

Regular Meeting St. Clair Township

DATE: November 9, 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

STAFF PRESENT: Ron Stuckel

OTHERS PRESENT: Dean Wallen Steve Green
Brad Kreisler Scott Wilson
Leo Stephen Bob Buechler

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 Assessor Robert Knee was absent

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 12, 2010:

A motion was made by Trustee Bridgman to approve the October 12, 2010 minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Minutes of the Executive Session held on October 12, 2010:

Supervisor Buchanan handed out minutes to the Board members to review and said that if they were okay, we could approve them. If anyone had questions or comments, they would have to be discussed in closed session. Trustee Trentman said he would like to discuss the minutes in closed session.

Monthly Supervisor's 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.

Monthly Bills:

Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the monthly bills. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Business Items

A. Insurance Renewal: Board members were provided a spreadsheet to review showing the difference between 2010 rates and 2011 proposed rates. Supervisor Buchanan pointed out that the value of the property was increased by 3% and there was also value added to some of the equipment. He also noted that in spite of the increase in value, the premium cost still went down. He said that Workers Comp. premium was decreased because there was less payroll due to the layoffs. He said overall the total insurance premium went down 8% from last year. Trustee Schobert made a motion to approve the insurance renewal. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

B. Proposal to Provide Service for Sewer Repair: Ron Stuckel reviewed KDG proposal dated November 1, 2010 for professional engineering services for the reconstruction of an 8 inch sanitary sewer near Vicksburg Drive in Belleville, Illinois. He said he has contacted Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to secure a grant in relation to mine subsidence. The total cost for the proposed work was \$5,200. Trustee Schobert made a motion to accept the proposal. Trustee Bridgman seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

C. Salt Barn Property Lease Agreement: A lease agreement to allow Wilson's Landscaping and Lawn Service, Inc. to rent space in the salt barn was provided to the Board for review. Trustee Schobert said that he felt the agreement should be signed by Road Commissioner on behalf of the Road District rather than the Township sign the agreement. Supervisor Buchanan said he will have the lease agreement reviewed, and if necessary revise the Agreement to reflect the correct ownership of the salt barn.

Supervisor Buchanan said that while Mr. Wilson was present, he would skip to agenda item 7k under the Supervisor's report regarding the salt barn property purchase. Mr. Wilson asked if the Township was interested in selling the salt barn. Trustee Schobert questioned what the proper procedure was for selling the salt barn. Supervisor Buchanan said we would have to have a town meeting and get approval from the attendees to sell the property. Trustee Trentman said he doesn't want to sell the salt barn. Supervisor Buchanan said it would be up to the citizens at the Town Meeting to declare it surplus. He said the next Town Meeting is scheduled for April 2011.

Reports:

Engineer's Report:

None.

Supervisor's Report:

- Insurance Claims - Supervisor Buchanan said the Township will be liable for the backup on Scout Drive. He also said he has tried to make contact with the owner to find a solution, but the owner is not responding.
- Delinquent Sewer Report - Provided in packet.
- Centennial Park Bridge Repair - Swansea has been cooperative in working with the Township. Two of the three bridges have been fixed. The other bridge will be repaired in the upcoming months.
- Centennial Park Agreement - No update.
- Safety Guard Railing Installed at Sewer Plant - The safety guards were required and this project has been completed.

- ATS - Supervisor Buchanan said there were changes that Governor Blagojevich made mandating free rides to seniors (but no funding for the mandate) and this may change the way ATS operates. Since ATS is the most expensive part of the St. Clair County Transit District's operations, they are proposing to offer free rides to seniors on their transit services, Metro Link and buses, and instead charge full fair for ATS transportation. If this happens, ATS may not need the relationship the Township currently has with them. Waiting on final outcome of this.
- Emergency Sewer Assistance - Supervisor Buchanan said he contacted Caseyville and Stookey Township and also the Village of Swansea to inquire about providing the Sewer Dept. assistance in emergencies if needed. This is still pending.
- Hockey Nets Update - The nets have been received and they are being put together.
- Park Lighting Update - Supervisor Buchanan said the person who is to put up the lighting at Loop Creek Park has not returned his calls.
- Sewer Rate Increase Phone Calls - Supervisor Buchanan wanted to make the Board aware that the calls after the sewer bills went out were very heavy (especially for 2 days in particular). He said that the office workers did a good job and handled the calls very professional.
- Stookey Township GA - Stookey Township will let the general assistance agreement continue, but they are going to try to find another Township to service them at a lower rate.
- Truth in Taxation Determination - Supervisor Buchanan told the Board that if we have to increase our tax levy by 5% or more we will have to have a hearing and post the information in the newspaper.

Highway Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Burk said the Road District was able to bring back one of the laid off employees (Mike Greenfield) effective 12/1/10. This is due to some additional work needed in relation to concrete lids for storm drains that need to be brought up to code. He said the road crew would be doing some rubberizing of the concrete with the Craco machine. He said this requires additional manpower.

Public Comment:

Dean Wallen asked Commissioner Burk what it meant by rubberizing the concrete? Mr. Burk said it was basically tarring the road. He went on further to explain the Craco machine process and how the machine worked.

Additional Business Items:

D. Illinois American Water Company Discontinuance Agreement - Supervisor Buchanan is hopeful we will receive this soon.

E. Annual Swansea Sewer Use Adjustment - The Township was originally expecting approximately \$21,000, but instead will receive \$34,179.34 as a result of the Supervisor requesting changes to the adjustment. Trustee Barnes made a motion to approve the annual Swansea sewer use adjustment. It was seconded by Trustee Bridgman. Roll call vote. All in favor.

F. July Township Sewer Rate Adjustment - Supervisor Buchanan said that the sewer rate was approved and was to be effective on August 1, 2010 and the new charges were to be reflected on the October sewer bill. He said for some there may have been usage on the October bill that was for still for July usage. He said he felt it only fair to make an adjustment for

any usage that was for July, and it should be given back to the customer. He said that he was working with the programmer to see how the adjustment could be made. There was some discussion around this. Trustee Bridgman made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to adjust sewer bills to charge for any July usage under the old rate rather than the new rate. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 8:00 p.m. Trustee Schobert made a motion to go into executive closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of St. Clair Township. Trustee Barnes seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

At 8:12 p.m. Trustee Barnes made a motion to come out of executive closed session. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All in favor.

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 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Carroll
Township Clerk