

Wauconda Township Decennial Committee Meeting

May 17, 2023

Call to Order/ Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. For roll call, answering present Lincoln Knight, Danielle Rose, Kevin McKernan, Mary Beth Santi, Jim Whitehead, Ed Lochmayer, Scott Weisbruch, Lupe Magallanes, Karen Stiller and Mike Rodgers.

Supervisors Decennial Report: Historical Background

Township government, established in Providence, Rhode Island in 1636, is the oldest existing unit of Government continuing to serve on the North American continent. Township government was in existence for 140 years prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The wording of the Declaration of Independence reflects the fact that 38 of its 56 signers had experienced the benefits of township government.

The Declaration's statement that "government should derive its just powers from the consent of the governed" is demonstrated at the Annual Town Meeting held on the second Tuesday of each April. The Annual Town Meeting is still an important function of our nation's 17,000 townships after more than 360 years. The Illinois Constitution of 1848 gave voters in each county the opportunity to adopt Township Government. By 1850, the first township governments began operation. Today, 85 of Illinois 102 counties operate under the township form of government and 1428 townships serve more than 8 million citizens.

Governing Statute and Powers- Dillon's Rule

Townships are regulated by provisions of Article VII, Sec. 8 of the 1970 Illinois Constitution, which states in part, these governments "shall have only powers granted by law". In the late 1800s, John F. Dillon, A Supreme Court Justice in Iowa, developed this legal principle, known as Dillon's Rule. In plain language it means that if no statute permits a township or road district (or official) to perform a function or service, the government or official may not carry out that function regardless of how much it is needed or wanted. If the statutes are silent (do not mention) regarding a particular power or function, it does not exist. If the power doesn't exist, the government (or official) may not perform the service.

Functions of Illinois Townships

By law Illinois townships are charged with three basic functions:

1. General Assistance for the indigent. Townships provide food, shelter, and emergency relief for those in need. Many townships operate food banks that guarantee the necessities of life for their residents.
2. The assessment of real property for the basis of local taxation. The township assessor is the only elected governmental official who must pass an approved course of instruction before standing for election to the office.
3. Maintenance of all roads and bridges outside federal, state and other local jurisdiction. Townships in Illinois maintain over 71,000 miles of roads in Illinois- a full 53 percent of all thoroughfares in the state.

Information about our Township

Wauconda Township is in southwest Lake County and includes the Village of Wauconda and portions of Volo, Lakemoor, Island Lake, Lake Barrington and Port Barrington.

Wauconda Township and its communities offer cultural and economic diversity, a great mix of housing, quality schools, excellent community facilities and a strong quality of life blending the appeal of suburban living and is situated alongside several Forest Preserves.

The 2020 population census has a total population of 23,628.

- Education – 39.6% of our residents have a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Housing Units – 9,310
- Families and Living Arrangements- 8,631

Committee Members Township

- Supervisor Lincoln Knight
- Township Trustee Kevin McKernan
- Township Trustee Mary Beth Santi
- Township Trustee Jim Whitehead
- Township Trustee Ed Lochmayer
- Township Business Manager Lupe Magallanes
- Township Clerk Danielle Rose
- Township Highway Commissioner Scott Weisbruch
- Township Resident Karen Stiller
- Township Resident Mike Rodgers

Wauconda Township has 10 full time employees and 2 part time employees (not including elected officials)

- Supervisor Department: 2 full-time
- Senior Services: 2 full-time and 1 part-time
- Assessor Department: 2 full-time and 1 part-time
- Highway Department: 4 full-time

Services we offer to our residents:

- Emergency assistance, General assistance
- Liheap
- Salvation Army
- Diaper Program
- Nicor Sharing
- Safelink Phone
- North Shore Gas Sharing
- Snap and Medicaid applications
- Benefit Access
- License Plate Renewal
- Medical Lending Closet
- Senior Transportation
- Temporary Disabled Parking Placard
- Coast to Coast Drug Card
- RTA applications

- Vehicle Stickers
- Water Testing Kits
- Textile Recycling
- Notary Services
- Referrals and much more.....

We offer many programs throughout the year:

- Recycling
- Shredding
- DMV events
- Pumpkin Smash & Compost
- Senior Outings
- Back to School
- Holiday Program
- Bingo and many more activities.

Our Ship Counselor helps residents sign up for Medicare and check their drug plan each year is extremely popular. We partner with Catholic Charities to bring many programs for our senior population.

The community room is used by non-profit groups. We also have early and election day voting.

Assessor's Office

Wauconda Township is comprised of approximately 15,360 acres of land split into approximately 11,700 parcels with an EAV (equalized assessed value) of approximately \$845 million which equates to a total market value of \$2.5 billion. These numbers are based on sales ratio studies performed at different levels by the County and State with the Assessor's role breaking down that value in an equitable manner among these parcels.

Primary responsibilities include:

To Discover, List & Assess parcels & improvements for valuation purposes.

What Have We Done Well?

We communicate with our residents to assure they are aware of programs offered at the township by sending a biweekly email newsletter that reaches over 1500 residents, posting on our Facebook page, as well as other neighborhood Facebook pages, and mail a semi-annual newsletter. We have recently updated our website.

Our clients are looked at holistically to ensure they qualify for General Assistance and /or Emergency Assistance and are also signed up for all services they qualify for and also receive referrals if pertinent. We partner effectively with other agencies to help our residents in need.

We value our local law enforcement and school social workers and work together to solve issues facing our residents.

We have close working relationships with other government entities including Villages, Schools, Police, Townships, County and Park District. As well as other service agencies including the Wauconda Island Lake Food Pantry.

We offer recycling of clothing, textiles, hearing aids, eyeglasses, and American flags for the convenience for our residents and to divert items from going into the landfill.

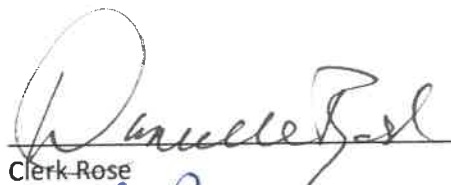
We are always open to new ideas and programs that benefit our residents.

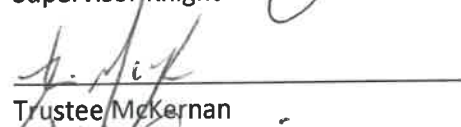
Public Comment: None

Adjourn: At 6:53 pm the meeting was adjourned.

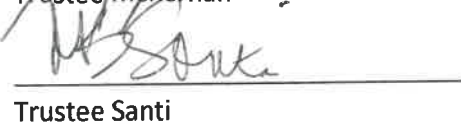
Submitted this 20th day of September 2023.

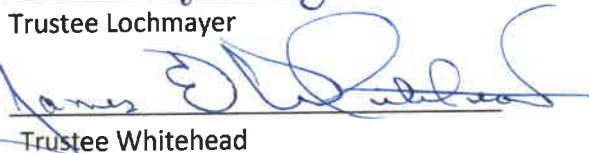

Supervisor Knight


Clerk Rose

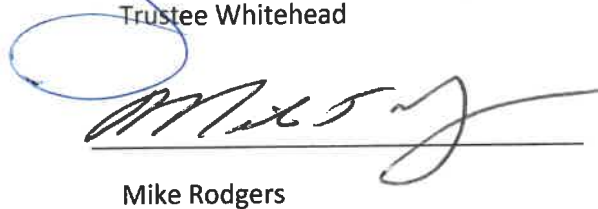

Trustee McKernan

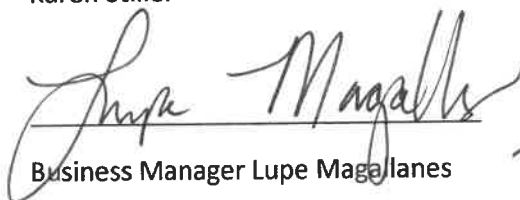

Trustee Lochmayer

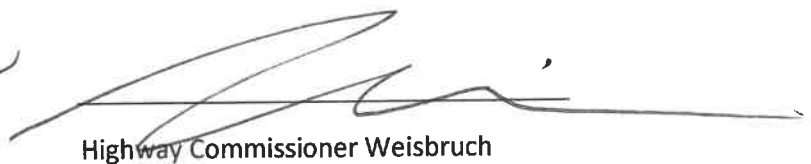

Trustee Santi


Trustee Whitehead


Karen Stiller


Mike Rodgers


Business Manager Lupe Magallanes


Highway Commissioner Weisbruch