

Regular Meeting

St. Clair Township

DATE: April 18, 2017

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: St. Clair Township Bldg.

107 Service Street

Swansea, IL

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 Barnes

Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis, and Greg Hipskind

Officials Present: Clerk Brenda Reed

Others Present: Dean Wallen, David Donley, Joyce Johnston, Jim Hursey , Carmen Hursey

APPROVE MINUTES

Trustee Carroll made a motion to accept the March 20, 2017, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Wells seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Supervisor Barnes read the beginning and ending balances of each fund for the month of March. Ten township residents received assistance in March. It was noted that there was a \$5,512.00 credit for the line item "Attorney Fees" in the Road & Bridge Fund. Supervisor Barnes reminded the board that a check had been cut but not issued for Road & Bridge attorney fees when the road commissioner sued the township. The check was never issued because there was not enough budgeted in that line item and a transfer of appropriations for that item was not approved in October 2016. It was assumed the \$5,512.00 credit was in some way related to those attorney fees. Supervisor Barnes said he would investigate.

	March 1, 2017	March 31, 2017
General Town Fund	\$ 397,453.78	\$ 379,527.68
General Assistance Fund	\$ 83,284.42	\$ 78,410.88
Park Maintenance Fund	\$ 141,589.57	\$ 133,769.45
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 483,914.81	\$ 469,499.67
Permanent Road Fund	\$ 565,976.05	\$ 541,972.90
Sanitary Sewer Fund	\$ 5,042,738.59	\$ 5,169,700.73

(Clerk's note: The balance of the Permanent Road Fund February 28, 2017 was reported as \$566,636.05 which is \$660.00 more than the balance reported March 1, 2017. This was not discussed at the April 18, 2017 meeting.) Trustee Wells made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

BUDGET REPORT

Supervisor Barnes made a motion to approve the Budget Report. Trustee Hipkind seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Wells, Hipkind, Barnes. No – Carroll, Sturgis. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barnes stated he received a letter from Attorney General Madigan's office about a complaint that a response to a FOIA request was incomplete. He is in the process of responding to the letter.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

The road commissioner was not present.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Barnes reported the amount past due for sewer bills was down some. He stated the ordinance recently passed resulted in the collection of more than \$1,000.00 on one account.

PARK BOARD REPORT

Park Board President Dean Wallen reminded everyone their meetings are the second Monday of the month. He said he is looking forward to working with whoever the next board liaison will be. Supervisor Barnes stated he is planning to get another bid on installing the playground equipment at Loop Creek Park. He received notice there is a newly approved installer in the

Springfield area. He will contact them for a bid.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Donley suggested contacting the court system for people required to do community service if extra hands are needed for park projects. He also questioned who approved payments for the items the board has questions about on the monthly financial reports. He also asked how meeting attendees can share expertise on a subject with the board when they aren't allowed to interject during the business portion of the meeting. He stated even if attendees review the agenda before the meeting it is impossible to know the direction of the discussion and whether the board could benefit from knowledge they might have. Keith Sturgis, outgoing trustee, encouraged the new trustees in the audience to be diligent about being aware of surrounding government entities annexing township property. As a resident who prefers to live in an unincorporated area, creeping annexation is a concern of his.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Seasonal help – Supervisor Barnes requested the board's approval to hire a seasonal employee at \$13.00 an hour for no more than 1,000 hours for the calendar year as has been done in the past. Trustee Sturgis made a motion to hire a seasonal worker at \$13.00 per hour for no more than 1,000 hours. Trustee Hipskind seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor. Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) – Supervisor Barnes stated the employees agreed to the last version of the CBA the board reviewed. He stated the CBA covers the time frame from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2020. He said the employees signed the agreement last night. Trustee Wells made a motion to vote to approve the new CBA. Trustee Hipskind seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need to go into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Barnes thanked the Board for serving the last four years. He stated it was obvious everyone in the group had gained valuable experience. At 7:21 p.m. Trustee Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Wells seconded the motion. Voice vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:
Brenda Reed
St. Clair Township Clerk

Approved: **May 23, 2017**