

Office of the Supervisor
LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP

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LIMESTONE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
February 13, 2024

Supervisor Roemer called the February 13, 2024 public meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Roll Call of Officers.

Trustees Present: Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill and Supervisor Roemer.

Trustees Absent: None Quorum: Present

Visitors: Michelle Johnson, Randy Neal, Mike Fhel, Mandy Norwood, Tim Maloney, Todd Norwood, Seth Hagan, Tim Kircher, Kathy Getz, Chelsey Sunderland, Drew Zachman, Eric Norwood, Shawn Zachman, Brook Wagler, Jim Pardieck, Brock Watson, Brad Wight Sr., Denise Segal, Jerry Trunk, Rose Neal

Trustees O'Neill and Johnson motioned for the approval of the regular Board of Trustees minutes for January 9, 2024.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill and Supervisor Roemer

Nays: None Motion Carried

Trustee Neal commented that she would like to amend the previous minutes. The preceding minutes stated that there were at least two (2) members that Randy Neal, Highway Commissioner, was family affiliated with. Trustee Neal stated that she thinks that it should be noted and corrected before the minutes are published that there is only one (1) Road Employee that Randy Neal is family affiliated with and that is Rose Neal. Trustee Neal continued by stating that she is not legally married to any Road Crew employee and that Illinois does not acknowledge common law marriage. The Board agreed to make the recommended change. Trustees Getz and Johnson motioned for the approval of the Special Board of Trustees minutes for January 22, 2024, with the noted changes.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer

Nays: None Motion Carried

Supervisor Roemer presented the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures vs. the Annual Budget for the fiscal year-to-date for approval.

Trustees Neal and Johnson motioned to accept the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures vs. the

Annual Budget for the fiscal year-to-date.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer

Nays: None Motion Carried

Trustees O'Neill and Getz motioned to accept the Town expenditures for the month.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer

Nays: None Motion Carried

Trustees Getz and O'Neill motioned to accept the Road expenditures for the month.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer

Nays: None Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business at this time.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Roemer informed the Board that Lobby Day is Wednesday April 17th, 2024. He informed the Board that he is unable to make it this year, but encouraged the Board to let Michelle or himself know if they would like to be registered.

Supervisor Roemer then went on to discuss with the Board that he has requested quotes on the replacement of the front doors to the Pool as well as the back door for the Township Hall. Once both of the doors are replaced, he will be requesting to get fob access to both of the buildings.

He continued by stating that the Township is hiring for all Pool positions as well as an intern for the Township. Applications for all these positions are located on the Township Website. The deadline for these is March 1, 2024. He encouraged the Board to let anyone know that may be interested.

Supervisor Roemer then continued by letting the Board know that he has been contacted by the YMCA about the potential of partnering with the Township, Village, and the Alpha Park Library for the creation of a youth summer camp for the residents of the Township. He will meet with him later this week to discuss.

Supervisor Roemer let the Board know that he has a meeting tomorrow to discuss the continued issues with parking in the right of way in the West Laramie neighborhoods.

He then continued by stating that Safety for Seniors will be held on March 23, 2024, in the Limestone High School Cafeteria from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The Township will have a table at the event.

He then went on to talk about the Township partnering with the Library and the YMCA Alliance to host Mark Fenton, a walkability expert, and Norwood Primary School. All feeder schools are welcome to attend to learn about procedures and implementation of future walkability studies.

He concluded his report by stating that the Pool Days Committee is gearing up to start planning all of the events for 2024. Dates this year are June 6-8. He encouraged the Board to share with a Committee Member if they have any sponsors in mind.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

Randy Neal, Township Highway Commissioner, was present and shared with the Board that the guys are out picking up garbage and trimming.

ASSESSOR REPORT

There was no report given at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Willam Connor, Township attorney, stated that there has been a proposal from the Teamsters Union to establish a Union with the Township Highway employees. He explained the Township and the Highway Department are two (2) independent entities. Therefore, the Union contract will only be for the Highway Employees. Since Randy Neal's spouse is an employee, he wanted to ensure that the process was handled properly. He then discussed the steps that needed to be taken. He informed the Board and the Visitors that Randy's first step was to request a person for the Town Board to appoint to do both the negotiations and the signing for the union contract. The name that Mr. Neal gave to the Board was Tom O'Neill. Mr. Connor informed everyone that he had spoken to Mr. O'Neill to inform him of his duties in accepting this appointment. The next step would be to have someone motion to appoint someone to fill this spot, then the Board will need to vote for the approval of this person.

Trustees Getz and Johnson motioned to approve the appointment of Thomas O'Neill III as the Temporary Deputy Road Commissioner to Act with regard to Road District Union and to sign any Union contracts.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, and Supervisor Roemer

Abstain: Andy O'Neill - due to Thomas Henry O'Neill III being his father

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Supervisor Roemer informed the Board that he is looking for dates to set for the clean-up days. He stated that last year there were two (2) drop off locations, one at the Eagles Club and one at the Limestone Township Pool Parking Lot. After looking at the data from the two (2) events, it was noticed that people from the entire Township attended both events regardless of the location. Therefore, it was decided that this year the Township will only hold the event on one (1) day at the Eagles Club location. He proposed hosting the event on September 28, 2024, from 8:00-11:00 am.

Trustees Johnson and O'Neill motioned to approve September 28, 2024 from 8:00-11:00 am at the Eagles Club as the Township Clean Up Day.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer
Nays: None Motion Carried

Supervisor Roemer proposed to have the Electronics Recycling Day from 12:00-6:00 pm on Wednesday September 25, 2024. He believes that this time frame will allow for people to attend both after work and during the day.

Trustees Johnson and Neal motioned to approve September 25, 2024, from 12:00-6:00 pm the Township Electronics Recycling Days.

Ayes: Trustees Getz, Johnson, Neal, O'Neill, and Supervisor Roemer
Nays: None Motion Carried

There was no new update to share about the potential of a Township Recreation Center. However, this will remain on the agenda in case anything comes up.

Supervisor Roemer informed the Board that the chemicals have been delivered for the 2024 season and have gone up in price. He thanked the Limestone Township Road Department and Bartonville Public Works for helping with unloading these chemicals. Trustee Neal asked if there were enough chemicals to get us through the season. Supervisor Roemer confirmed that there was enough. He also let the Board know that the presale for pool passes will take place at the Pool on May 15, 2024, from 4:00-7:00 pm.

NON-AGENDA BUSINESS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Neal stated that there is still an account that has the previous Supervisor, Skip Light, on it. She suggested going to the bank and changing that before Audit time.

CITIZEN INPUT

Randy Neal stated that during the Electronics Recycling Day, there needs to be a 25-yard box for the TV's. He also requested that there be no Console TV's. He agreed that everything else is fine.

A citizen addressed the Board and questioned why she has heard that some members of the Board are soliciting for other people to run against the current Road Commissioner. Supervisor Roemer responded that there is nothing that has come across the Board in regard to this comment. Trustee Neal continued the conversation by asking the Board if there is anyone that is soliciting against the current Highway Commissioner. Trustee Johnson stated that the answer is no and that it is not inappropriate for anyone to do that.

Several other Limestone Township residents chimed in. One expressed that she believes that the roads have been the best that they have ever been in years past. Another suggested that the roads are taken care of even in the fall, with sweeping and trimming over the road. Others mentioned the positive quality of the roads in the Township compared to surrounding areas when there is snow. Supervisor Roemer mentioned that he hears a lot of compliments about the Township's roads during snowy weather.

One citizen inquired if there was more positive or negative feedback that was called in about the

roads. Supervisor Roemer stated that most of the calls about the roads get forwarded back automatically to the Highway Commissioner as a part of the Township's phone system. However, from the few calls that the front office gets, he agreed that there has been more positive feedback.

A letter from Jill Sunderland was read aloud stating that she could not attend the meeting, however wanted her voice to be heard. She stated that she has been affiliated with unions for a long time. She mentioned that being a part of a union has lots of benefits including a livable wage. She questioned what the Board's opposition was to having a Union in the Roads Department. Supervisor Roemer stated that the Board has no say over the Highway Department unionizing. Another citizen asked if the Township will now recognize the Road employees as card holders for the union. William Connor, Township Attorney, stated that the only person that will be dealing with the Union after the contract is in place will be Randy Neal. It was clarified that the Board cannot take action to oppose the Union.

Jim Pardieck claimed that forming a union is a step in the right direction. The union will give the employees job security, provide healthy wages, and will lock them into benefits. He expressed that he does not see a downfall to this. Another citizen stated that the job security that comes along with it is a big benefit. Mr. Pardieck agreed.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, the Board adjourned at 6:24pm.

Heather Robinson, Limestone Township Clerk