

MINUTES - BOARD of TOWN TRUSTEES

STATE of ILLINOIS

TYPE OF MEETING HELD: Regular

LASALLE COUNTY,

SS.

TIME MEETING BEGAN: 5:00pm

TOWN of BRUCE

TIME MEETING ENDED: 5:50 pm

COPY

The April 12, 2022 meeting of the Bruce Township Board of Trustees opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Highway Commissioner John M. Barton and Assessor Andrea Zadkovich-Blakemore were in attendance. The meeting was conducted by Supervisor Lucas as chairman and recorded by Clerk Marsha Johnston.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING'S MINUTES:

The first order of business was to read and approve the minutes from the March 9, 2022 Regular Meeting.

MOTION MADE BY: Trustee Winterrowd

2nd BY: Trustee Kreier

That the minutes of the March 9, 2022 Regular Meeting be approved. No further discussion was required.

Aye's: 5

Nay's: 0

Motion: Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL OF BILLS

A summary of the bills was distributed for review.

MOTION MADE BY: Trustee Araujo

2nd BY: Trustee Winterrowd

That the bills be allowed and paid for TOWNSHIP

No further discussion was required. Clerk Johnston took the roll call vote:

Trustee Henry Araujo: aye

Trustee Randy Baumrucker: aye

Trustee Margie Kreier: aye

Trustee Chad Winterrowd: aye

Supervisor Scott Lucas: aye

Aye's: 5

Nay's: 0

Motion: Carried

MOTION MADE BY: Trustee Baumrucker

2nd BY: Supervisor Lucas

That the bills be allowed and paid for GENERAL ASSISTANCE

No further discussion was required. Clerk Johnston took the roll call vote:

Trustee Henry Araujo: aye

Trustee Randy Baumrucker: aye

Trustee Margie Kreier: aye

Trustee Chad Winterrowd: aye

Supervisor Scott Lucas: aye

Aye's: 5

Nay's: 0

Motion: Carried

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MOTION MADE BY: Trustee Araujo
That the bills be allowed and paid for ROAD and BRIDGE

2nd BY: Trustee Winterrowd

No further discussion was required. Clerk Johnston took the roll call vote:

Trustee Henry Araujo: aye
Trustee Randy Baumrucker: aye
Trustee Margie Kreier: aye
Trustee Chad Winterrowd: aye
Supervisor Scott Lucas: aye

Aye's: 5 Nay's: 0 Motion: Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR'S:

Supervisor Lucas reported that some improvements are being done on the building. A new camera has been put up and set up along with the other cameras for security. New exit lighting has been installed in the hall, the hallways, and also at the shop. The back door buzzer is apparently not working. Supervisor Lucas will check into that and get it fixed. Supervisor Lucas will check on estimates for painting the office and kitchen areas. There is a certain area in the back of the building that he would like to have the concrete continued which would be extra parking for the staff and also when the hall is rented out. Trustee Araujo asked if it could continue to the shed. Estimates for those jobs will be taken and presented to the board. Removing the apple tree that is in front of the hall was brought up next for discussion. The benches in front will be removed and spruced up along with new rock. Supervisor Lucas stated that he will roll back the fence so our neighbor can finish putting up the siding on her garage and then put it back. The Masons cleaned up the area in the back.

Supervisor Lucas authorized the Assessor to have a phone to use for all business related to her office. She was added to the account. TOIRMA reimbursements for this year are as follows: Road and Bridge received \$893 and the Township received \$2076. IMRA reduced the amounts for the Township's cost to participate in the individuals.

GA will now be responsible for part of the utilities for the Township office. Discussion on monthly or quarterly transfer of funds will be made.

Trustee Araujo asked if we had received the franchise check from Mediacom. Supervisor Lucas said he will check to see if we received it.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S:

Commissioner Barton had automatic light switches and thermostats installed at the shop. The snow plows have been removed from the trucks. His crew has started to work on gravel roads. He is still waiting to hear from the county on the drainage on E 1725th Rd. Commissioner Barton is hesitant to proceed other than to grate the shoulders on Skelgas Rd until hearing from the county since the city also is involved in this project. He will get estimates on the shoulder work from Opermann's. The bridge on E. 18th Rd (Wolf Creek) has had some cave ins at that location. The county contracted someone to get it fixed but it may not be enough. We are levied for the maximum rate of 0.165.

The commissioner's road program for the oil and chipped areas has come from the amount received for the Motor Fuel Tax. This year those amounts received will be less and a difference of about \$34,000 is needed to cover expenses for the projects. There is a freeze on the MFT increase for at least this year and possibly next year. He will check to see if a resolution will be needed to transfer money from the Road's saving account to cover the expense.

Mr. Barton will ask John Haag about getting internet for the shop.

The entrance to the three overhead doors needs to be addressed. He will get an estimate done on repairs for the laying of concrete at that location and also in front of the salt shed.

Unfortunately, Flinks Company is going out of business. We have used them many times for snow plow repairs. We may still be able to get parts before closing.

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ASSESSOR'S

Assessor Zadkovich-Blakemore reported 737 seniors have turned in paperwork for homestead exemptions. May 1, 2022 is the requested deadline for turning in requiring forms. Her office will send in all information by June 1, 2022 but they will still accept forms. Fieldwork will begin as weather permits. There will be at least one person in the office in the morning while others are doing fieldwork. The Assessor and the two Deputy Assessors attended a two day IPAI training class the first week of April. Property tax exemptions was the main topic.

TRUSTEE'S:

Trustee Araujo handed out packets for the trustees that he received at the Trustee's Educational Event. If any questions that trustees might have concerning the information, Trustee Araujo will be able to assist. Trustee Kreier was concerned why township orders are being shipped to home addresses instead of the township office. Much discussion was held with everyone participating. Covid has been the main reason for the carriers being short staffed and delivering packages at times when the township office is closed. More research is needed to see if this should continue. This subject was tabled by the trustees,

OTHER:

Clerk Johnston talked about Lobby Day, April 6, 2022 in Springfield she attended along with Trustee Araujo. A meeting was held with Representative Lance Yednock on different bills that are slated for passage. Filed Economic Statements need to be brought to the clerk so a copy can be made for her files. Discussion was held concerning the upcoming budgets. It was decided that a hearing will take place at the regular meeting on May 11, 2022 and it will be voted on at the June meeting. A public notice will be put in The Times two weeks prior with this information. The TOI conference will be held in person this year on November 13-15 in Springfield at the Crown Plaza. The LaSalle County Elected Officials Association summer picnic will be held on July 23, 2022.

REPORTS BY SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

HEALTH BOARD:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolutions will be drawn up by Clerk Johnston for the Intergovernmental Agreement -Drainage Line with the City of Streator and Bruce Township and the second resolution will be to transferring funds to cover Motor Fuel Tax. These will be voted on at the May meeting.

MOTION MADE BY: Trustee
That the meeting be adjourned.

2nd BY: Trustee

Aye's:

Nay's:

Motion: Carried

