

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

## CITY of BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP

Tuesday, April 12, 2016  
6:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers  
109 East Olive Street, Bloomington, IL

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order: Cherry Lawson, Town Clerk
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Introduction of Town Officers
- IV. Nominations for Moderator
- V. Election and Swearing in of Moderator
- VI. Remarks by Moderator on Conducting the Meeting
- VII. Approval of Minutes of April 14, 2015 Annual Town Meeting.  
(Recommend approval as presented.)
- VIII. Elector's Request – Resolution in Support of Normal Township's  
Activity and Recreation Center. (Recommend approval and the  
Resolution be adopted.)
- IX. Reports and Introduction of Employees  
  
Assessor: Steve Scudder  
Supervisor: Deborah Skillrud
- X. Public Comments
- XI. Setting of time for Next Annual Town Meeting. (Recommend April  
11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.)
- XII. Other Business
- XIII. Adjournment

TOWN OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by the Interim Town Clerk, Renee Gooderham. She asked that everyone rise and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Interim Town Clerk as chair announced that the nominations for Moderator would be in order.

Motion by Cindy Shoultz, seconded by Karen Schmidt, that David Stanczak be nominated as Moderator.

The chair called for further nominations from the Floor. There were no further nominations.

Motion by Cindy Shoultz, seconded by Karen Schmidt, that David Stanczak be elected Moderator by acclamation.

Motion carried.

The Chair announced that David Stanczak had been elected as Moderator.

David Stanczak came forward and was given the Oath of Office as Moderator by the Interim Town Clerk.

Mr. Stanczak opened the Town Meeting. He referred to the Annual Town Meeting Agenda. The meeting would be conducted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. The Annual Town Meeting Agenda was approved by the Township Board at their March 23, 2015 meeting. The meeting notice had been published. The Annual Town Meeting was a meeting of the electors, (i.e. registered voters).

He acknowledged Trustees present: Karen Schmidt, Diana Hauman and Joni Painter. He noted that the United States form of government was a republic, where officials were elected to make decisions on behalf of the citizens. The exception to same was tonight's Annual Town Meeting. It was a democracy; decisions were made by registered voters.

Interim Town Clerk Gooderham presented the 2014 Annual Town Minutes.

Motion by Stephanie Uzueta, seconded by Cindy Shoultz, that the minutes be approved as presented.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Steven Scudder, Township Assessor, addressed those present. He introduced the Assessor's staff present; Terri Joyce, Deputy/GIS Specialist, Tim Jorczak, Deputy

Assessor/Commercial Appraiser, Cindy Shoultz Deputy Assessor/Document Processing and Maureen Sterrenberg, Deputy Assessor/Residential Appraiser. Dee Brines, CIAO Systems Management, was not present at the meeting.

He noted the state had 102 counties, eighty-five (85) operated under a Township form of government. Townships are typically thirty – six (36) square miles. There were 1,431 Townships; thirty – one (31) were located in McLean County. There were nineteen (19) coterminous townships.

Mr. Scudder noted the following property tax users: county government, city government, township, airport authority, library, school districts and Heartland Community College. The Assessor's Office has responsibility for listing, discovering, and valuing all property in the township. Assessments were prepared to defend each value estimate before both the local and/or state appeal board.

Last year, adjustments were made to the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) for neighborhoods. He noted the County Board of Review made EAV adjustments. There were 278 appeals, equaling a \$5,645,598 million change. The total assessed value for the City was \$1,938,313,171. This included 24,000 residential and 2,300 commercial parcels. Lis pendens and foreclosures have decreased. He cited the top ten (10) commercial taxpayers.

Deborah Skillrud, Township Supervisor, addressed those present. She introduced the Supervisor's staff present: Cathy Hadden, Comptroller, Patti Fitzgerald, General Assistance (GA) Caseworker, and Stephanie Uzueta, GA and John M. Scott Caseworker. She noted part-time staff who were not present: Tracey Covert, Administrative Assistant and Amy Howe, Intake Receptionist. Also not present were Angela Coombs, Intake Coordinator, Tammie Turner, GA Caseworker and Tom Maruna, Workfare Coordinator - GA staff members. She acknowledged Amelia Buragas, Evergreen Memorial Cemetery (EMC) Board Member.

The Town of the City of Bloomington shared the same boundary as the City of Bloomington and was considered an urban coterminous township. A mandatory function of township government was GA. Qualified residents received a flat grant. As a coterminous township there was no responsibility for road and bridge maintenance. The township was also responsible for EMC. Ms. Skillrud also addressed the Board's responsibilities.

General Township expenses had decreased, the exception was EMC. The Tax Levy had increased to build reserves for building repairs. The building was thirteen (13) years old. To date no major improvements have been made. She believed the increase would equal approximately \$1.49 per year for a home valued at \$165,000.

The average cost per GA client was \$269 including medical co-pays and transportation costs. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) had reduced medical and hospital expenses. There was a thirteen percent (13%) increase to the number of GA clients. Ms. Skillrud believed this was due to the availability of Emergency Assistance. Clients were eligible for same every two (2) years. Ms. Skillrud highlighted GA services.

In August 2014, an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) was established for the Community Work Program with Normal Township for management of their GA recipients. Skills for Success was a partnership with Heartland Community College. Participants attend an eight to ten (8 – 10) week class preparing them for employment. Ms. Skillrud cited local businesses who hired GA recipients and organizations providing assistance to GA clients, seniors and youth.

EMC's Board of Trustees were Gene Lorch, President, Pamala Eaton, Vice President, and Amelia Buragas, Secretary/Treasurer. Tina Crow has served as the Manager for fifteen (15) years. EMC was a component unit, (i.e. under the umbrella of the Township). Upcoming events were: the annual Memorial Day Event - Parade of Flags with Trolley Tours and the EMC Discovery Walk. Future goals included: paving the mausoleum chapel parking lot; increasing the number of plaques commemorating EMC history; recognition of African-American Veterans; and reclaiming sixty (60) years of unused plots.

John M. Scott Health Resource Center (JMSHRC) provided health care services for qualified indigent citizens. Services offered were: prescription medication program, medical office visits, dental health services, medical equipment and supplies, mental health medication, transportation (maternal/child/cancer patient), McLean County Eye Referral Network and Gary S. Johnson Dental Clinic. Ms. Skillrud noted that services were not duplicated. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, JMSHRC provided 805 Cancer Center trips, 11,201 eye care referrals, 6,882 eye care appointments established, 6,273 participants received glasses, and 160 clients received dental procedures. The average cost for prescriptions was \$368.

FY 2016 goals noted were: enhanced modular educational courses; IGA with Normal Township for senior services; assessment of the Township building; and maintenance/re-evaluation of the state of the ACA and any changes.

Jack Porter, 1504 W. Locust, questioned media attention on homeless and mental health issues. Ms. Skillrud stated that there were state mandated guidelines. There were program restrictions for Class X felonies. Homeless individuals were able to receive services as long as the required paperwork was provided. If an individual resided in a shelter, funding would go to the shelter. She believed there was a trend for employers to underwork employees due to the ACA.

Mr. Stanczak noted that the next Annual Town meeting would be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Cindy Shoultz, seconded by Jack Porter to hold the next Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by David Skillrud, seconded by Karen Schmidt to adjourn. Time: 6:43 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Respectfully,

Renee Gooderham  
Interim Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - \_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NORMAL TOWNSHIP'S ACTIVITY AND RECREATION CENTER**

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Illinois Compiled Statute's Township Code the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. prevailing time;

WHEREAS, electors have certain powers at said meeting;

WHEREAS, the Township Clerk received a request for an Agenda item on February 29, 2016 signed by twenty-four (24) registered voters of the Town of the City of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, the Agenda published by the Township included such request as it was relevant to the powers granted to electors under the Township Code.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. The request addressed an Intergovernmental Agreement and financial support of Normal Township's Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) by the Town of the City of Bloomington. It noted Bloomington's senior community's interest in enhanced services and programs which were included in the ARC's design.
- B. Requested approval would help to ensure membership cost equality for the residents of the Bloomington/Normal communities.
- C. That the Town of the City of Bloomington explore, consider, discuss and adopt an Intergovernmental Agreement for financial and advisory support of the ARC.
- D. That the Town of the City of Bloomington consider, discuss and provide financial support to the ARC through grant funding.
- E. It is understood by the electors that Items C and D may require a future vote by the Township Board.

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Stanczak, Moderator

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cherry Lawson, Township Clerk