

**WAUCONDA TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2020**

Call to Order: Supervisor Swanson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Clerk Rowe proceeded with roll call. Answering present was: Trustee McKernan, Trustee Ringel, Trustee Santi, Trustee Whitehead, and Supervisor Swanson. Also answering present was Assessor Oaks, Highway Commissioner Weisbruch, Attorney Ridgway, and Administrator Maioriello.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge was led by Trustee Whitehead.

Approve the Agenda: Trustee McKernan motioned, and Trustee Whitehead seconded to approve the agenda. A voice roll call was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes; July 15, 2020 Regular Board Meeting: Trustee Ringel motioned, and Supervisor Swanson seconded to approve the minutes. A voice roll call was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Payment of General Town Fund bills from July 16, 2020 to August 19, 2020: Trustee Santi motioned, and Trustee Ringel seconded to approve the general town fund bills. A voice roll was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Payment of Road District Fund bills from July 16, 2020 to August 19, 2020: Supervisor Swanson motioned, and Trustee Santi seconded to approve the road district bills. A voice roll call was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Supervisor Swanson read the following Treasurer's Report:

General Town Fund	\$ 68,180.76
General Assistance	6,446.50
Social Security/IMRF Fund	8,363.36
Senior Services Fund	6,671.01
Road & Bridge Fund	5,062.03
Permanent Road Fund	<u>175,144.15</u>
Total:	\$269,867.81

Wauconda Historical Society: Dan Smith, President, stated that they are working on inventory and scanning.

Public Participation: None

Clarke Mosquito Report: George Balis, Clarke Mosquito, reported that the program is set up to control mosquitos on an ongoing basis. There are 3 complete inspections of 157 sites in Wauconda Township. They are looking for the Culex mosquitos which carry the West Nile virus. There have been 29 reported cases in Lake County. The Culex mosquitos are nighttime fliers. He stated that people can call their hotline to report standing water at 800-942-2555 or visit their portal at www.Clarkeportal.com. There is no charge for the company to come out and do an inspection to check for breeding. He highly suggests that everyone should always wear

repellant while outside. He also recommended getting rid of any standing water.

New Business: NPEDS report. Tabled

Discussion/Vote Rescind Resolution # 06-16-10-01 Travel Expenses: Trustee McKernan would like to rescind this resolution and have the Supervisor turn in his mileage for reimbursement in place of receiving an automatic \$250.00 per month.

Attorney Ridgway stated that the law is clear that you can not increase or decrease an elected official's compensation. The question is if this resolution took place when the Supervisor took office. If this is to be changed, it should be done on the compensation package for the next term. Trustee McKernan asked if this were implemented in the middle of a term, why it could not be rescinded in the middle of a term. Attorney Ridgway stated this should not have been done in the middle of a term or paid until the following term started, as it appears to be compensation. Trustee Santi asked that since there was an Ordinance in 2016 stating that everyone should have to turn in their mileage, should the resolution have ended in 2016. She is not clear about the dates in question and would like to get more information before voting on this. Attorney Ridgway will check into this matter.

Supervisor Swanson stated that this stipend has been done since 1989. The 2016 Ordinance set limits on spending for travel and gas.

Trustee McKernan stated this will be tabled until next month.

Trustee Whitehead feels the discussion for the compensation package for the next term, should be put on the agenda in September to give enough time to review it.

Discussion/Vote to prohibit taking donations on the senior bus program: Supervisor Swanson stated that before the Board considers stopping accepting donations, he would like to put together a committee that would ask the riders and stake holders their feelings on this issue. He does not see accepting donations as a problem. He feels that the seniors like to donate money because they feel it will keep the service going, even though it does not. He has mixed feelings and suggested it would be more advantageous to just sit down with the people and ask them for their opinions on accepting donations before making any changes.

Trustee McKernan said he feels there is no need for a committee and that it is unnecessary. He stated that the riders pay taxes and he does not want the riders to feel intimidated into giving a donation. The Township has 1.7 million dollars in reserves and should not accept donations from seniors for a free service. He is not comfortable with it and wants it stopped.

Trustee Santi agreed with Trustee McKernan and stated that the policy manual states that no gratuities should be received for services. She was also worried about having the drivers dealing with the cash.

Trustee Ringel stated that she thinks it would be a blessing for the seniors not to feel obligated to give a donation. She would like the seniors to know that the Township has the monies for the free service and donations are not needed to keep it going. She feels that just because it has been going since 1986, does not mean it should continue.

Trustee Whitehead stated he feels that this is an organizational decision for the people that they

serve because it is a point of service. He also is uncomfortable with accepting donations for a free service. Even though there are no expectations of a donation, it does not need to be. Before it becomes a problem; he would like to just do away with it as it is the right thing to do.

Attorney Ridgway stated that this is the only free bus service in the county. He feels that the people would be upset if they could not donate.

Vote: Trustee McKernan motioned to prohibit taking any donations on the senior busses. Trustee Santi seconded the motion. Supervisor Swanson stated that he wanted to bring more information to the table before voting to eliminating the donations. Having no more discussion, a voice roll call was taken. All were in favor. This motion carried.

Old Business: Grant Requests: Supervisor Swanson motioned to accept the grant requests as presented. Trustee Ringel seconded. Two of the organizations which are no longer in business are Little City and PADS. Trustee Whitehead stated the money should stay in the grant requests as these organizations may open back up after the pandemic. A voice roll call was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Public Participation: Maria Weisbruch thanked the Board for voting to stop taking donations from the seniors and would hope that a sign is put up on the busses reinforce it.

John Miceli asked about the monies that were set aside for the fireworks. Supervisor Swanson stated that Wauconda firework monies will stay in the budget. Island Lake had their fireworks, so, they will receive the donation.

Township Reports: Highway Commissioner Weisbruch announced that the department helped Antioch Township clean up after the tornado.

Assessor Oaks stated that the 2020 blue assessment notices were sent out on August 14th. Deadline to file an appeal is September 14th. Office hours are extended to include Saturdays until September 12th. from 9am to Noon.

Trustee McKernan stated to please support local business. Congratulations to FBLA.

Adjournment: At 7:07 p.m. Supervisor Swanson motioned to adjourn. Trustee McKernan seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted this 16th day of September 2020.

Supervisor Swanson

Clerk Rowe

Trustee McKernan

Trustee Ringel

Trustee Santi

Trustee Whitehead