchase is Completed, Certificate of Liability Insurance, and Purchase Agreement. Mr. Wilson answered questions from the Board.

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 14, 2010:

Trustee Schobert asked that under the Blue Star Energy discussion, the rates for the one year and two year contracts be listed in the minutes. A motion was made by Trustee Schobert to approve the September 14, 2010 minutes with the changes noted. It was seconded by Trustee Barnes. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of Executive Session held on September 14, 2010:

A motion was made by Trustee Barnes to approve the Executive Session minutes held on September 14, 2010. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on September 28, 2010:

A motion was made by Trustee Schobert to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes held on September 28, 2010. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Monthly Supervisor's Treasurer's Report

There were a few questions and discussion around the Treasurer's Report. Trustee Bridgman then made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 7:34 p.m. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to move that the Board go into closed session. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 8:48 p.m. Trustee Barnes made a motion to come out of closed session. Trustee Schobert seconded it. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Personnel

Trustee Bridgman made a motion to lay off the least senior employee on October 13, 2010. He will be paid all earned but unpaid salary effective October 13, 2010. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion.

Supervisor Buchanan said that he would allow further public comment at this time, but the Board would not be able to answer questions.

Jeff Carmack said he feels the sewer crew works really well together, and losing an employee will affect their jobs.

Sue Gruberman asked what was the reason for the layoff? Supervisor Buchanan reminded her that the Board would not be able to answer any questions.

Steve Joyce, the union representative, said the Township should have discussed this with the union, and thinks it could be a violation of the contract. Attorney Stiehl said the Township did not violate the contract.

Roll Call vote. Trentman-No, Bridgman-Yes, Schobert-No, Barnes-Yes, Buchanan-Yes. 3-Yes's and 2-No's. Motion passes.

Monthly Bills:

There were a few question regarding the monthly bills that Supervisor Buchanan answered. Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the monthly bills. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Communications:

Supervisor Buchanan directed the Board to the letter from Swansea stating they do not want to renew the current agreement regarding Centennial Park and they wish to negotiate a new agreement. He also provided a map of the park showing which areas we should have been maintaining and what were suppose to have been Swansea's responsibility. He pointed out that we have actually been maintaining the entire park. Trustee Bridgman asked if there was a reason why we have been maintaining Swansea's portion? Supervisor Buchanan said he did not know the answer to that.

Reports:

Engineer's Report:

None.

Supervisor's Report:

- Insurance Claims - Supervisor Buchanan said there was a insurance claim for property on Todd Road. Supervisor Buchanan used a marker board to draw a picture to explain what happened.
- Delinquent Sewers - Supervisor Buchanan went over the process for delinquent sewer accounts.
- Annual Treasure's Report - Supervisor Buchanan reported that it had been published and provided the Board members a copy.
- Replaced rusted drainage culvert in Loop Creek Park - Supervisor Buchan made the Board aware of this.
- Tennis court lighting repair - Supervisor Buchanan said this project cost \$1,515 which was more than the \$1,000 originally expected.
- Centennial Park Bridge Repair - We will be working with Swansea to repair this.
- Centennial Park Agreement - This was covered under communications.
- Loop Creek Park tree removal and lighting - The trees have been removed. Supervisor Buchanan asked if we want to do the lighting now or wait until next Spring? It was agreed that we should do them now why Ameren is willing to do it.
- Herbicide spraying license - A license will be needed to spray. The license is free and we will be applying for it before next Spring when spraying will be needed.
- Sewer department and Road department interaction - Supervisor Buchanan wanted to make the Board aware that Denny Milam of the Sewer department helped the Road department with the bobcat one day.

- Two hockey nets ordered - Supervisor Buchanan said two heavy duty nets were ordered at the cost of \$448 plus \$70 shipping for a total of \$518.
- Sewer bills with rate increase going out about October 18 - Supervisor Buchanan said he has provided the Board with an explanation in case of questions, and he said it is also posted on the Township website.

Highway Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Burk said everything was going smooth.

Business Items

- Salt Barn Property (Scott Wilson) - Everyone agreed it was okay to proceed based on the information provided by Mr. Wilson earlier in the meeting.
- ATS Agreement - Still waiting on an agreement from ATS.
- Stookey Township GA Clients - Supervisor Buchan explained to the Board that for years we have been administering the General Assistance clients for Stookey Township and they pay us \$75 per case. Supervisor Buchanan said he did an analysis based on Margy Pearson's salary and time, and it was determined that the actual cost for this service should be approximately \$600 per year for up to three clients plus \$50 per new client interview rather than \$75 per client. He said when he informed Stookey Township of the increase in cost, they said they would rather do it themselves than pay the higher fee. He said they asked if we could train their administrative assistant to do it. The training rate would be \$33 per hour and \$9 per call and that it would take approximately three months to get the administrative assistant trained. There was lots of discussion around this topic. Trustee Schobert said that Stookey should learn this on their own, and that Margy should continue to administer their clients at the lower rate until Stookey Township can get their person trained through the Township Officials of Illinois or some other means. After some debate, it was agreed we would let this ride until Stookey could get their Administrative Assistant trained somewhere else.
- Illinois American Water Company Discontinuance Agreement – No new information available.
- Annual Swansea Sewer Use Adjustment - Supervisor Buchanan directed the Board to the October 5, 2010 letter in the packets. He said the first three items were okay and marked as such. However, there are several issues still not resolved. He said he sees movement, but it is still not finished.

There being no further business, Trustee Barnes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Schobert seconded. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 9.28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Carroll
Township Clerk