

Dundee Township Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting
September 16, 2020

Supervisor Glees called the September Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:02 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 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.

Highway Commissioner Scott Sinnett led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda:

Trustee Harney made a motion to approve the Agenda for the September 16, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting as presented with a second by Trustee Schaffer. Supervisor Glees called the motion 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 Schaffer made the motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the August 19, 2020 Board of Trustees Board of Trustees regular meeting and approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Ahrens seconded the motion. Supervisor Glees called the motion to approve minutes of the August 19, 2020 Board of Trustees regular 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 August 31, 2020 Treasurer’s Report and Financial Reports through September 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:

Trustees: trustee Johnson reported the sale of the property formerly owned by Peter Briggs and his family. Trustee Johnson stated the individual who purchased the property lives near Dixie and his goal is to prevent future development of the property.

Assessor: Assessor Bielak reported that his department is continuing to work on the appeals for the 2020 tax year. He also noted that he had recently been in Peoria for several classes required for his continuing education. He congratulated Nancy Cooke a member of his staff who recently retired after 30 years of service to the Township. Supervisor Glees read the announcement about Nancy’s retirement and noted that the Township had sent a card to her. Assessor Bielak noted that due to the pandemic, a large retirement party was not possible however, his office had a small party in her honor.

Highway Commissioner: Mr. Sinnett reported that that his department has been busy keeping up with the storm water and various drainage issues because of the recent heavy storms. He also reported that there been two separate accidents on Duncan Avenue that have resulted in damaged guardrails which will need to be replaced. His department is continuing their regular summer work such as trimming and mowing of right of ways and have also been working on replacing additional culverts.

Trustee Johnson asked whether a union was attempting to organize the Highway Department? He stated that he had heard from someone about a plan to fire everyone and then rehire them at a lower wage. He said he had also heard that the Highway Department was going to meet with a union tomorrow and wanted to know if it looks like

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we will have a union. Trustee Schaffer noted that the Highway Commissioner would have no choice but to follow through on the meeting with the union. Counsel Asprooth confirmed that if it is brought up, the Highway Department would have to hold an election for their employees to choose whether to bring in the union. Trustee Johnson asked if the meeting was with a particular union and Highway Commissioner Sinnett responded it is with the Teamsters union.

Trustee Johnson stated he had heard that the Highway department had hired a new employee. Highway Commissioner Scott stated that he had hired a new employee and that that individual was preparing to go for his CDL license. Assessor Bielak asked the Highway Commissioner if he had advertised this position? Highway Commissioner Sinnett replied he had not advertised the position. The individual come into the office and asked if they were hiring. He stated he will be running an ad for an additional driver. Trustee Johnson questioned how does this work with the current staffing levels? Highway Commissioner Sinnett replied that he believes one of his employees will be retiring in December and that would leave them one position short during the snow season.

Clerk-Office Manager: No Report

Cemetery: No Report

Open Space: Supervisor Glees presented the Open Space report. She highlighted the installation of a new trailhead at Dixie, the addition of gravel to the several of the trails, and the prep work done to support the MIRPA auto show at Raceway.

Trustee Ahrens commented that he had recently visited the Jelke site and the lot was full. He expressed a concern over a wire cable in the parking lot as he saw several people trip over the wire while trying to enter the site. He believes this is something staff needs to take a look at.

Supervisor: Supervisor Glees reported that Gov. Pritzker during a recent Covid-19 update extended the current moratorium on evictions from rental property. Also, major utilities such as ComEd and NICOR have stated they will not disconnect service for nonpayment until spring of 2021. All the neighboring villages have also announced that they will not disconnect service for water due to nonpayment. They will be adding late fees to the bill.

Supervisor Glees reported that she had applied for the Kane County and State of Illinois Cares Act funding however she noted that the Township would only receive funding from one of these sources.

She also noted that the Township employee Andy Delorenzo, the open space burn boss, is on special assignment with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources working to help extinguish the wildfires out on the West Coast.

Trustee Johnson asked a question about an article that appeared in the Daily Herald several days ago that concerned the Township's request for an increase in the Levy. He stated an acquaintance had asked what was going on with the request for the \$700,000 in additional funding. Trustee Johnson asked what was the basis for these determinations? Supervisor Glees replied that she had not been interviewed by the paper but that the reporter had taken the numbers and figures from one of the Board meeting minutes. She stated she had called the paper but never received a call back from the paper. Trustee Johnson stated he felt that the Trustees need to know when this kind of press or information is being released.

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Kane County Board Member Chris Kious: Mr. Kious updated the Board on recent County activity including an update on the distribution of the \$92 million the County received from the Cares Act. He stated that recently \$8 million has been allocated to help small businesses affected by the pandemic. The next meeting of the Cares Act committee will be on October 10, 2020 to review additional requests for funding. He also outlined a recent Kane County Department of Transportation meeting where a draft of the 2050 long-range transportation plan was presented. The public is invited to submit their comments on the plan via the Kane County Department of Transportation website.

He also reported that the County is continuing work on revising their solid waste plan. He noted that the Longmeadow Parkway is well underway and that the target is for the completion of the bridge in mid-2021.

Finally, he reported that the census numbers show that 97.1% of the Kane County's population have responded and emphasized that September 30 is the deadline for responding to this year's census.

Dundee Township Cares Food Pantry: No Report

Public Comments: Supervisor Glees opened the Public Comment period.

Supervisor Glees read set of written comments from resident Mr. Paul Setze regarding the multiple Township websites. A copy of the comments is attached to the minutes.

Elected Officials compensation for the period of 2021-2025: Supervisor Glees started the discussion by reviewing the Township Clerk's position. She noted that in 2018, the law changed which required the separation of the Office Manager position and that of Township Clerk. She asked the Board to review the duties of the Township Clerk as presented in the Laws and Duties Handbook. She noted the current salary for the Clerk's position is \$3000 per year and presented a spreadsheet showing the Township Clerk's salary in other townships.

Trustee Harney stated that she believes paying a larger salary for the Clerk's position would not guarantee that the individual elected would work the required hours. Supervisor Glees stated that presumably someone may run for the office otherwise the Township will have to appoint someone to the position. The Board reviewed the estimated hours that would be put in by an individual if they were fulfilling all the duties of the Clerk's office.

Supervisor Glees asked all of the elected officials to prepare an outline of their current jobs in order to give the Board of Trustees a better understanding of the hours required, and the work duties included in the position. Trustee Schaffer commented that some of the positions need to have salary cuts as the Board has not done their full due diligence in past years. Trustee Johnson stated that he would recommend a sizable cut in the salary for Board of Trustees members. Supervisor Glees stated that she would have the full Kane County salary survey ready for presentation to the Board.

New Business:

Presentation/Review of slides on the breakdown of expenses for FY 2021.

The revised pie charts showing the breakdown of the social service costs on a year-to-date basis were reviewed. The new charts included the cost of the Ride in Kane program as a part of the social service cost. Supervisor Glees reviewed the reasons for the reduction in the Ride in Kane and Emergency Assistance spending due to the Covid 19 pandemic during fiscal year 2021. The Board discussed the potential need to have additional funds available to cover the additional Emergency and General Assistance cases when the Covid 19 pandemic ends.

Trustee Schaffer asked that additional pie charts be created that would show the budgeted expenses versus the year to date expenses.

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Audit/Approve Bills and Payrolls:

Audit Bills – Pending Town Fund Bills \$23,316.58; Pre-Paid Town Bills \$575.62; Payrolls \$34,132.36 & \$31,173.20; Pending General Assistance Bills \$290.75; Prior Month’s General Assistance Costs \$4,116.74; General Assistance Payrolls - \$622.22 & \$622.22; Pending Cemetery Fund Bills \$4,924.48; Pre-Paid Cemetery Bills \$101.94; Payrolls \$13,180.61 & \$10,010.96; Pending Road & Bridge Fund Bills \$15,160.10; Pre-Paid Road & Bridge Bills \$719.63; Payrolls \$15,734.81 & \$16,554.16; Road IMRF/FICA Payrolls of \$2,495.19 & \$2,640.63.

Office Manager Block presented the bills that had been added to the payables since the packet was sent to the Trustees. 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 and Johnson and Supervisor Glees voted “aye” - Trustee Schaffer voted “nay” - motion passed 4 – 1.

Budget Transfers: Budget Transfer 9a was presented. This Budget Transfer amended a transfer from FY20 to correct an incorrect account number. Trustee Harney made a motion to approve Budget Transfer 9a 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.

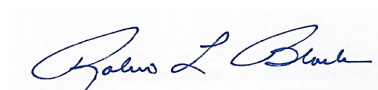
Budget Transfers #2-4 for the current Fiscal Year were presented. After a brief discussion, Trustee Johnson made the motion to approve Budget Transfers #2-4 as presented. Trustee Harney seconded the motion. Supervisor Glees called the motion and upon roll call vote Trustees Harney, Ahrens and Johnson and Supervisor Glees voted “aye” - Trustee Schaffer voted “nay” - motion passed 4 – 1.

Executive Session:

Trustee Schaffer made a motion for the Board to enter executive session to discuss probable litigation (5ILCS 1202(c)(11) with a second by Trustee Johnson. Supervisor Glees called the motion and upon roll call vote Trustees Harney, Ahrens, Schaffer and Johnson voted “aye” – Supervisor Glees voted “nay” - motion carried. The Board entered executive session at 9:00 PM.

At 9:22 PM, Trustee Johnson made a motion for the Board to return to open session with a second by Trustee Schaffer. Supervisor Glees called the motion and upon roll call vote Trustees Harney, Ahrens and Johnson and Supervisor Glees voted “aye” - motion carried.

Supervisor Glees 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 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 9:26 PM.



Robert Block
Dundee Township Deputy Clerk

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2020-09-16 Dundee Township Public Comments

I fail to understand why the Township has two web sites. One of them, dundeetownship.org is overseen by Supervisor Glees. The other, dundeetownship.com appears to be controlled by the assessor. I come to this conclusion because the Registrant Contact for the domain, NJS Enterprise, Inc. also supplies software for property assessments. It seems to me that there should be one web site overseen by the Supervisor's office for three reasons: Reason 1 is that the supervisor overseen by an elected board is responsible for the information conveyed to the public; Reason 2 is that it can be confusing for Dundee Township residents that two web sites exist; Reason 3 is that tax payer money, and presumably some effort, is being used to maintain two web sites – a needless duplication.

If the reason for maintaining two web sites is that some are used to going to one of them instead of the other and that removing one would cause confusion I have a simple response: Anyone with a rudimentary understanding of how the internet works knows that any internet address can be configured to point to another internet address – something known as redirecting.

I strongly urge the board to fund a single web site and that the responsibility be given to the Township Supervisor, whoever that is at any given point in time.