

**Wheatland Township Board Meeting
Thursday, May 12, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Clerk Hickey at 7:31 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Adam Rozicki 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, Highway Commissioner Wieser, Assessor Kern, and Tax Collector Scriven-Young were present at the meeting. Clerk Liskey was absent.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

4.1 None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Approve April 12, 2022 – Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes

- Trustee Rotkis moved to open discussion and approval of the Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes. Trustee Bansal seconded. The Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes for April 12, 2022, were approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

5.2 Approve April 25, 2022 – Special Meeting Open Session Minutes

- Trustee Jones moved to open discussion and approval of the Special Meeting Open Session Minutes. Trustee Rotkis seconded. The Special Meeting Open Session Minutes for April 25, 2022, were approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1. None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Discussion with Plainfield Park District

Supervisor Crowner requested that the Board postpone the subject until the June meeting when representatives from Plainfield Park District Executive Director will be able to attend and present. Trustee Bansal motioned to table discussion and Jones seconded.

8. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS

8.1 Approval of 04/12/22 – 05/12/22 Town and Road District Fund Bills & Claims:

- Trustee Rotkis moved to open discussion for approval of the Town, Park, Assessor, Road & Bridge, Special Hard Road and Cemetery Funds bills and Supervisor Crowner seconded. Trustee Jones raised question about two vendor bills. Wieser to follow with Jones directly.

- Bills in the amount of \$173,800.60 were unanimously approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

9. REPORTS

9.1. ASSESSOR (CHUCK KERN)

– Reported that as Township residents received their property tax bills, there was a significant increase of inquiries and requests for assistance in the Assessor's Office. As a result and to handle the increased workload, he informed the Board that he would hire an intern and part-time employee (20 hours a week) to address the backlog. He informed the Board that the two new employees were scheduled to begin at the end of the month. He also reiterated his concerns re climate issues in the Township office building, specifically related to high internal humidity levels. Commissioner Wieser responded that had reached out to several HVAC providers and be receiving bids from contractors to address the issues.

9.2 HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER (TOM WIESER)

– Reported that the Road project to repave Heggs Road, as discussed at the April Board meeting, had been completed.

9.3 TRUSTEES:

TRUSTEE (MEGHNA BANSAL)

– Reported on the April 20 Senior Luncheon noting that 19 senior residents had attended. Holly Blasic, a representative from Illinois Senator Ellman's office, gave a presentation on fraud/scam protection, which was extremely well received by participants. She noted the next senior luncheon meeting was scheduled for May 4.

TRUSTEE (KELLY HICKEY)

– Discussed that she and Clerk Liskey met with representatives from Neuqua Valley High School Steps Program that works with local businesses to find opportunities to give graduating high school students who are not likely to go onto college job experience that will help them as they transition from school to the workplace. They discussed the possibility of Wheatland Township participating in the program by having transition students work in the Township offices over the summer to assist with records disposal project. Trustee Hickey noted that she would be following up on that initial discussion in the next week to provide an update at the June Board meeting.

TRUSTEE (COLLEEN ROTKIS)

- No report.

TRUSTEE (TERRY JONES)

- Reported that he would be leading an initiative to update/redesign the Township website.

9.4 TOWNSHIP CLERK (ANITA LISKEY)

- As Clerk Liskey was not in attendance, there was no report.

9.5 TAX COLLECTOR/CEMETERY (DAVID SCRIVEN-YOUNG)

- Reported that one grave has been sold and one ash burial had taken place during the month. He also updated the Board that the cemetery clean-up project had been successfully completed, thanking the Trustees who had attended. He confirmed the new cemetery sign had been approved by Will County. He also noted he would begin

implementing a community promotion/education campaign to spotlight historical graves on the Cemetery Facebook page over the summer. In closing, Scriven-Young recognized Cemetery Trustee Hofman's wife, Laura, with a special note of thanks for her efforts to spruce up the center section of the cemetery.

9.6 SUPERVISOR (MICHAEL CROWNER)

– Updated the Board that he had opened a bidding process to review auditing services and providers for the Township, as the current vendor contract would soon expire. He noted that Illinois Covid rates were significantly increasing and reminded that Board members, employees and office visitors should once again consider wearing masks and ensure vaccinations are up to date, per CDC guidelines.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

10.1 - Discussion of Assessor Vacancy – Citing rules detailed in the TOI handbook, Supervisor Crowner explained that it was improper procedure to hold an executive session to discuss potential new hires. The discussion was postponed until further notice and after consultation with the Township attorney.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

- Supervisor Crowner moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Bansal seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned on a voice vote at 7:51 PM.

Next meeting June 9, 2022

Approved as presented:

Prepared by Kelly Hickey, Deputy Township Clerk