

Minutes of the Troy Township Board Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2023
7:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Troy Township Board of Trustees was held at the Troy Township Community Center, 25448 Seil Road, Shorewood, Illinois.

Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee, Johnnie Greenwood.

Supervisor Baltz referred to the Community Center renovations and the return of functions such as early voting, quilters, and senior programs.

Roll call:

Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz – Present	Trustee Johnnie Greenwood – Present
Trustee Bryan W. Kopman – Present	Trustee Jerry Nudera – Present
Trustee Brett Wheeler – Present	

Quorum is established.

Also, in Attendance:

Clerk Larry Ryan	Assessor Kimberly Anderson	Collector Dawn Damiani
Hwy. Commissioner Thomas R. Ward	Administrator Jennifer Dylik	

GUESTS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Supervisor Baltz opened the meeting for the introduction of guests and citizen comments. Attending the meeting from the Assessor's Office were Jan Roedel and Rhianna Korst. After asking a third time, and hearing none, Supervisor Baltz closed the meeting for citizen comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Baltz presented the minutes from the February 27, 2023, regular **Board Meeting**, for approval. After no questions were raised, a motion was made by Trustee Greenwood; seconded by Trustee Nudera to approve the **MINUTES** of the **February 27, 2023, REGULAR BOARD MEETING.**

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending **February 28, 2023**, was placed on file by Supervisor Baltz. After no questions were raised, a motion was made by Trustee Wheeler; seconded by Trustee Kopman to accept the **TREASURER'S REPORT** for the month ending **February 28, 2022.**

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Joseph D. Baltz reviewed the following correspondence with the Board:

- Township Perspective March/April 2023 magazine

REPORTS OF TRUSTEES / COMMITTEES:

TRUSTEE JOHNNIE GREENWOOD – No report.

TRUSTEE BRYAN W. KOPMAN – Stated there was a Finance Committee Meeting preceding the Board Meeting. Finance Committee Chair Kopman extended thanks to Administrator Dylik, Supervisor Baltz, Assessor Anderson, Highway Comm. Ward for their hard work, detail, and input into the budget presentation and workshop. The proposed 2023-24 Budget was unanimously approved by the Committee and will recommend approval to the Board at the upcoming Board Meeting.

TRUSTEE JERRY NUDERA – No report.

TRUSTEE BRETT WHEELER – No report.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT: Highway Commissioner Ward reported the following:

- Roofing & Siding Project Bid Award to Langeland Construction out of Minooka, IL. The bid award amounts to \$234,000 and plans to upgrade the exterior steel to a textured feature that allows for enhanced strength and less UV fading will run \$8,500. Samples of the coloring and durable product were distributed to the Board and guests.
- The 2023 Asphalt Grind/Overlay Project was awarded to D Construction at a cost of \$120,000. Timberline Dr. and Oak Lane are two of the locations. Drainage work, culvert crossings, and associated work on the affected roads will be completed in-house.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT: Assessor Kim Anderson presented the following:

- Quadrennial assessments are still the focus for staff, and they are beginning to reassess the updated properties.
- Additionally, the final factor from Will County is forthcoming and the current increase is 8.77%.
- As discussed in the Finance Committee Meeting, the current software system is 12 years old and is maintained by an individual that no longer lives in Illinois. Troubleshooting of issues is currently performed over the phone, and virtual access to our screen/system is not an option with this person. The new system presented is easier to operate and search features are enhanced. Other efficiencies include updated assessment modules, local IT assistance with virtual access, tracking of productivity, etc.
- Testimonials from Jan Roedel and Rhianna Korst demonstrated the newly renovated space provides a professional feel, and efficient workflows. The current layout of workspace allows for easy access to needed items.

TOWNSHIP CLERK REPORT: No report.

TOWNSHIP COLLECTOR'S REPORT: No report.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor Baltz commented on the following:

- For the first time, he will not be able to attend the regularly scheduled April Board Meeting or Annual Town Meeting. His son's wedding conflicts with the dates, and Baltz politely declined to attend virtually on the "big screen".

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Dylik presented the following:

- Interior building renovations are complete, and punch list items are being addressed. Current work includes color selections for the exterior of the building, and everyone is eager to begin this phase of the project.
Extras to-date include:
 - New electric panel \$1,665.00
 - Revised reception desk layout \$636.00
 - Install fire wall \$2,780.00
 - Repurpose ADA push buttons at Comm. Ctr Restrooms \$5,582.00
 - Overage on Interior Signage \$1,241.00
 - Rework electric and data in the flex office \$1,430.00
 - *Awaiting credit on finish hardware
- Reported that the Township received reimbursement from FEMA for Covid expenditures incurred from the start of the pandemic to July 1, 2022. The Town Fund received \$3,172.61 and the Road & Bridge Fund received \$666.75.
- Statement of Economic Interests are to be completed and submitted to the Will County Clerk's Office by May 1st. Fact sheets from the IL Municipal League are distributed and may be helpful in completing the forms. Please let us know if you need assistance with login information from the Will County Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Baltz asked for any old business. After asking for a third time, no old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Baltz submitted the following:

- A) Approval of the **Troy Township Annual Town Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.** After asking for discussion (none), a motion was made by Trustee Nudera; seconded by Trustee Wheeler to approve the **Troy Township Annual Town Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- B) Approval of **Resolution 22-23R-17 a Transfer of Appropriations for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023 – Road and Bridge Fund.** A motion was made by Trustee Greenwood; seconded by Trustee Nudera to approve **Resolution 22-23R-17.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- C) Approval of **Resolution 22-23R-18 a Transfer of Appropriations for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023 – General Town Fund including the Assessor's Budget.** After asking for questions (none), a motion was made by Trustee Kopman; seconded by Trustee Wheeler to approve **Resolution 22-23R-18.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

- D) Approval of **Resolution 22-23R-19 a Transfer of Appropriations for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023 – General Assistance Fund.** A motion was made by Trustee Greenwood; seconded by Trustee Nudera to approve **Resolution 22-23R-19.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- E) Approval of **Resolution 22-23R-20 a Resolution Establishing the Benefit Levels and 2023-2024 Budget Allocation Amounts for Emergency Assistance.**
Admin. Dylik illustrated scenarios and levels such as these are not required by law; however, to serve the needs and break certain trends raising monthly income standards to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, one-time pool of funds at \$2500, and initial payment thresholds from \$450 to \$600. No other questions or concerns were brought forward.
A motion was made by Trustee Kopman; seconded by Trustee Wheeler to approve **Resolution 22-23R-20.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- F) Appointment of Members of the Road District Decennial Committee.
A motion was made by Trustee Nudera; seconded by Trustee Wheeler to **Approve the Appointed Members of the Road District Decennial Committee.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- G) Appointment of Members of the Township Decennial Committee. A motion was made by Trustee Kopman; seconded by Trustee Greenwood to **Approve the Appointed Members of the Township Decennial Committee.**
Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Supervisor Baltz submitted the following bills:

Motion made by Trustee Wheeler; seconded by Trustee Nudera to accept the **TOWN FUND & ASSESSOR'S BILLS for March 20, 2023**, as presented totaling **\$134,549.03**. After review, no questions or discussions were presented.

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Kopman; seconded by Trustee Greenwood to accept the **GENERAL ASSISTANCE BILLS for March 20, 2023**, as presented totaling **\$175.39**. After review, no questions or discussions were presented.

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Wheeler; seconded by Trustee Nudera to accept the **ROAD AND BRIDGE BILLS for March 20, 2023**, as presented totaling **\$63,829.15**.

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: No items for closed session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Supervisor Baltz presented the following announcements:

- A) The Troy Township Offices, Community Center, and Highway Department will be closed on Friday, April 7, 2023, for Good Friday.
- B) Annual Town Meeting - Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
- C) Public Hearing – Road and Bridge Fund Budget, and Town Fund Budget – Monday April 17, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
- D) Next Board Meeting – Monday, April 17, 2023, immediately following the Public Hearing.
- E) Shredding Event – Saturday, May 6, 2023 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Trustee Kopman presented a discussion on the current Levy and associated Tax Rates. Supervisor Baltz added the estimated and/or anticipated valuations came back slightly less than the rates applied to the Levy equation. The tax rate for the Township Funds increased minimally because of this reduction in the market valuation. The Road & Bridge Fund needs to be set at the maximum allowable rate in order to receive County participation on the Shepley Road Bridge Project (not in question).

Administrator Dylik and Baltz had reached out to Will County with questions regarding the option to request a “reduced/specified” tax rate. Trustee Kopman stated his basis for supporting the proposed Levy was hinged to a tax rate that was either flat or declining. Though the levies were to be filed with the County Clerk by 12-26-22, further review revealed the final date for Levy confirmation on rate adjustments is March 30, 2023. Dylik verified a request could simply be made to adjust the tax rate accordingly. For example, a “flat rate” would equate to a \$.20 savings on a \$300K home, impact our Town Fund by \$3,600 (less), and continue a pattern of flat or decreasing tax rates for the last 7 to 8 years.

Greenwood – it is “basically” flat, meaning not that big of an increase. Although some may be sticklers

Wheeler – 0.0% is definition of “flat” and anything less is not. Meaning any increase is not less or flat.

Nudera – A \$.20 average saving per household is a minimal increase; however, the perception is not a decrease from a technical sense. If the effort (overhead) to lower the rate exceeds the taxpayer savings, it may not be worth it.

Kopman – The \$3,600 reduction of the Budget for the Town Fund is offset by the proposed \$6000 ending balance surplus. The Supervisor can make the decision.

Anderson – The simple equation is value x rate, and the tax total will grow with a rise in the market value of a property. Regardless of a flat or declining tax rate.

Damiani – Agrees with Anderson and Kopman. Does agree with Kopman on the perception and trends of declining tax rate for the Township.

Ryan – The history and/or trend dates all the way back to 2008 when the Board elected to not “Levy up” to allowable levels even though market valuations would have supported increases. The conservative approach is still in effect for last 7-8 years of decreasing tax rates.

Supervisor Baltz concluded the discussion by having Admin. Dylik and Trustee Kopman research the matter and submit findings. He will then render a decision on the applicable tax rate for the Town Fund.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Trustee Greenwood; seconded by Trustee Wheeler to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:54 p.m.

Roll call vote: Greenwood-Aye; Kopman-Aye; Nudera-Aye; Wheeler-Aye; Baltz-Aye.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Ryan, Clerk