

**Official Proceedings of the Washington Township Board of Trustees**

**May 3, 2010**

**Washington Township Center  
30200 Town Center Road, Beecher, IL**

Meeting called to order at **7:00 p.m.** to pay bills for the month of April and transact any other business that may come before the Board of Trustees. Meeting agenda and guest sign-in sheet are attached.

Supervisor Howard led the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence for the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces and for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

**Roll call:**

Present: Supervisor Robert Howard; Trustees: Elmer Becker, Dan Waterman, Teresa Peterson

Absent: Ted Deery (Deery arrived at 7:25 pm)

**Other Officials present:**

Clerk Joe Burgess and Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer

**Approval of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Dated March 23, 2010:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the March 23, 2010 board meeting minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:**

Trustee Becker made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2010 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Trustee Waterman seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Becker – yes, Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes.

**Motion passed 4-0.**

**Approval of the Executive Session Minutes Dated March 23, 2010:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the March 23, 2010 Executive Session meeting minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes from the March 23, 2010 meeting as presented. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes.

**Motion passed 4-0.**

**Approval of the Special Board Meeting Minutes Dated April 13, 2010:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the April 13, 2010 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

### **Motion:**

Trustee Becker made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2010 Special Board Meeting as presented. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Waterman – yes, Howard – yes.

**Motion passed 4-0.**

### **Public Commentary:**

Township resident George Willy told the Board that the state just “took” 400 acres of land for the airport using eminent domain and the airport is coming. He also said that the state of Indiana is moving ahead with the Illiana Expressway that will serve the airport at some point. He asked the Board to hold a special meeting to talk about the airport and requested that Senator Toi Hutchinson, Representative Lisa Dugan and Representative Anthony DeLuca all be invited. He was “mad” that no one is doing anything to stop the airport and people need to “do something.” He alleged that he is being harassed because of his stance against the airport and people will not talk to him about his views. He concluded by saying the pollution resulting from a local airport is toxic and the village would suffer from it. Supervisor Howard told Mr. Willy that he would be in Springfield on business this week and he would attempt to speak to our local representatives regarding his meeting request.

### **Reports**

1. Road Commissioner – Commissioner Meyer reviewed his written report (attached). His crew is out everyday with the new patch machine and have ran over 3000 gallons of oil through the machine as part of the patching process. An oil-heating tank was built for the patch machine and the road district saved over \$4000 by building a tank versus buying one from a vendor. Bids were opened at 6:30 pm on May 3<sup>rd</sup> for road oil to be used by the “Eastern Township Road Commissioners” for road repairs. Emulsicoat was the only bidder and will be awarded the contract for 50,000 gallons of oil. They quoted \$2.10 per gallon for HFE-150 oil.
2. Assessor –No report, Assessor Blume was not in attendance.
3. Town Clerk – The 2010 “Spring” newsletter is printed and will be mailed this week. The tentative Road District and Township budgets have been finalized and will be on display at the Beecher Public Library and the Washington Township offices on and after May 5<sup>th</sup>. The public hearings for both budgets will take place on June 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm.
4. Washington Township Planning Commission (WTPC) – No report.
5. Supervisor’s Report – Supervisor Howard attended a “sustainability” meeting two weeks ago to discuss funding mechanisms for transportation services when the township’s RTA transportation grants run out in 2012. He said the township could not wait until the grants are depleted to have additional funding options in place. General Assistance cases have slowed down however he anticipated that there would be an increase once all the property tax bills were mailed out.

6. Transportation Report – Volunteers took a disabled resident and her family out to a local restaurant for a family dinner this weekend. It was the first time in 16 months that the family had gone out for dinner.
7. Foundation for a Green Community – Supervisor Howard said the National Healthcare Bill has provisions to offer grants to entities that are trying to promote a healthy life style by offering to build things such as walking and biking trails. He said the township should pursue these grants and resident Tom Brislane volunteered to assist in writing grants for this purpose. Township, village and Will County Forest officials are still attempting to meet to discuss the extension of the Vincennes Trail through the township.
8. Community Building Report – The managers are working on their current budget and have allocated \$12,000 for capital improvement projects. They are also seeking state and/or federal grants, which could be used to upgrade the building entrance to current ADA standards.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Washington Township Employee Handbook – Trustee Waterman said he has received no additional comments or recommendations for the new handbook and recommended that it now be sent to our attorney to be reviewed. The board agreed and Clerk Burgess will forward the handbook to Attorney Jeff Jurgens at the law firm of Ancel, Glink, Diamond & Bush.
2. FY 2010-2011 Budget – As stated during the Clerk’s report, the tentative budget is complete and the public hearing will be held at 6:30 pm on June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Washington Township Center.
3. Consideration and Approval of Resolution #10-02, “A Resolution By Washington Township to Offer a Property Tax Reimbursement to Dutch American Foods Inc. in the Trim Creek Business Park” - The board reviewed the resolution and it was noted that the resolution did not include the Road District contributing to the reimbursement request. Highway Commissioner Meyer indicated that he wanted the Road District to be included in the reimbursement and requested a separate resolution be prepared approving the Road Districts participation. The total reimbursement amount of \$2600 per year for ten years, to Dutch American would not change but the Road District would contribute a portion of the total. Clerk Burgess will prepare a resolution for the Road District for the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Trustee Becker noted that the resolution had an error that needed to be corrected. The resolution showed a reimbursement amount of \$2600, however the total indicated on the resolution was written as “Two thousand twenty-six dollars” instead of “Two thousand six-hundred dollars”. Clerk Burgess corrected the written amount on the resolution to “Two thousand six-hundred dollars”. No other changes were recommended to the resolution as presented.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve Resolution #10-02, "A Resolution By Washington Township to Offer a Property Tax Reimbursement to Dutch American Foods Inc. in the Trim Creek Business Park" with the correction that the written amount listed on the resolution be corrected to read to "Two thousand six-hundred dollars". Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes, Becker – yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

**Trustee Deery arrived at 7:25 PM.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consideration and Approval of Planning Commission Recommendations – There were no Planning Commission recommendations to be acted upon.
2. Consideration to Open the Closed Executive Session Minutes Dated March 23, 2010 – Supervisor Howard recommended that the Executive Session minutes from March 23, 2010 remained closed to the public.

**MOTION:**

Supervisor Howard made a motion that the Executive Session minutes dated March 23, 2010 remain closed to the public. Trustee Waterman seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Howard – yes, Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Becker – yes, Deery – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

3. Appointment of Open Meeting Act (OMA) Designees – As of January 1, 2010, changes to the Open Meetings Act (OMA) require that public bodies designate members, officers or employees as OMA Designees. The designees must be reported to the Public Access Counselor and they must also complete online training from the Illinois Attorney General's Office. Supervisor Howard recommended that he and Clerk Burgess be appointed as the OMA Designees for the township. There were no objections to the supervisor's request.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to appoint Supervisor Robert Howard and Clerk Joseph Burgess as the OMA Designees for the Washington Township Board. Trustee Deery seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Deery – yes, Howard – yes, Peterson – yes, Becker – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

4. Appointment of Feed Our Own Program Coordinator – The Township's recently passed "Feed Our Own" program requires that the Supervisor appoint a Program Coordinator to oversee the program. Supervisor Howard told the board that he has appointed Laurie Summers as the Program Coordinator and she "graciously accepted" the position. Laurie told the board that she has received a \$200 donation from Will County Board member John Anderson, who is running for Will County Circuit Court judge and a \$100 donation from Pete Piazza who is running for Will County Sheriff. Trustee Dan Waterman then presented Ms. Summers with a personal donation of \$200. The money will be used for start up costs such as the delivery containers that are used to transport the meals.

5. Consideration and Approval of Resolution # 10-03, "A Resolution Adopting the Pace Drug and Alcohol Policy and Testing Program Revised August 31, 2009" – Clerk Burgess explained this resolution was required by Pace after the township adopted Pace's updated drug and alcohol testing program.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve Resolution # 10-03, "A Resolution Adopting the Pace Drug and Alcohol Policy and Testing Program Revised August 31, 2009" as presented. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Deery – yes, Howard – yes, Becker – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

6. Consideration and Approval of Resolution # 10-04, "A Resolution For Participation in State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program" – Road Commissioner Meyer has requested that the township reapply to participate in the State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program. The program allows governmental entities to purchase surplus property such as construction equipment, vehicles, commodities and other equipment at approximately 5% to 25% of the acquisition value. The township applied to this program in 2004 but a new application and resolution has been requested by the state. The board recommended that the township also be listed on the application along with the road district.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Becker made a motion to approve Resolution # 10-04, "A Resolution For Participation in State of Illinois Federal Surplus Property Program" as presented. Trustee Deery seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Becker – yes, Deery – yes, Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Payment of Bills:**

**Town Account**

The Board reviewed the bills as presented by Supervisor Howard and Clerk Burgess. It was noted that an \$1100 bill from HomePages for advertising the Dial-a-ride service was paid this month because the RTA grant would not cover the expense. However, the RTA has determined that all grant money awarded to the township would roll over to the next year if it has not been consumed in the year that it was awarded for.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve payment of all applicable payroll, bills, debits and appropriate transfers as presented for the Town Account totaling **\$22,636.48**. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Road & Bridge**

The board reviewed the bills as presented by Commissioner Meyer.

**MOTION:** Trustee Deery made a motion to approve payment of all applicable payroll, bills, and appropriate transfers or debits for the Road & Bridge Account totaling **\$45,276.76**. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Waterman – yes, Howard – yes, Becker - ABSTAIN.  
**Motion passed 4-0.**

**Announcements:**

Deputy Clerk Jo Ann Mueller told the board that Laurie Summers has written an article about the Washington Township’s Senior Prom(s) and it will be featured in next month’s Township Officials of Illinois *Perspective* magazine.

Trustee Deery noted that there is a Will County Land Use meeting at the Washington Township Center on May 19<sup>th</sup> and urged the Board and the members of the planning committee to attend.

The Beecher High School art class has prepared several items for the upcoming Senior Prom. It was suggested that the township consider making a donation to the Art Department for their willingness to contribute their talents to the event.

Clerk Burgess told the board that a Manteno man does a portrayal of Mark Twain and he suggested that the township consider holding a community wide event featuring him as Mark Twain. Burgess said “An Evening with Mark Twain” could be an opportunity for the township to offer a program that brings local residents of all ages together.

**Upcoming Seminars and Meetings:**

1. June 7, 2010 – Town Account Budget Hearing – 6:30 pm at the Washington Township Center
2. June 7, 2010 – Road District Budget Hearing – 6:45 pm at the Washington Township Center.
3. June 7, 2010 – Washington Township Board Meeting - 7:00 pm at the Washington Township Center.

**Adjournment:**

Being no other business or discussion, Trustee Becker made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Deery, and after being unanimously approved by voice vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TRUE & CORRECT COPY  
Joseph Burgess – Town Clerk

Approved by Board of Trustees    Date: 6/7/2010