

Executive Session - Township Meeting

DATE: October 12, 2010

TIME: 7:34 p.m.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Buchanan, Supervisor
Mary Carroll, Clerk
Bob Trentman, Trustee
Dave Barnes, Trustee
Richard Schobert, Trustee
Greg Bridgman, Trustee

STAFF PRESENT Dave Rodden, Engineer
Bill Stiehl, Attorney

At 7:34 p.m. at the regular meeting of the St. Clair Township board, Trustee Bridgman made a motion to move that the Board go into Executive Session to consider pending litigation and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of St. Clair Township. It was seconded by Trustee Schobert. Roll call vote. All were in favor.

Swansea Sewer Agreement

All the members were provided a copy of a memo dated 10/12/10 from Dave Rodden to File #6479 with a written summary of where the negotiations were to date.

Mr. Rodden said that the suggestion of Swansea taking over the Township customers was well received. There was discussion of what multiplier would be used. There was talk about whether Township customers would be charged a higher rates, and whether they would be treated fairly.

There was conversation that Swansea does seem to be moving somewhat in the negotiations. It was agreed that rather than turn some Township customers over to Swansea, that we would stay the course and move toward the original plan of getting a new contract worked out that follows the form of the current agreement. Supervisor Buchanan asked if everyone was comfortable with this. All agreed. Dave Rodden said he would contact Swansea with this information and follow-up with an e-mail.

Personnel Issue

At the last meeting there was a recommendation to lay off the least senior sewer employee. Supervisor Buchanan said that he was very confident that this employee was not needed during the winter months. He said he was also confident that this employee would not be needed during the summer months. He said he hates having to do it. He said it a judgment call because he is not out there every day, but he is basing it on the information provided by the foreman. He then gave the Board the opportunity to ask questions or make comments.

Trustee Trentman said he went to the plant to see what goes on. He said it appeared they did not have a set schedule of when the lines would be vacuumed. Trustee Trentman also said he thinks that when a back-up alarm goes off that one of our employees should go with Hydro Services on the call. He wanted to know if Supervisor Buchanan was confident the sewer lines are opened up? Supervisor Buchanan replied that he is confident the lines are operational.

Trustee Trentman added that he knows Supervisor Buchanan runs a very efficient operation, and that he is also all about streamlining. But he just hates to see someone lose their job.

Trustee Schobert said he felt there should be two employees cleaning sewers. He said he can't see cutting service to cut tax money.

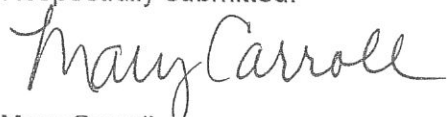
Trustee Barnes asked Supervisor Buchanan if we were going to reduce the quality of work. Supervisor Buchanan said he would not make this recommendation if he felt quality would be reduced. He said that the majority of the reduction will be in the grass cutting and not the sewer cleaning. He said that major responsibility that one employee has is to cut grass only.

Supervisor Buchanan assured the Board that he would work really closely with Denny Milam to make sure the quality is good. And if not, he will bring the employee back.

Supervisor Buchanan said he did not feel it is a good idea to offer public comment and have a debate with the employees. It will only cause frustration. He said it would be best to let them make comments, but the Board will not be able to answer questions.

Trustee Barnes made a motion to close the Executive Session and Trustee Schobert seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. and returned to the regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted:



Mary Carroll
Township Clerk

