

Wheatland Township, Will County

Wheatland Township Administration Center

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Wheatland Township, Will County

APPROVED 10/10/2013

Township Board Meeting

Thursday September 12th, 2013 @ 7:30pm

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call

Supervisor Kern, Clerk Alstrom and Trustees Bennefield, Crockett, Mitchell and Holscher were present. Highway Commissioner Troyanowski and Tax Collector Peterson was also present. Assessor Lord was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Kern led the Pledge.

Public Comment

There was no one from the audience with public comment

Clerk's Report

A motion was made by Trustee Crockett and seconded by Trustee Holscher to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 8th, 2013. A roll call vote was taken with Trustees Bennefield, Crockett, Holscher, Mitchell and Supervisor Kern voting yes. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Crockett and seconded by Trustee Holscher to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting held on August 19th, 2013. A roll call vote was taken with Trustees Bennefield, Holscher, Crockett, Mitchell and Supervisor Kern voting yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Clerk Alstrom stated two FOIA's were filed and completed for the month.

Highway Commissioner Report

Commissioner Troyanowski submitted a written report that detailed 19 objectives that have been completed since taking office. The highlights were the completion of the 111th street project, finishing two FEMA reimbursement claims, completion of the road and bridge audit with the Will County Engineer and the creation of Advisory Councils for the highway department comprised of Wheatland Township residents.

Commissioner Troyanowski stated that the Comcast service has been installed in the new Township Center on Tower Ct.

Supervisor Report

Steve Orlando from Candos Agency was present to discuss the health and dental insurance renewals for the Township. Candos submitted four options for health insurance that ranged from the current plan the Township has to other plans with varying deductibles and copays. The current plan will only be offered by Blue Cross BlueShield for one more year as they do not offer a \$250 deductible/90% reimbursement plan any longer. The Township pays 100% of the premium for the employees. The Township has a policy that allows for employees' spouses or dependents to participate in the insurance plan as long as the employee pays 100% of the premium. The Township currently has eleven employees that participate in the insurance program.

Trustee Bennefield stated that he would like the Township to have a policy that is in line with the private sector where the employee pays a portion of the health insurance premium.

Trustees Crockett and Holscher agreed with Trustee Bennefield but want to be able to do the due diligence to determine a proper ratio of Township/Employee contributions. Commissioner Troyanowski stated that many municipalities have started making their employees pay for a portion of their health insurance.

Supervisor Kern moved to approve extending the current health plan for the Township employees. This was seconded by Trustee Crockett. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Crockett, Holscher, Mitchell, Bennefield and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Supervisor Kern moved to allow eligible dependents of Township employees to participate in the insurance program. These premiums would be paid by the employee. This was seconded by Trustee Bennefield. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Mitchell, Crockett, Holscher, Bennefield and Supervisor Kern voting

yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Supervisor Kern moved to approve the Humana Dental for the Township. This was seconded by Trustee Crockett. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Mitchell, Holscher, Bennefield, Crockett and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Nick Nielson was present to give a presentation on a text messaging service that would allow the Township to communicate with residents. The service would be a "opt in" program where residents could receive information on emergencies, meetings, programs, voting and other topics. The text messaging unit would cost approximately \$500.00 per unit with a monthly fee for texting. The board asked Mr. Neilson to put a written proposal together to present to the board.

Trustee Crockett moved to approve the IGA between the Highway Dept. and the Township. This was seconded by Trustee Mitchell. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Bennefield, Mitchell, Crockett, Holscher and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Supervisor Kern stated that the Township has a Weed Ordinance that will be enforced for properties that are not in compliance. The Township has a private vendor that will provide the service and the homeowners or lenders will be invoiced for payment.

The approval of the Healy/Bender contract was tabled by Supervisor Kern

Supervisor Kern stated that Welch Elementary Scholl submitted a donation request for their annual Fest/Fundraiser. A discussion was had and it was determined that Wheatland Township would not make monetary donations to another taxing body. A policy will be written to reflect this action.

Trustee Bennefield moved to approve the Annual Treasurer's Report and it was seconded by Trustee Crockett. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Crockett, Holscher, Mitchell, Bennefield and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0. The report will be published in the Naperville Sun.

Trustee Bennefield moved to approve the rules for Audio/Video Recording of Township Meetings and it was seconded by Trustee Crockett. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Crockett, Holscher, Mitchell, Bennefield and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence

Supervisor Kern stated the States Attorney was having a charity bike ride and the Annual TOI conference was going to be held in Springfield.

Park Committee

Trustee Bennefield stated that the new back boards and rims have arrived and they will be installed by the Highway Department very soon.

Transportation Committee

Trustee Holscher stated that Ride Dupage has finished their new brochure that details the cost increase for the participants.

Senior Committee

Trustee Mitchell stated the Annual Senior Picnic is going to be held on September 18th at the PFPD pavilion on 135th street and all elected officials are invited. Trustee Holscher the bus trip to Oregon was a great success and everyone had a wonderful time.

Cemetery Committee

Collector Peterson reviewed the submitted written report. He also wanted guidance from the board on the current policy for approving and paying invoices for the cemetery.

Communications Committee

Clerk Alstrom stated the website is looking a lot better. This was due to the great work by Carolyn Rominger and IGEN Media. Clerk Alstrom stated that the video of the Special Meeting of the Electors was viewable via the website. Currently the Township uses YouTube but the Clerk asked for guidance on using a professional service. This service would cost approximately \$1000.00 to implement with a recurring monthly fee of \$20.00. This is not in the budget for the current year but will be requested for the Clerk's budget for 2014-2015.

Old Business

None

New Business

Supervisor Kern asked for the Board to make recommendations on appointing an Ethics Advisor for the Township.

Bill Payment

Trustee Holscher moved to approve the Town, Hard Road, Road & Bridge and Culvert Fund in the amount of \$122,841.94 and it was seconded by Trustee Mitchell. Trustee Crockett stated that \$12,000.00 of the Town Fund portion should have been paid in the previous fiscal year by the last Board. The \$12,000 accounts for a Pace invoice for January 2013 and crucial repairs to the Park that have known about since early 2013. A roll call vote was conducted with Trustees Crockett, Holscher, Mitchell, Bennefield and Supervisor Kern voting yes. Motion passed 5-0.

Executive Session

The meeting stayed in "Open Session" for the following actions.

Trustee Holscher moved to approve and release the minutes of Executive Sessions held on June 13th, 2013 and August 19th, 2013 and it was seconded by Supervisor Kern. A roll call voted was conducted with Trustees Bennefield, Mitchell, Crockett, Holscher and Supervisor Kern voting yes. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Supervisor Kern with a second by Trustee Mitchell. A voice vote of 5-0 passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:31pm.

Next meeting: October 10th, 2013, @ 7:30 P.M. – Monthly Board Meeting
 Location TBA

Prepared by Bill Alstrom, Township Clerk