Legislative Report

By Taylor Anderson Anderson Legislative Consulting, Ltd.

May is a hectic month, as all of the different puzzle pieces finally come together in the General Assembly. Often those pieces are not put together until the very last day or even last hour. At this time, discussions are taking place to iron out the details regarding the budget, a potential constitutional amendment, legalization of cannabis, sports gambling, and two different capitol infrastructure bills (one for transportation and another for vertical structures). However, at this time it's impossible to predict what could happen before the final hour of May. Some are predicting that May 31 will come and go with the budget being the only big-ticket agenda item to be passed. Anticipating that a capitol bill and other issues will not be resolved until the fall. As for TOI's agenda we tracked and worked on many bills this spring and expect work on certain issues to continue over the summer. Below is a list of bills whose passages will likewise depend on the final days of May.

HB 348 *(Rep. David McSweeney/Sen. Terry Link)* allows township electors in McHenry County to petition for a referendum to dissolve a township. Abolishes road districts of 15 miles or less in McHenry and Lake County. Limits extensions of specified property tax levies to 90% of the original property tax levy and within the boundaries of the dissolved township. TOI Opposes

Passed Both Houses

HB 2124 *(Rep. Emanuel Chris Welch/Sen. Melinda Bush)* clarifies which that a public body may hold a closed meeting to consider specific personnel decisions like the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. As well as other related issues.

Passed the House 101-03

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HB 2243 *(Rep. Michael T. Marron/Sen. Omar Aquino)* makes change to the property tax code concerning certifications required for township and multi-township assessors and supervisors of assessments.

Passed the House 113-00

HB 2943 *(Rep. William Davis/Sen. Heather A. Steans)* provides that the costs of the Environmental Protection Agency for the administration of the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005 are to be paid from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund. This codifies long standing funding formula.

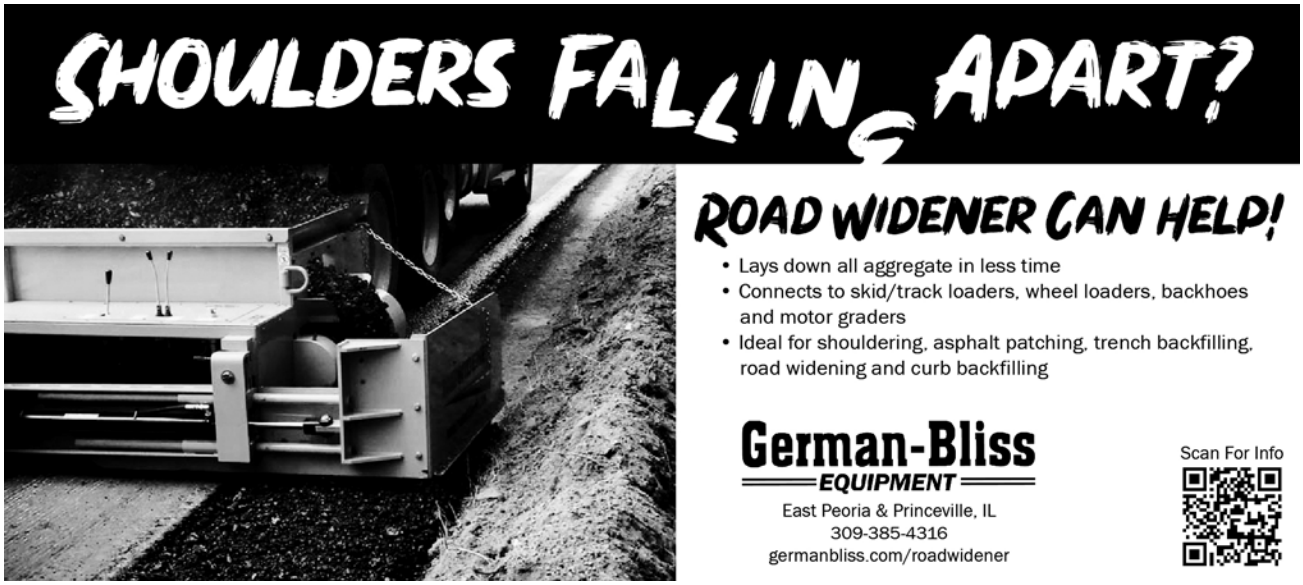
Passed the House 79-21

HB 3141 *(Rep. Brad Halbrook/Sen. Chapin Rose)* provides that if there is a vacancy in the office of township supervisor, a trustee shall be appointed as deputy supervisor to perform the ministerial functions of that office until the vacancy is filled and that once vacancy is filled, the deputy supervisor's appointment is terminated. Provides that if the township office is temporarily vacant (rather than vacant or temporarily vacant due to the physical incapacity of a township officer), the temporarily appointed deputy may perform the ministerial functions of the vacant office until the township officer submits a written statement to the appropriate board that he or she is able to resume his or her duties.

Passed Both Houses

HB 3676 *(Rep. Daniel Didech/Sen. Terry Link)* provides that a township board may adopt rules relating to regulating the township clerk's attestation when the township clerk is temporarily unavailable, for payroll processing, and for the payout of funds made by cash, credit and debit card, electronic check, and other means. Also provides that, if a referendum has been approved by voters to abolish a road district at the November 6, 2018 election and the road district has not yet been abolished, then: (1) the township board shall have the sole authority, until the date of abolition of the road district, to create and approve the budget of the road district, levy road district taxes, to enter into contracts for the road district, to employ and fix the compensation of road district employees that the township board deems necessary, and to set and adopt rules concerning all benefits available to employees of the road district; and (2) the road district or the highway commissioner may not commence or maintain litigation against the township to resolve any dispute related to the road district regarding powers of the office of the highway commissioner, the powers of the supervisor, or the powers of the township board. Provides that if a township has approved a consolidated road district with another township but that consolidation is not yet effective and if the township subsequently approves a referendum to consolidate the road district with the township, then the dual township consolidated road district is void and shall not occur. Effective immediately.

Passed the House 111-00

SB 1712 *(Sen. David Koehler/Rep. Kelly M. Burke)* Exempts from disclosure a public body's credit card numbers, debit card numbers, bank account numbers, Federal Employer Identification Number, security code numbers, passwords, and similar account information, the disclosure of which could result in identity theft or impression or defrauding of a governmental entity or a person.

Passed the Senate 48-00