

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

Supervisor Glees called the March meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:02PM 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 and Office Manager Block were in attendance at the Township office. Trustees Harney, Johnson, Schaffer, and Ahrens were participating in the meeting via remote access.

Trustee Ahrens led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda:

Trustee Harney made a motion to approve the Agenda for the March 17, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting as presented with a second by Trustee Johnson. Supervisor Glees called the motion to approve the Agenda as presented and with a roll call vote Supervisor Glees, and Trustees Harney, Johnson, Ahrens, and Schaffer voted “aye”; the motion to approve the Agenda was approved.

Minutes/Treasurer’s Report:

Trustee Harney made the initial motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the February 17, 2021 Board of Trustees regular meeting and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Ahrens seconded the motion. Assessor Bielak requested one correction in the minutes as presented. Trustee Harney also requested a correction to comments that she had made at the February 17, 2021 meeting.

Trustee Schaffer stated he believes this was the meeting where Trustee Harney had made a comment that the Highway Commissioner’s statement was on tape that he would pay for the costs of a bill. Trustee Schaffer said he had been assured that neither the Supervisor nor our Counsel have a documented tape for us to listen to. He would like to confirm that there are no tapes in the possession of the Township or Counsel whether or not the Highway Commissioner had said he would pay for the cost of the recent investigation. Supervisor Glees verified that no tapes existed. Trustee Harney stated that this was not the place to review this matter and that it should be done later. Trustee Schaffer repeated his request that if the comment was made at the February 17th meeting that the minutes reflect that.

Supervisor Glees asked the Board for a revised motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2021 Board of Trustees regular meeting with the agreement to have one roll call to approve both the corrections and the overall amended minutes. Trustee Harney made the motion to approve the corrections to the February 17, 2021 minutes and the corrected February 17, 2021 minutes. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion and upon roll call vote Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted “aye” – motion carried.

Trustee Harney made the motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the February 20, 2021 Board of Trustees Special Budget meeting and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Trustee Schaffer requested one correction in the minutes as presented. Supervisor Glees called the motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2021 Board of Trustees Special Budget meeting as corrected and upon roll call vote Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted “aye” – motion carried.

Trustee Harney made the motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the March 3, 2021 Board of Trustees Special Budget meeting and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Ahrens seconded the motion. Trustee Schaffer requested one amendment to the minutes as presented. He requested that a written copy of the statement made by Supervisor Glees at the beginning of the meeting be attached to the minutes. He also requested correction of one typographical error. Supervisor Glees requested an amended motion to approve the March 3, 2021 Board of Trustees special budget meeting minutes as amended. Trustee Johnson made the motion

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2021 Board of Trustees Special Budget Meeting as amended with a 2nd by Trustee Schaffer. Supervisor Glees called the motion 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 February 28, 2021 Treasurer’s Report and Financial Reports through March 16, 2021 as presented subject to audit – Trustee Schaffer 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 was unable to attend the meeting but supplied a written report. In his report, he noted that the staff has been busy with maintaining the streets and snowplowing. When it is not snowing, the staff has been busy repairing the trucks, replacing damaged mailboxes, picking up trash, and trimming trees and bushes along the right of ways.

Assessor: Assessor Bielak said that the State of Illinois has submitted the sales ratio data for 2021 to the County. The new equalization factor is 1.023%. This means that all properties will increase in value by that factor unless changes are made by the Assessor’s office. Mr. Bielak stated that he anticipates a reduced number of residential appeals and believes there will be some commercial appeals. However, he has not received any requests from commercial appeal attorneys at this time. The staff is continuing to do fieldwork, working on subdivision ratios, and they will be attending training classes next week. Trustee Johnson asked if Assessor Bielak could confirm that the 708 Mental Health Board assessments would appear in this year’s tax Bill and Assessor Bielak responded yes.

Kane County Board Member Chris Kious: Mr. Kious updated the Board on several County programs including:

- a) KDOT is working on a 5-year plan for transportation improvements. There will be a hearing on June 9th at which time comments can be submitted to aid in the long-term planning for potential improvements.
- b) The Kane County Board is reviewing their decision on the sale of cannabis in unincorporated areas. It currently appears that the Board will be rescinding this regulation.
- c) Kane County has received approximately \$13 million in Cares Act money which is earmarked to assist low-income families with rental payments. The program is designed to help “Mom and Pop” landlords and not corporate landlords. There is a \$20,000 maximum payment per landlord. The County Board has voted to approve a contract with the Illinois Department of Housing to administer this program. He also noted that the County is distributing the last dollars for businesses under the Cares Act. He anticipates approximately \$50 million in aid for this year and \$50 million in the following year.
- d) Finally, he reviewed the new permanent Covid 19 vaccination site in Batavia and also the plans for pop-up clinics in the northern part of Kane County.

Trustee Johnson asked about the Kane County Transportation Department floating the idea of a \$0.04 per gallon tax increase on gasoline to make up for the ongoing reductions in gasoline usage and the effect on the transportation fund. Mr. Kious stated that the discussions have come up and that the last time an increase was made it was \$0.02 per gallon and the funds are needed in order to be able to properly maintain infrastructure.

Open Space: Supervisor Glees presented the Open-Space report as written. She reported that the staff has been conducting prescribed burns at Snuffy’s Prairie and also the Hallowell & James property. Supervisor Glees noted that she was at these burns and got to see many hawks in action. A prescribed burn is scheduled for the infield at Raceway Woods. The staff will be putting up signs 3 days ahead as well as notices will be placed on Facebook. There will be a workday at Raceway Woods to use the recently collected seed.

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

Trustee Johnson stated that he had heard about several neighbor complaints or conflicts. Supervisor Glees stated that these would be covered in her report.

Supervisor: Supervisor Glees reported that on March 1st, the tenant at Salamander Springs (Wencek House), noted that there was a problem with the water flow from the on-site well. A contractor was hired to investigate the problem and found that the galvanized piping leading from the well to the house needed to be replaced. A claim has been opened with TOIRMA and the work has been completed.

On March 11th, the 708 Board passed the Gambling Awareness Proclamation.

As previously announced the County is opening a mass vaccination site at Batavia. A meeting was held with the Ride in Kane Executive committee and Pace to see how the Ride in Kane program can get individuals from northern Kane County to Batavia in order for them to receive the vaccines. This program is very important to our Seniors and other low-income groups who need the vaccines. Several of the Trustees asked about the availability of the vaccines and Trustee Harney asked about the use of pop-up clinics instead of the need to transport seniors and others to Batavia as she is concerned about the transportation cost. Mr. Kious reviewed the use of pop-up clinics in helping serve other communities. Supervisor Glees noted that the Ride in Kane committee was trying to get Pace to pay for the rides to Batavia.

On March 11th, State Sen. Castro notified the Township that it would be receiving a \$15,000 grant from Governor Pritzker's \$250 million transportation package which can be used for the maintenance of the trails in open space.

With regards to the scheduled annual town meeting on April 13th, note that right now Gov. Pritzker's order is still in force and indications point to the delay or cancellation of this meeting.

With regards to the several of our residents who live next to one of our open space properties and have made complaints. First, at Notting Hill Road, we received a voicemail in which a resident complained about Township employees and volunteers working near his home. The call was concerning enough that I contacted the Algonquin Police Department, and they conducted an investigation and have provided me with a copy of the police report. They have assured us that the individual has no weapons and no malicious intent. He appears to be angry because as you know Notting Hill is a cul-de-sac and with the pandemic there is an increased use of the trails and he is not happy with seeing more people around his property. The gentleman has apologized and is sorry he flew off the handle. He stated in his complaint that he was unhappy with the actions of our volunteers however we have not had any volunteers working near his property in the past 3 weeks. He has a history of yelling or screaming at the volunteers or others who are working in the area. I have re-instructed all of the volunteers and our staff to call 911 if they feel threatened.

The 2nd resident has high expectations, and his complaints would be difficult to solve. The Township does not have its own police force. A Police response normally would come from the Kane County Sheriff's office who has 3 patrol cars assigned to the Township. Supervisor Glees has checked by way of the Freedom of Information Act and confirmed that the Kane County Sheriff's office has not received any 911 calls from this property owner or other neighbors. What is most concerning is the resident is complaining that the Open Space staff parks in their vehicles for hours at a time and are often seen sleeping or doing nothing? He is also complaining about excessive garbage and dogs without leashes. While we can work to enforce things like the leash requirement when we see someone violating the rule, we cannot police the site 24 hours a day.

Trustee Johnson commented that the situation on Notting Hill poses a significant risk and could be very life-threatening. He feels the Township should talk to our attorney about filing a cease-and-desist order as it is not a safe situation. He further believes the individual is confusing the Township volunteers with the general public. He also feels the Township needs to push further with the police and their potential enforcement. Supervisor Glees

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

will follow up with our counsel. Trustee Harney commented that she is worried about the safety of the public and the neighbors and wonders if a mental health evaluation would be warranted. Supervisor Glees noted that the police have stated that it is a public road, and the public is certainly within their rights to park in the street.

Trustee Johnson commented that in regard to the neighbor at Salamander Springs. He believes there are some legitimate concerns. While the Township will probably never resolve all the issues, we should work towards resolution of those issues that have a solution. For example, the Township could put in a gate that automatically closes at dusk to minimize traffic. He also suggested the use of trail cameras to determine how many cars are using the road, how many dogs are running freely on the property and if there are actually cases of individuals parking and drinking etc. Supervisor Glees responded that a trail camera has been up at the site for 4 weeks and that other than staff, a number of deer and our tenant, the camera has caught just one other car. Not seeing a lot of activity. No dogs without leashes and no drinking or other problems. Trustee Johnson suggested that the Township take further steps. For example, what can we do to support this resident at Salamander Springs and that we should cross the line towards them in our negotiations.

Trustee Harney in reading through the correspondence noted the complaints include the need to stop cars and kids from accessing the property, stopping dogs from running freely without leashes, and to stop drag racing on the property. There have been no reports - no 911 calls - it is hard to see where we could meet them in the middle. The Township cannot provide enforcement - would a gate work? Trustee Johnson commented he believes we need to work on separating the issues. While we cannot provide enforcement for drag racing, dogs, etc. we still need to negotiate and try to meet on the issues. Supervisor Glees stated she will continue to work on these issues.

708 Mental Health Board : No report

Public Comments: Supervisor Glees opened the Public Comment period.
No comments were made, and Supervisor Glees closed the public comment period.

New Business:

Review/Approve Agenda for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting:

The proposed Agenda for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting was presented. Supervisor Glees noted the potential to either delay or cancel the meeting under the Governor's order regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. Trustee Schaffer suggested adding a line, subject to the Governor's order and subject to cancellation. The clause should be put right under the title. Trustee Johnson commented on the content for the meeting. He suggested the Township present a lot less content on events and to use pie charts to present the financial data. He also suggested using a pie chart to present the potential tax burdens to residents. Trustee Harney suggested a time limit for the meeting and limit on all reports to a 5-to-10-minute timeframe. Trustee Schaffer also suggested that the township should have the financial reports out to the public 48 hours in advance, including putting the information on the website and including a full packet for the meeting.

Trustee Harney made the motion to approve the Agenda for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting with a 2nd by Trustee Schaffer. Upon roll call vote, Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted "aye" – motion carried.

Review/Approve Resolution 2021-001 – March is National Gambling Awareness Month:

Resolution 2021-001-March is National Gambling Awareness Month was presented by Supervisor Glees. After a brief discussion, Trustee Ahrens made a motion to approve Resolution 2021 – 001 as presented with a 2nd by Trustee Harney. Upon roll call vote, Supervisor Glees and Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Johnson, and Schaffer voted "aye" – motion carried.

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation/Review of slides on the breakdown of expenses for FY 2022: The updated slides showing the expenses through March were presented.

Audit/Approve Bills and Payrolls:

Audit Bills – Pending Town Fund Bills \$37,127.17; Pre-Paid Town Bills \$92.23; Payrolls \$31,856.68 & \$32,896.00; Pending General Assistance Bills \$510.81; Prior Month's General Assistance Costs \$4,832.62; General Assistance Payrolls - \$622.22 & \$622.22; Pending Cemetery Fund Bills \$5,753.52; Pre-Paid Cemetery Bills \$137.63; Payrolls \$8,873.45 & \$7,731.99; Pending Road & Bridge Fund Bills \$18,431.16; Pre-Paid Road & Bridge Bills \$383.07; Payrolls \$19,923.73 & \$15,846.99; Road IMRF/FICA Payrolls of \$3,262.44 & \$2,533.56.

Office Manager Block presented the bills that had been added to the payables since the packet was sent to the Trustees. Trustee Ahrens asked several questions on the bills, including the use of plywood at the cemetery and the cost of the salt purchased from Cargill. Office Manager Block explained the use of the plywood at the cemetery to protect areas around the open graves and Trustee Schaffer and Office Manager Block reviewed the purchase from Cargill.

Trustee Schaffer asked a question about the Highway Commissioner's claim for reimbursement of the cost incurred during the whistleblower investigation. Supervisor Glees stated that there is no agreement on this matter. The Township Board authorized the payment of the 1st installment of the investigator's fees in the December 2020 bills as part of the Highway Department bills. She is still standing with our counsel that the bills are the responsibility of the Highway Department. Trustee Harney noted that the investigation was entirely at the request of the Highway Commissioner and that the Township should not pay any portion of the bill. Trustee Schaffer commented that the Township was involved, and he believes we should split the bills. Trustee Ahrens commented that he is leaning towards agreement with Trustee Schaffer. Supervisor Glees briefly reviewed the history of the case and how the Highway Commissioner fired the Township attorney and sought his own legal counsel. Trustee Schaffer stated he is upset that the Board of Trustees were never fully informed of the situation in a timely manner and that the issue should have been elevated to the full Board. If he had been aware of the scope of the matter, he would have never approved the use of our Counsel to investigate the matter and would have recommended the use of an independent investigator. The matter should have been brought to the Board. Supervisor Glees reviewed the timeline of the matter. Trustee Harney recommended that the Board should vote on the bills before the Board tonight and to deal with these attorney fees as a separate issue at the next meeting. Trustees Schaffer and Johnson stated that they would like to fully resolve this matter at the April Board of Trustees meeting.

Supervisor Glees noted that she is still working on the bridge in Dixie Briggs. Due to the size of the bridge's span, the contractor believes his design would require the use of piers which most likely would not be approved by IDNR. The project will need further engineering. Also, the Open Space staff is investigating if there is an alternative location for the bridge that would remove the need for piers.

The Board briefly reviewed the bills. Trustee Harney made a motion to approve the bills as audited with a second by Trustee Johnson. Supervisor Glees called the motion and upon roll call vote Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Schaffer and Johnson and Supervisor Glees voted "aye" –motion passed.

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021

Budget Transfers:

No budget transfers were presented for approval.

Executive Session:

The Board did not go into executive session.

Supervisor Glee asked if there were any additional items that needed to be brought before the Board and hearing none, she asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Harney 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 8:56 PM.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert L. Block", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert Block
Dundee Township Deputy Clerk