

Wauconda Township Road Decennial Committee Meeting

September 20, 2023

Call to Order/ Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m . For roll call, answering present Supervisor Knight, Clerk Rose, Trustee McKernan, Trustee Santi, Trustee Whitehead, Trustee Lochmayer, Highway Commissioner Weisbruch, Business Manager Lupe Magallanes, Committee Member Karen Stiller and Committee Member Mike Rodgers.

Approve Meeting Minutes: Trustee McKernan motioned, and Trustee Santi seconded. Roll Call was taken. All were in favor. Motion passed

Report: Responsibilities of the Wauconda Township Road District

The Wauconda Road District is responsible for maintaining 31.410miles of road in unincorporated Wauconda Township. Within these unincorporated areas the Highway department is responsible for the Right of Way. The Right of Way includes the road, ditches, driveway aprons, and some drainage easements. Right of Way widths vary and are measured from the center of the road outward to the property line.

Services include snowplowing and de-icing, pavement maintenance including patching, crack filling, shouldering, striping, tree removal and trimming, grass mowing, sign maintenance the highway department, litter pickup, dead animal removal, maintaining drainage ditches, streetlight and mailbox repair, and road bond and right of way permit issuance.

Our plowing crews include 4 full time highway employees and the highway commissioner. Our department runs a fleet of 4 large plow trucks and one smaller one ton all with liquid applying capabilities.

Because of limited budget dollars and to efficiently expend tax dollars, the highway department has intergovernmental agreements with Lake County, local municipalities, and other local townships for purchasing power, equipment sharing, shared equipment purchases, and road maintenance swap to be closer to network of roads and emergency aid.

What have we done well?

- **Administrative** - Sought and received outside funding for projects that our department could not fund internally, adopt employee policy manual, establish overweight/oversize ordinance, establish a sign maintenance program, invested in locating equipment and laser transit for storm drainage, purchased multiple pieces of equipment with other townships to share costs, updated all plow trucks to computer controllers to reduce salt usage, converted building and all streetlights to LED to save costs.
- **Road maintenance** - Purchased several skid steer attachments to do in house milling and patching, entered into agreements with LCDOT for bulk salt purchasing and roadway striping.

We've also started a chipping program on the second Monday of every month May-October, and we also have free woodchips at the highway garage for residents.

- **Snow removal** - Consolidated snow routes to be more efficient and reduce salt usage. Upgraded the plow blades for better scraping, and outfitted computers/liquid on all trucks as well as rear monitoring cameras for safety.
- **Maintenance** - In house ASE certified mechanic/fabricator to allow our department to maintain vehicles and equipment for a longer useful life.
- **Staffing** - Sign up for available training to further develop our skill set, allowing our department to do more tasks in-house that would otherwise need to be contracted out.

What inefficiencies did we identify?

Our department would like to get a GIS software program to track work to be done and map out all our signs, and storm sewers. We currently have a program through ESRI, but all data needs to be added as we go.

What can we do better?

Our department is always seeking resident input for services they would like to see, and how we could implement those services.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: At 6:53 pm the meeting was adjourned. Trustee Lochmayer motioned, Trustee Whitehead seconded.

Submitted this 18th day of October 2023.



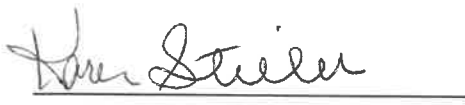
Supervisor Knight



Trustee McKernan




Trustee Santi



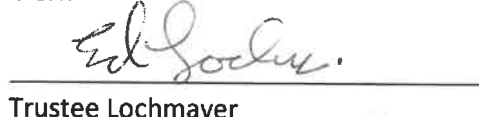
Karen Stiller



Business Manager Lupe Magallanes
WT Decennial Road 9-20-2023



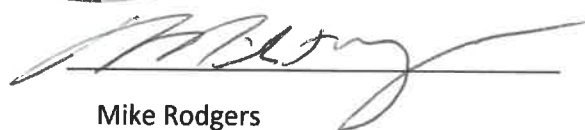
Clerk Rose



Trustee Lochmayer



Trustee Whitehead



Mike Rodgers



Highway Commissioner Weisbruch