

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting  
July 15, 2020

Supervisor Glees called the July Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:04 PM at the Dundee Township Meeting Room, 611 East Main Street, Suite #201, East Dundee, IL. Supervisor Glees read the notice regarding the modifications to the IL Open Meetings Act as contained in SB 2135 which modified the procedures necessary to conduct a meeting via remote access. As required in the act, the meeting will be video recorded, and the recording will be made available to the public via the Township's website.

**Roll call:** Supervisor Glees was physically present at the meeting. Trustees Harney, Johnson, Schaffer and Ahrens were participating in the meeting via remote access.

Trustee Richard Ahrens led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda:**

Trustee Harney made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Trustee Johnson asked why the reopening of the budget is not listed under old business on tonight's agenda. Supervisor Glees reviewed that the budget hearing process required a 30 day public comment period and that for that reason the special meeting on the reopening of the budget will be held on Wednesday, July 29 beginning at 6:30 PM. Trustee Schaffer requested the removal of the new business item to review and/or approve resolution 2020-003 a resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition for to place the question to the voters of the Township of Dundee at the general election on November 3, 2020 regarding abolishing the Dundee Township Road District. Trustee Ahrens seconded the motion. Supervisor Glees polled the Board and there did not appear to be a majority that would support the motion. Trustee Schaffer asked why only one Trustee could ask for reconsideration of the resolution. He also asked doesn't take two Trustees in order to add an item to the agenda. The Board reviewed the procedures for a Trustee adding an item to the agenda.

After this discussion, Trustee Schaffer made a formal motion to amend the agenda to remove the consideration of resolution 2020-003 listed under new business. Trustee Ahrens again seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote Trustees Ahrens, Schaffer, and Johnson voted to remove resolution 2020-003 from the agenda. Trustee Harney voted "nay" and Supervisor Glees abstained. The motion was approved three votes to one and resolution 2020-003 was removed from the agenda. A question was asked if an explanation was required from the Supervisor as to why she abstained. Counsel Asprooth said that no further explanation was needed.

Supervisor Glees called the original motion as amended and with a roll call vote Supervisor Glees, and Trustees Harney, Johnson, Ahrens and Schaffer voted "aye"; motion to approve the Agenda as amended was approved.

**Minutes/Treasurer's Report:**

Trustee Johnson made the motion to dispense with the reading and approve the minutes of the June 17, 2020 Board of Trustees regular meeting. Trustee Schaffer seconded the motion. Supervisor Glees called the motion to approve minutes of the June 17, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting and upon roll call vote Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted "aye" – motion carried.

Trustee Harney made the motion to accept the June 30, 2020 Treasurer's Report and Financial Reports through July 15, 2020 as presented subject to audit – Trustee Ahrens seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted "aye" – motion carried.

**Reports:**

**Highway Commissioner:** Mr. Sinnett stated that the Highway Department has completed the summer paving work and is currently doing striping at intersections as well as continuing to mow and trim areas around the right of ways. A new item is arisen on Château West in the Frontenac subdivision in that a storm drain has caved in. It appears that a poured concrete manhole was not originally installed at this location. Rather, the pipes were lined up and concrete poured over the piping. He is working to get pricing to repair this situation.

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**Assessor:** Assessor Bielak reported that the Kane County Supervisor of Assessments published the Dundee Township property data on July 8th. This publication date means that the deadline for filing an appeal will be August 7th. Mr. Bielak noted that there are approximately 4,000 changes in value for various properties in the Township. His staff is currently busy taking phone calls from residential owners. The commercial appeals usually come in at a later date. Several businesses have requested Covid-19 relief, but these requests are not valid as Covid hit after December 31st and any relief would apply to the next tax year.

Mr. Bielak stated his department currently has one person working at the office with other staff members continuing to work remotely. They are working to ensure that people especially seniors are getting full exemption credit. Supervisor Glees asked Assessor Bielak with the Covid pandemic is there a potential the Township will not get all of the 2019 tax funds estimated in the levy. Mr. Bielak responded he doesn't believe that will be the case. Property taxes are the most consistent tax stream and the usually get paid to forestall foreclosure etc.

**Open Space:** Supervisor Glees presented the Open Space report. She emphasized the cleanup of various fallen trees in the Township as well as the cleanup of the areas around signs on Sleepy Hollow Road and Huntley road. Finally, she reported on a broken drain tile on the Bartels property. After reviewing the matter, it appears that the broken drain tile is on Dundee Township Park District land and she and the staff are working with the Park District to review.

**Kane County Board Member Chris Kious:** Mr. Kious updated the Board on recent County activity including continuing discussions on the distribution of the \$92 million the County received from the Cares Act. A committee has been formed to make the allocation. Jarett Sanchez and Cliff Surges are serving on the committee. The current plan would allocate 55% of the money to the County with the remaining 45% distributed to the various cities and villages. It is hoped the money would be made available by August. The committee is developing an application and intergovernmental agreement to cover the distributions. \$8 million will be allocated to the County Health Department. Fire districts and townships will also be included in the program. Supervisor Glees noted that townships in Kane County have gotten together to begin to collect data on their various Covid-19 related expenses. Mr. Kious also noted the Board had recently passed a resolution including an agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for an additional \$2.5 million in funding for the Longmeadow bridge project which should be completed by 2021.

Also engineering for the removal of the Carpentersville dam is moving forward as well as work to redo trails South of the Bruner property. Finally, the Kane County liquor control Board is listening to the new owner of the Milk Pail property regarding the reissuance of a liquor license.

Trustees Johnson and Harney made comments to Mr. Kious regarding the Bruner farm conservation restoration.

**Office Manager:** Mr. Block presented in updated schedule on the financial audit for the last fiscal year.

**Cemetery:** No Report

**Dundee Township Cares Food Pantry:** No Report

**Supervisor:** Supervisor Glees reported she had participated in an online town hall meeting with Drew Peterson Dundee Township Park District Director and Lauren Rosenthal Director of the Fox River Valley library. The meeting focused on updates on what facilities will be opening and what plans and steps these agencies have taken to keep individuals safe during the Covid pandemic. Each representative had approximately 15 minutes to explain what their agency is planning to do.

Supervisor Glees also reported that the Dundee Township 708 Mental Health Board had held their first meeting on July 9. Members of the 708 Board and their terms of office include: Maria Borrero ( 2-year term), Alec Neuschaefer (2-year term), Dawn Arimura (3-year term), Paul Setze (3-year term), Rev. Wendy Witt (4-year term), Cindy Oldin

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(4-year term) and Supervisor Glees (4-year term). During the meeting, Alec Neuschaefer was elected President and Maria Borrero was elected Secretary.

**Trustees:** Trustee Harney reported that she had had a conversation with Mr. Paul Setze during which they reviewed the idea that too much money is being spent on open space and they also reviewed the issues of personnel versus residents. Trustee Harney noted that she had done her own budget calculations and it shows that the Township spends between 20 – 22% of its Personnel and Operating budget on the Open Space properties. She believes this amount is reasonable given the fact that the Voter’s approved the purchase of the Open Space land and the overall \$22 million investment. Ongoing maintenance and improvements are necessary to keep the sites safe for use by residents. Open Space is been a real godsend for people to go walking during the pandemic and is part of the overall caring for our community. Open Space provides benefits for all residents including the purification of water and air.

She stated the reason she was seeking the reopening of the review of the resolution to abolish the office of Highway Commissioner is the waste of taxpayers’ money including \$15,000 to be spent on legal fees. She appealed to the Highway Commissioner to allow the investigation to go forward and reiterated that the Board of Trustees still has one month to go to allow the placement of the matter on the November ballot. She stated that the Board should let the voters decide the issue. She again stated that she is strongly opposed to spending the additional money.

Trustee Johnson commented that he has heard a member of the public voicing concern over the lack of strategic planning by the Board. He would like to see various pie charts made to show what we are spending on various services such as open space, social services, the cemetery, and general administration. The Board needs to review or see what areas are being prioritized. Trustee Schaffer commented that in addition to the material being asked for by Trustee Johnson he would like to see additional information on the actual year to date expenditures as well.

**Public Comments:** Supervisor Glees opened the Public Comment period.

Mr. Chris Kempf noted that under phase 4 of the Covid executive order there is relief on social distancing and the wearing of masks, and he would expect the same from the Township. He also commented that Supervisor Glees abstaining from voting looks very weak. Supervisor Glees commented that per Senate Bill 2135 she has the authority to decide on whether meetings need to continue as virtual meetings or if they can be open to the public.

Supervisor Glees read three letters that she received from the cemetery staff regarding the issue of raises. These letters are included as attachments to the minutes.

No other attendees wished to make a comment and the comment period was closed.

**New Business:**

There were no new business items.

**Audit/Approve Bills and Payrolls:**

Audit Bills – Pending Town Fund Bills \$44,158.47; Pre-Paid Town Bills \$492.77; Payrolls \$28,332.79 & \$31,478.10; Pending General Assistance Bills \$604.43; Prior Month’s General Assistance Costs \$4,188.23; General Assistance Payrolls - \$631.36 & \$631.36; Pending Cemetery Fund Bills \$4,381.25; Payrolls \$9,360.18 & \$9,233.86; Pending Road & Bridge Fund Bills \$13,334.17; Pre-Paid Road & Bridge Bills \$429.06; Payrolls \$11,364.36 & \$14,730.75; Road IMRF/FICA Payrolls of \$2,017.17 & \$2,316.97; Road & Bridge Insurance Bills \$32.81.

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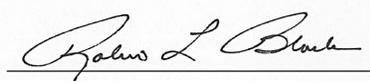
Trustee Harney made the motion to approve the bills as audited with a second by Trustee Johnson.

Supervisor Glee called the motion and upon roll call vote, Trustees Harney, Ahrens & Johnson and Supervisor Glee voted “aye” – Trustee Schaffer voted “nay” - Motion Carried.

**Budget Transfers:** No Budget Transfers were presented.

**Executive Session:** The Board did not go to Executive Session.

Trustee Johnson made the motion to adjourn with a second by Trustee Ahrens. Upon voice vote, all present voted “aye” – motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert L. Block", is written over a light gray rectangular background. The signature is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Robert Block  
Dundee Township Deputy Clerk

July 15, 2020

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7:00 PM

Dear Township Trustees,

I am writing to register my disagreement with the way that annual raises or wage adjustments have been treated for cemetery staff. I feel that it is inappropriate and unfair that some township departments have received annual raises while others have not. Included in the latter category is our department, whose staff has gone above and beyond and runs the greater risk of exposure during this COVID-19 crisis. Daily we are facing public and cannot fully avoid contact with cemetery patrons.

We have also had a 59% increase in burials this year to date, many hours of additional columbarium maintenance, and yet have maintained our 2 cemeteries. This has only been accomplished by extreme effort and dedication.

Additionally, I believe the handling of our newest employees' transition from part-time to full-time staff, without any additional compensation, was similarly inappropriate. There is established and recent precedent for a notable increase in hourly wages in this situation. His increased role and responsibilities within the township should be recognized accordingly.

I hope that we are able to come to some sort of solution to address these concerns that is satisfactory to everyone involved.

Sincerely,



Mark Rakow

Cemetery Manager

JULY 15, 2020

I, ANTHONY MEO, AM WRITING  
THIS TO THE TOWNSHIP BOARD TO EXPRESS  
MY CONCERNS FOR THE FUTURE OF  
THE TOWNSHIP CEMETERY.

MY COWORKERS, HAVE BEEN A  
GREAT ASSET TO OUR TEAM AND HAVE  
GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND TO ASSIST  
WITH CUSTOMER RELATIONS AND BURIALS.

AS YOU KNOW, OUR CEMETERY  
CLIENTELE IS VERY DIVERSE AND  
CONTINUES TO CHANGE DAILY. IN  
ADDITION THIS IS NOT A JOB FOR  
EVERYONE, DEALING WITH DEATH ON A  
DAILY BASIS, AND YOU CAN NOT BE  
TRAINED IN A SHORT TIME SPAN AS  
TO HOW TO PERFORM ALL NECESSARY  
DUTIES IT TAKES TO MAKE THE  
CEMETERY FUNCTION PROPERLY.

THEREFORE, I BELIEVE IT  
IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE  
BOARD TO ADJUST OUR COWORKERS  
WAGE (SCALE) IN ORDER TO ASSURE  
A GOOD FUTURE FOR OUR CHANGING  
CEMETERY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME,

ANTHONY MEO

7/14/20

To Whom It May Concern:

Eric from the Dundee township cemetery, my respects to all the frontline workers during the pandemic. Every 10 to 15 feet a new grave can be spotted. A clear indicator of how real and close to home this pandemic is. Although there are multiple issues that should be discussed one major issue stands out. Amongst all the additional responsibility given to the cemetery staff and the large uptick in recent burials and dealing with this pandemic quite literally hands on, how is it just that multiple other departments got raises but not the cemetery staff?

Sincerely,

Eric Salas