

**Wheatland Township Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 11, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Liskey at 7:33 PM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Supervisor Crowner 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, Assessor Kern, Highway Commissioner Wieser, Tax Collector Scriven-Young and Clerk Liskey attended the meeting.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 4.1** Vincent Fernandez, the General Assistance Manager from DuPage Township, recognized the recently signed intergovernmental agreement between Wheatland and DuPage Townships in which DuPage Township will begin providing general assistance services to Wheatland Township residents. Mr. Fernandez explained that he will be determining best practices and procedures to manage the service agreement and will return to a future Wheatland Township Board meeting to provide more specifics and answer any questions.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5.1 Approve July 14, 2022 – Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes**

- Trustee Hickey moved to open discussion and approval of the Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes. Trustee Rotkis seconded. Regular Meeting Open Session Minutes for July 14, 2022, were approved 4-0 per roll call vote, with Trustee Jones abstaining as he was absent from the July meeting.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**6.1. Discussion/Approval of Special Town Meeting re: Wheatland Township Park**

- Trustee Jones moved to open discussion re the proposed agreement between Wheatland Township Park and Plainfield Park District, and Trustee Bansal seconded.
- Supervisor Crowner provided an update that Township counsel had confirmed the proposed agreement would fall under the Illinois Transfer Act and therefore, no special meeting would be required. The agreement could be considered and passed at a regular Wheatland Township Board meeting under ordinary 2/3 voting procedures.
- Supervisor Crowner also noted that before coming to the Wheatland Board for discussion/approval, the proposed agreement would be presented to the Plainfield Township Board at its September 14 meeting for a vote/approval via simplified process.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Discussion/Approval of Ordinance 22-xx-O vacation of Normantown Road to Forest Preserve District**

- Supervisor Crowner motioned to table the discussion until the ordinance re a proposal for Wheatland Township to vacate two parcels of land on Normantown Road was

received from the Forest Preserve District. Once received, the proposal will be presented to the Wheatland Township Board for discussion/approval.

-The Board unanimously approved the request to table discussions 5-0 via roll call vote.

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

### **8.1 Approval of 07/14/22 – 08/11/22 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 Trustee Hickey seconded.

- Bills in the amount of \$146,768.44 were approved 5-0 per roll call vote.

## **9. REPORTS**

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

– Informed that a new part-time employee had been hired in the Assessor’s office and was scheduled to begin in late August/early September to work 15 hours a week.

- In follow up to the July discussion re maintenance issues in the Township office building, Kern presented humidity/temperature data he had been monitoring during the summer, noting humidity levels were improving. He expressed his appreciation for Supervisor Crowner’s focus on and open communication to staff regarding improvement initiatives.

- Raising the possibility of accessing funds from the Federal Rescue Plan, he recommended the Board consider purchasing another Township vehicle to be used by the field agent.

- Confirmed new county assessments had been published, noting the formula for the new assessments would be last year’s assessment value x 1.05. He also explained that notices would only be sent to newly constructed homes as a first-time bill or to residents who had been reassessed during the year due to special issues. With appeal submissions to the County Board of Review beginning in September, he noted employees in the Township Assessor’s Office would be available to help residents with informal inquiries and questions.

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

- Confirmed that a new tree had been planted in Wheatland Township Park in July, replacing one that had been removed when new utility lines were installed last year. Pulte also repaired the landscaping they damaged last year.

- Noted that drainage work continued to be a priority, he informed the Board that his team continued to receive and address many calls from residents about standing water issues.

- Informed that he submitted applications to the Will County Comeback program to receive funds for a major industrial drainage project as well as for the replacement of two large culverts Lake Sunshine.

- The Road District has fielded many complaints from residents re speeding on Leverenz Blvd. He explained the City of Naperville plans to do a formal speed study. Once complete and using data from the study, Wheatland Township will work with the City of Naperville to determine next steps to address the issue.

- Updated that after many complaints about speeding occurrences on Leverenz Blvd, the City of Naperville planned to do a formal speed study. Once complete, Wheatland Township will work with the City of Naperville to determine next steps

### **9.3 TRUSTEES:**

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

– Reporting on the July 20 Senior Luncheon, Trustee Bansal noted attendance of only 12 seniors was lower than normal. She reported that Doggie Diner had provided food and that expenses of \$130 were spent on Jewel gift cards and \$40 for iced tea and extras. She updated that the next Senior Luncheon would be held on August 17, featuring food from Popeyes and a pro bono performance by an Aurora theater comedy club, provided free of charge.

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

- Adding to Trustee Bansal's Senior Luncheon report, Trustee Hickey noted she had contacted the Naperville Sheriff's Office to address the group at the September or October meeting.
- Requested an agenda item be added to the September Board meeting for an update from the Eagle Scout who is planning a micro pantry for the Township, as approved by the Board earlier this year.
- Updated on the service issues the ongoing Pace driver shortages are causing for Wheatland Township bus riders. Explained how despite Pace efforts to work through the issues, improve service, and train new drivers, the company is struggling to retain new hires through the licensing process. She also noted that Pace is making best efforts to use recruits from junior colleges for the longer routes with bigger buses and scheduling its more experienced drivers for the special access buses.

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

- No Report.

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

- No Report.

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

- Noted that a total of three (3) FOIAs had been received and responded to in the month of July, with no outstanding issues. She also noted Wheatland Township had received one inquiry for emergency assistance, which after review, was referred to Plainfield Township where the resident was located.

### **9.5 TAX COLLECTOR/CEMETERY (DAVID SCRIVEN-YOUNG)**

- Reported that the cemetery had one ash burial and sold one grave site in July.
- Complimenting the road crew on their recent work, Tax Collector/Cemetery Scriven-Young noted he had received several positive comments on the overall appearance of the grounds. He also reported the Patterson family had toured the cemetery in July.
- Confirmed vendors had completed installation of new headstones and signage, noting the Cemetery Board will be considering additional landscaping improvements as well as potential changes to inscriptions on the sign to recognize past officials and other past cemetery contributors.

### **9.6 SUPERVISOR (MICHAEL CROWNER)**

- Informed the Board that he would send a draft copy of the annual audit for their review in advance of the September Board meeting when representatives from Wheatland Township auditor Seldon Fox would attend to discuss the draft audit and respond to Board member questions.

- Providing an update on remediation steps taken to address the water leak and other maintenance issues in the office, Supervisor Crowner reported that a number of outside contractors had completed inspections and no incidents of mold or active rodent issues had been found. He also detailed the mitigation measures underway to prevent future issues including:

(1) An exterminator has been retained to provide extra sealing and caulking around the building.

(2) The moisture/humidity issues were being addressed and the air quality in the office is has already improved.

(3) An HVAC system provider and janitorial service has been hired.

(4) With four bids currently under review, a bird control specialist will be hired to remove the infestation, decontaminate, and implement preventative measures in the ceiling by the end of the year.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Trustee Jones moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Hickey seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned on a voice vote at 8:24 PM.

**Next meeting September 8, 2022**

Approved as presented:

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Prepared by Anita Liskey, Township Clerk