

**Township Board Meeting  
Thursday, December 9, 2021**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Crowner at 7:32 PM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting guest Robert Glenn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**

Board Members: Trustees Bansal, Hickey, Jones, and Rotkis attended the meeting.

Board Officers: Supervisor Crowner, Clerk Liskey, Highway Commissioner Wieser and Tax Collector Scriven-Young were present at the meeting. Assessor Kern was absent.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

4.1 None.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5.1 Approval of Nov. 11, 2021 – Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes**

- Trustee Hickey moved to open discussion and approval of the Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes. Trustee Rotkis seconded. Supervisor Crowner requested two amendments to the document, including (1) in section 7.1 regarding property and casualty insurance, add a line noting the proposal was unanimously approved 5-0 vote; (2) in section 9.6 summarizing Supervisor Crowner's comments amend the minutes to include "sharing space" in reference to opportunities discussed with the Plainfield Park District. Supervisor Crowner motioned to approve minutes with the two stated amendments. The motion was seconded by Trustee Jones. Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes for November 11, 2021, were approved pending amendments, by 5-0 per roll call vote.

**5.2 Approval of Nov. 29, 2021 Special Board Meeting Open Session Minutes**

- Trustee Rotkis moved to open discussion and approval of the Special Meeting Open Session Minutes. Trustee Hickey seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

6.1. None.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Discussion/Approval of Micro-Pantry Construction Project**

- Supervisor Crowner moved to open discussion and Trustee Hickey seconded.  
- Guest and Scout Robert Glenn presented a proposal to build a micro pantry box on Township office property that would provide food and toiletries to help low-income Wheatland residents and serve as his Eagle Project, which is an opportunity for a Scout in the Boy Scouts of America to attain the Eagle Scout rank by demonstrating leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of the community. Guest Glenn outlined his plans for construction, fundraising and stocking the micro pantry. Trustee Rotkis noted the need to select durable building materials. Trustee Jones recommended

a latch to keep birds out. Road Commissioner Wieser noted this initiative would be similar to Library boxes that are available in Wheatland Township.

-Supervisor Crowner moved to approve construction of the micro pantry and Trustee Hickey seconded. The micro-pantry initiative was unanimously approved per 5-0 roll call vote.

## **7.2 Discussion/Approval of 2022 Pace Partners Agreement**

- Trustee Jones moved to open discussion of the 2022 Pace Partners Agreement and Trustee Hickey seconded the motion.

- Supervisor Crowner explained the highlights of the proposal that had been provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. He noted the proposal under consideration was an interim proposal to ensure there would be no service disruption until a final proposal could be completed for presentation to the board, likely in Jan or Feb 2022. Supervisor Crowner pointed out the Wheatland Township pays the smallest portion of the partner in the program due to the fact that Wheatland has the fewest riders. He also mentioned that due to Federal Covid pandemic funding, the Pace Partners program would receive \$68,439 to subsidize the program in 2022.

- Trustee Rotkis suggested the final contract should name Wheatland Township in the document. The Board also discussed issues with on-time performance as well as potential alternative service providers, all of which would be more expensive than Pace Partners. Supervisor Crowner pointed out that Wheatland Township Pace riders also benefited from subsidies of a City of Naperville grant.

- Trustee Rotkis moved to approve the Pace Partners Agreement and Trustee Jones seconded the motion. The 2022 Pace Partners Agreement was unanimously approved per 5-0 roll call vote.

## **8. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS**

### **8.1 Approval of 11/11/21 – 12/9/21 Town and Road District Fund Bills & Claims:**

- Trustee Bansal moved to open discussion of the Town, Park, Assessor, Road & Bridge, Special Hard Road and Cemetery Funds bills and Trustee Hickey seconded.

- Trustee Bansal raised the issue of Comcast late fees. Supervisor Crowner explained the issue was caused by a scheduling issue of when Comcast distributed its bills and when, by statute, the Wheatland Township met to approve bills before payment.

- Supervisor Crowner then detailed possible solutions which could include approval for prepayment or a resolution allowing the Township to pay certain, smaller monthly reoccurring bills before the Board meeting. He informed the Board that he would e-mail summaries of both options to be considered at the January Board meeting.

- Trustee Rotkis motioned to approve the Town, Park, Assessor, Road & Bridge, Special Hard Road and Cemetery Funds bills and Trustee Hickey seconded. Bills in the amount of \$240,241.67 were approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

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## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1. ASSESSOR (CHUCK KERN)**

- Was absent and no report was provided from the Assessor's Office.

### **9.2 HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (TOM WIESER)**

- Informed the Board that Wheatland Road District had been approved to receive a \$12,500 grant from the Will County Storm Water Management Project to pay for drainage projects within the Township. He also noted that his office would be more

aggressive to complete necessary application paperwork earlier with the hopes of securing more funds through the grant program in the future.

- He advised the board that he is seeking to join the Storm Water Committee.

### **9.3 TRUSTEES:**

#### **TRUSTEE (MEGHNA BANSAL)**

- Reported that the November Senior Luncheon was held at Wheatland Salem Church located at 1852 95<sup>th</sup> Street, Naperville on Wednesday Nov 17<sup>th</sup>.

- 17 seniors from Wheatland Township attended the luncheon, where Popeye's Chicken, at a cost of \$7 per person, was served as the main course. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Jenny Dawley, Naperville Township, was the featured speaker presenting on various scams in the marketplace and arming seniors with information to recognize and protect themselves from these efforts.

- Trustees Hickey and Bansal along with Supervisor Crowner and Wheatland Township Administrator Rominger attended the luncheon.

#### **TRUSTEE (KELLY HICKEY)**

- Updated that the Senior Committee met on 11/22 to discuss the December luncheon and future planning. For their last 2021 gathering, the Senior Committee will be hosting a luncheon for 20 seniors at Vai's Restaurant on 12/15/2021. Jenny Dawley from Naperville Township will share a brief, interactive presentation for our seniors called "What's in Your Wallet?"

- Informed that next senior luncheon will not until at least March 2022; However, the Senior Committee will meet earlier in Q1 for annual planning and to appoint new members to the committee.

#### **TRUSTEE (COLLEEN ROTKIS)**

- Reported that the park will be closed for the season on Friday, December 17.

#### **TRUSTEE (TERRY JONES)**

- No update.

### **9.4 TOWNSHIP CLERK (ANITA LISKEY)**

- Provided an update on the status of FOIA requests during the month, noting that three new FOIA requests had been submitted, a slight increase from November.

### **9.5 COLLECTOR/CEMETERY (David Scriven-Young)**

- Reported that three burials and one ash burial had been done in the past month and noted another ash burial was scheduled for December 20.

- Updated that in its meeting on December 10, the Cemetery Board approved plans to revise the cemetery section of the Township website and develop a sales kit to promote the cemetery and detail burial services. The Cemetery Board also approved adjustments to payments to be made to the cemetery trustees and helpers for their services as follows: (1) raising payments for marking and measuring graves for casket burials from \$37.50 to \$50, (2) raising payments for opening and closing duties for cremation burials from \$200 to \$250, and (3) raising payments for marking and measuring headstone placement from \$15 to \$25. These rates will be effective on January 1, 2022. These are the first adjustments to these payments

in over seven years. The Cemetery Board also plans to study possible modest changes to cemetery prices due to increasing vendor costs.

- As noted last month, the fence and sign installation projects continue to be delayed by national labor and supply shortages.

**9.6 SUPERVISOR (MICHAEL CROWNER)**

- Noted the pending litigation in the Appeals Court has been resolved in the Township's favor. With the conclusion of the case in the Appeals Court, there will be an additional hearing for related litigation in January. He thanked former Township attorney Doug Ibendahl and informed that the new attorney, Ed Mullens would be taking over any continuing actions with this case.

-Updated that he had reached back out to the Executive Director of the Plainfield Park District to further discussions on opportunities to work together and share space for equipment storage.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Trustee Rotkis moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Jones seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned on a voice vote at 8:40 PM.

**Next meeting January 13, 2022**

Approved as presented:



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Prepared by Anita Liskey, Township Clerk