

St. Clair Township Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: April 22, 2014
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: St. Clair Township Bldg
107 Service Street
Swansea, IL 62226

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of St. Clair Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Supervisor Dave Barnes
Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis
Absent: Greg Hipkind

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed, Road Commissioner Skip Kernan

OTHERS PRESENT: Ron Stuckel, Engineer
Jill Halupa Vladimir Halupa
Rich Schobert Jeff Carmack
Dean Wallen Mike Greenfield

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion to discuss and approve the March 25, 2013 Regular Board Meeting minutes was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Trustee Carroll.

Trustee Carroll pointed out the votes for the last three transfer of appropriations ordinances were missing. The votes were added.

Clerk Reed pointed out the date which Mr. Hipkind said he was going to be absent was incorrectly written as April 28. It was corrected to read April 22.

Supervisor Barnes made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All present in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Supervisor Barnes. Roll call vote. All present in favor.

BUDGET REPORT

Motion to approve the Budget Report was made by Supervisor Barnes, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All present in favor.

MONTHLY BILLS

Motion to approve the Board List Report was made by Trustee Sturgis, seconded by Supervisor Barnes. After discussion Supervisor Barnes made another motion to approve the Board List as read, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All present in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barnes announced he will be meeting with officials from Belleville to discuss the 177 Belleville residents discovered to be using Township sewer services who are not being billed by the township. Township employee Jeff Carmack discovered the error.

The RNA recycling event was a success April 5. Anything with an electrical cord was accepted.

The upgrade to the pumping system at the Scout Drive lift station appears to have been successful. The lift station was able to handle water from the last hard rain without problem.

Supervisor Barnes had hoped the sewer contract with Swansea would have been ready for a vote at this meeting but the legal language of the contract is still in the process of being finalized.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Delinquent Sewer Accounts – Supervisor Barnes said Angela works diligently on doing everything possible to collect the delinquent accounts but unfortunately little progress is being made.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Bid opening for Phase I of the Shady Lane and Magnolia repair in Chenot Place was April 15. Bids were received from six contractors. The bids ranged from \$255,000 to \$147,000. The job was awarded to DMS Contracting in Mascoutah. After discussion with the contractor, Road Commissioner Kernan reported Phase I, Phase II and much of Phase III should be able to be completed in six weeks. He said it may be possible to complete the entire project in a little more than a year. He will keep residents in Chenot Place informed of the construction schedule.

The road crew has been filling pot holes throughout the township and doing concrete work in Yorktown subdivision.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Carmack expressed concern about the economic benefit of subcontracting mowing when the township has all the equipment.

Ted Farmer expressed concern about repairing Shady Lane and Magnolia in phases because of the possible problems with integrity of the pavement, added expense, and the extension of time until the completion of the project.

Vladimir Halupa was pleased to hear the project in Chenot might be completed in less than three years but was concerned about the length of time residents might be inconvenienced if the job was not done in phases.

Jill Halupa said it would be helpful if residents were informed of the order of repairs on Shady Lane and Magnolia, the length of time each would be expected to complete, and where residents would park during construction.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Electric Service Agreement - The township's current Electric Service Agreement expires in May. Tom Leigh, a representative from Good Energy, provided and explained charts of market information, competitive pricing and the township's historical monthly usage. Mr. Leigh's recommendation was to contract with Constellation at a rate of \$0.04941 per kWh for 36 months. The board discussed entering into either a two or three year contract.
Motion to enter a three year contract at the rate of \$0.04941 per kWh with Constellation and give Supervisor Barnes authority to sign the contract was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All present in favor.
- Seasonal Employee – Supervisor Barnes made a motion to hire David Yarber as a seasonal employee. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. After reviewing job applications, interviewing and checking references, Supervisor Barnes recommended hiring David Yarber as a seasonal employee expected to work 900 hours. The trustees discussed the hourly wage and whether a CDL was necessary for a seasonal employee. Supervisor Barnes made another motion to hire David Yarber, pending passing a drug test, at \$11.00 per hour. Trustee Carroll seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Barnes. Present – Wells. Absent – Hipskind. Motion passed.
- Sanitary Sewer Relocation at Loop Creek – Engineer Ron Stuckel explained the sanitary sewer line near Loop Creek at 1200 Carlyle Avenue needs to be moved because of erosion problems. Bids for the project were opened April. 18. Midwest Excavating had the low bid at \$38,800. Mr Stuckel recommended awarding the contract to Midwest Excavating. Trustee Wells made a motion to accept the bid from Midwest Excavating of \$38,800 and give Supervisor Barnes authority to enter into the contract. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All present in favor.
- Grass Cutting Bids – Supervisor Barnes solicited for bids to contract for grass cutting in the township. Bids were received from Earthworks Ground Care in the amount of \$855.00 for each cutting and from Hank's Excavating and Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$765.25 for each cutting. Both estimated there would be 28 cuts per year. Supervisor Barnes made a motion to discuss the bids. Trustee Sturgis seconded. After a brief discussion Trustee Wells made a motion to vote to reject the bids, Trustee Sturgis seconded. Roll call vote. All present in favor.
- Lunch Room and Shower at Sewer Plant – A motion to discuss the bid for a new shower and lunch room at the sewer plant was made by Supervisor Barnes, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. There is currently no lunch area for employees and the shower is in need of repair. Strube Construction, Inc. gave a proposal in the amount of \$11,268.00. A

motion to accept the proposal from Strube Construction, Inc. and give Supervisor Barnes the authorization to sign the contract was made by Supervisor Barnes, seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All present in favor.

- Dental, Vision, and Prescription Drug Premium Payment - A motion to discuss and vote on the dental, vision and drug premium payment for clerical and sewer employees was made by Supervisor Barnes, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Supervisor Barnes explained the employees have requested the township pay more than the proposed 80% of their health care premium as compensation for the dental, vision, and drug portion of the premium. Supervisor Barnes said he contacted the administrator of the local government health plan to ask what amount of the premium is for dental, vision, and drug coverage. He was told the break-out of the cost of that coverage is not available. Because there was no way of knowing the amount of the premium that is billed for dental, vision and drug coverage, Supervisor Barnes recommended the township pay 80% of the current health care premium with no additional for dental, vision, and drug during the length of the present contract. Roll call vote. Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Barnes. No – Wells. Absent – Hipskind. Motion passed.
- Ordinance 2014 - ____ An Ordinance Amending the Level of Health Insurance Premiums Paid by St. Clair Township for the Highway Commissioner and Supervisor – Motion to discuss and vote on Ordinance 2014 - ____ was made by Supervisor Barnes, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. The trustees felt uncertain about the wording of the ordinance. Supervisor Barnes recommended to vote no on the ordinance until it is more clearly written. Roll call vote. All present voted in favor of rejecting Ordinance 2014 - ____.
- Computer Service Plan – Supervisor Barnes made a motion to discuss and vote on renewing the Performance Computer Service Plan with Metro East Office Machines, Inc. After a short discussion Supervisor Barnes made another motion to accept the one year contract to renew with Metro East Office Machines. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Roll call vote. All present in favor.
- AT&T CompleteLink® - Supervisor Barnes made a motion to discuss and vote on renewing the AT&T CompleteLink® Agreement. The motion was seconded by Trustee Wells. CompleteLink is the phone service used at lift stations to make an automated call if there is a problem at a station. Supervisor Barnes made another motion to accept the contract presented or a contract at a lesser price for a longer term if possible. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll. Roll call vote. All present in favor.
- Backstop at Ball Field in Loop Creek Park – Supervisor Barnes made a motion to discuss and vote on the repair or replacement of the backstop at Loop Creek Park. The township’s intent is to get the ball field in condition so that it might be used for practice by youth ball teams. There was concern about the expense of ongoing maintenance necessary to keep a ball field in good repair. Supervisor Barnes made a motion to repair the backstop. Seconded by _____. Roll call vote. All present voted no.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Carroll, seconded by Trustee Sturgis. Voice vote. All present in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Reed
St. Clair Township Clerk

Note: Engineer Ron Stuckel left the meeting at 8:13.
Road Commissioner Skip Kernan left the meeting at 8:20.

Approved: