

**Atlanta Township**  
**301 SW Arch Street, Atlanta, Illinois 61723**  
**January 10, 2023**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

The monthly meeting of the Atlanta Township Board was held January 10th, 2023 at the Atlanta Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:27 P.M. by Clerk Shellie Reed. Those present were Clerk Shellie Reed, Trustees Amy Wertheim, Georgia Green, Becky Brandt and Chuck Van Hoorn. Guests present were Karen Horn, Martha Green and Shelly Buettner. Supervisor Julie Osborn was absent.

Clerk Reed asked for a nomination for a Pro Tem Chairman in the absence of Supervisor Osborn. Trustee Van Hoorn nominated Trustee Brandt. Trustee Wertheim seconded the nomination. A roll call vote was held: Trustee Brandt – yes; Trustee Wertheim – yes; Trustee Van Hoorn – yes; Trustee Green – yes. The nomination of Trustee Brandt to be the Pro Tem Chairman was approved.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Pro Tem Chairman Brandt.

The following items were discussed:

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Karen Horn gave a presentation of the Backpack Program the Methodist Church provides to Olympia South Elementary School. The program has been offered for the past 10 years. Currently, 21 bags are prepared and delivered to the school. It is only offered during the school year and is to provide breakfast, lunch and dinner for the child over the weekend including Friday dinner. During winter and spring break, additional bags are provided. The food comes from Midwest Foodbank in Peoria but sometimes things are not available, such as mac and cheese, ravioli, fruit, etc. and it has to be purchased. Church members do donate money, however, additional funding would assist in being able to provide healthy options. Currently, about \$100 - \$150 a month is spent to supplement. The number of bags varies from year to year and may increase or decrease.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting were reviewed by each member. Trustee Wertheim made a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Van Hoorn seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting as presented.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** Nothing to report.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Clerk Reed distributed a printout of the recycling information put on the website for review.

Annual Town Meeting Agenda – if there is furniture or equipment to get rid of, it has to be on the agenda so please start thinking about items to put on the agenda.

Budget Planning – the budget should be done in the first three months of the year so bills are written on an official budget not a “proposed budget”. Start thinking about the budget and what things need to be done next fiscal year.

Economic Interest Statements – Clerk Reed distributed the 2023-2024 forms for completion. They are due at the County May 2.

**HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Highway Commissioner Green reported in November he used the mower and did some roadsides; a couple of roads were graded after the rains; equipment was made ready for snow which didn't happen; some rip rap (chunks of concrete) were put in a ditch to prevent erosion.

Barricades for cemetery – he will check one more time or move on to new provider.

**CEMETERY REPORT:** Cemetery Manager Brooks reported the following: no burials since last meeting; a total of 16 burials were done in 2022 – 11 regular and 5 ashes; two burial spaces were sold in December with a total of 33 spaces sold for 2022.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Maintenance work – Nothing has been heard on delivery of the garage door. If nothing heard by end of January, we will reach out.

Columbarium Plan of Action - Trustee Brandt reported the Advisory Board discussed it and agreed a site should be determined so when the weather is better, they will go out and see what they feel would work. Trustee Brandt offered to call Pontiac Granite again to have them come and look at the cemetery of their thoughts since they do put them in several of the surrounding cemeteries and have expertise.

Food Pantry Donation – Since there is no current line-item budget, item tabled until new budget is done. In addition, agreements will need to be written and signed.

Backpack Program Donation – Since there is no current line-item budget, item tabled until new budget is done. In addition, agreements will need to be written and signed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Line-item transfer for recycling line-item - Trustee Van Hoorn made a motion to do a line-item transfer from the Town Fund from Phone and Internet to Recycling of \$1,000.00. Trustee Green seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Trustee Brandt – yes; Trustee Green – yes; Trustee Van Hoorn – yes; Trustee Wertheim – yes; Supervisor Osborn was absent. The motion carried to do a line-item transfer for \$1,000.00 from Phone and Internet to Recycling.

Town-wide clean-up – Discussion was held on the possibility the City of Atlanta will be doing away with the Annual Town-Wide Clean-up or reducing the number of dumpsters due to the new garbage pick-up contract which offers large item pick-up for residents. Trustee Wertheim made a motion to put the Town-wide clean-up on the February agenda to discuss offering our own service if needed. Trustee Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried to approve adding the Town-wide clean-up to the February agenda for possible hosting if needed.

Electronic Recycling – discussion was held on offering an electronic recycling pick-up with the City of Atlanta. The City of Atlanta will be discussing and Mayor McVey will get back to us. Item was tabled until after City of Atlanta gets back to us.

New furnace for shed – Highway Commissioner Green got a bid for new furnaces in the shed of \$6,500 for two. Due to dimensions of shed, two are needed. Trustee Wertheim made a motion to approve buying new furnaces for the shed. Trustee Van Hoorn seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held: Trustee Brandt – yes; Trustee Green – yes; Trustee Wertheim – yes; Trustee Van Hoorn – yes; Supervisor Osborn was absent. The motion carried to approve the purchase of new furnaces for the shed at \$6,500.

**FINANCIAL REPORT & PAYING OF BILLS:** Board Members reviewed the bills to be paid. Trustee Van Hoorn made a motion to approve the financial report and paying of the bills. Trustee Green seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Trustee Brandt – yes; Trustee Green – yes; Trustee Van Hoorn – yes; Trustee Wertheim – yes; Supervisor Osborn was absent. The motion carried and bills were approved for payment.

**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** Trustee Wertheim said she had someone comment they questioned why the Christmas decorations are still up at the cemetery when they have had things removed from graves during summer before. Discussion was held explaining the Christmas decorations are not a hindrance to mowing, etc in winter. Perhaps signage should be placed with deadline for removing them.

Pro Tem Chairman Brandt adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellie Reed  
Atlanta Township Clerk