

Official Proceedings of the Washington Township Board of Trustees

June 7, 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 May 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

Absent: Ted Deery, Teresa Peterson (Peterson arrived at 7:05 pm)

Other Officials present:

Clerk Joe Burgess and Assessor Carol Ann Blume

Approval of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Dated May 3, 2010:

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the May 3, 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 May 3, 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, Howard – yes.

Motion passed 3-0.

Public Commentary:

Township resident George Willy showed the board the new proposed route of the Illiana Expressway and said Indiana and Illinois have committed to finishing this project. He said the state continues to use eminent domain to take land for the airport and criticized the state for taking land for an airport that it cannot afford and does not need. He also warned that pollution caused by aircraft engines is deadly and nobody talks about the dangers.

Township resident John Dell Aquila, who lives on Merrimack Lane in Beecher, addressed the board. Mr. Aquila said he was a newer resident to Washington Township and spoke about the consequences of an airport being built in this area including pollution, excess noise and a decrease in property values. He questioned the constant changes in the runway configurations and said any configuration will affect the local residents. He also spoke against the use of eminent domain and said homeowners could receive even less for their homes if the state used eminent domain now because of the decline of property values over the past few years. Mr. Aquila suggested that a “class action lawsuit” be filed to stop the airport and suggested that the local taxing bodies should file the lawsuit. Supervisor Howard asked if Mr. Aquila would put his

concerns in writing so he could forward them to our local state representatives. Mr. Aquila said he would compose a letter and send it to the Clerk's office.

Reports

1. *Road Commissioner* – Commissioner Meyer was not in attendance but prepared the attached written report that was read by Clerk Burgess.
2. *Assessor* – Assessor Blume reported that IL HB-2332, which changes the dates that Assessors enter office, was defeated but could come back for a vote in November. Blume said if this bill ever passes it would put a burden on all assessors and township boards. She said virtually all assessors' groups and organizations oppose the bill and have been lobbying against its passage. She encouraged everyone to contact their local state representatives and urge them to vote against this bill if it is reintroduced on the house floor in November.
3. *Town Clerk* – No report
4. *Washington Township Planning Commission (WTPC)* – No report.
5. *Supervisor's Report* – Supervisor Howard said that “sustainability” is a key word whenever he goes to a conference or seminar. Most governmental entities are looking for creative and additional sources of revenue to keep all their existing programs in place. A group of seniors has approached the township about setting up some local bus trips to area activities and events. The cost to the township would only include bus fuel, as volunteer drivers are available. A Circuit Breaker Assistance program will be held at the Washington Township Center on June 11. An ITASC meeting is also scheduled at the township center on June 18. General Assistance cases have slowed down but the Food Pantry remains busy. The pantry is in need of personal hygiene products, paper items and pet foods at this time.
6. *Transportation Report* – Pat Peters reported that there were 283 rides last month and bus fare collected totaled \$644. The bus service has been steadily growing and there have been more requests from the local nursing home for bus service. The air conditioning in the township's GMC van needs to be repaired and she has received an estimate from Becker's Service in the amount of \$590. Pace is offering brand new full size vans with wheel chair lifts for \$100 per month and she would like to submit an application to receive one. There is a \$1000 deposit due with the application however, all maintenance on the van will be paid for by Pace. Pat said this was an excellent opportunity to have a new vehicle and the van would really only cost the township \$50 per month because the RTA grant would cover half of the monthly lease charge. The board had no objections to Pat's request for a new van and she will submit an application for the van next week. The township has joined the IL Association for Pupil Transportation (IAPT). The cost to join the IAPT was \$65 however they are offering free “Stimulus Scholarships” to first time attendees to any of their training events. The scholarship covers registration, hotel accommodations, meals and other activities. Pat and Wendy will be going to an

upcoming training session and will be utilizing the free scholarship to cover the cost of the event. The township will include the Pace bus in the annual July 4th parade and she asked for volunteers to help decorate it in the evening on Friday, July 2.

7. Foundation for a Green Community – No report.
8. Community Building Report – No report.
9. Feed Our Own – Laurie Summers reported that they are currently delivering six meals a week and have received four donations to the program.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Washington Township Employee Handbook – Trustee Waterman reported that our township attorney has reviewed the handbook and has made several changes and recommendations to the policy. The handbook has been revised and was divided into sections for better organization. Several other recommendations include changes to vacations, addressing violence in the workplace, jury duty updates and an expanded Internet policy. Due to the number of changes recommended, Trustee Waterman suggested that the board review the updated policy and discuss it at the next board meeting. There were no objections to Trustee Watermen’s recommendation.
2. Consideration and Approval of “Washington Township Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #10-02” – Supervisor Howard recommended that a motion be made to approve Washington Township Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #10-02 as presented at the Public Hearing held prior to the board meeting.

MOTION:

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve the Washington Township Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #10-02 as presented. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes, Peterson – yes.

Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consideration and Approval of Planning Commission Recommendations – There were no Planning Commission recommendations to be acted upon.
2. Approval of Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-03 for Washington Township - The Clerk presented proposed Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-03 for Washington Township. The ordinance is unchanged from the previous year and is required, by law, to be approved each year on or before June 30.

Motion:

Trustee Waterman made a motion to pass Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-03 for Washington Township, as presented. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote: Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes.

Motion passed 4-0.

3. Approval of Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-04 for the Washington Township Road District - Clerk Burgess presented proposed Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-04 for the Washington Township Road District. The ordinance is unchanged from the previous year and is required, by law, to be approved each year on or before June 30.

Motion:

Trustee Peterson made a motion to pass ***Prevailing Wage Ordinance #10-04 for the Washington Township Road District***, as presented. Trustee Waterman seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Peterson - yes, Waterman - yes, Becker – yes, Howard - yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

4. Consideration and Approval of a Donation to the Beecher High School Art Department – Supervisor Howard indicated that the Beecher High School Art Department had used \$150 in materials to prepare artwork for the Senior Prom. Howard recommended that the township reimburse the Art Department for their supplies and said he would put the paperwork with next month’s bills. There were no objections to the supervisor’s recommendation.
5. Consideration and Approval of a Donation to the Beecher Fourth of July Commission – A donation request was received from the Beecher 4th of July Commission for the 2010 celebration. The Board donated \$500 to the commission last year and this level of sponsorship includes recognition on event banners, flyers and newspaper articles.

MOTION:

Trustee Becker made a motion to donate \$500 to the *Beecher 4th of July Commission*. 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.**

6. Review of Washington Township Center Facility Use Policy – As per the Board’s request, Clerk Burgess has begun reviewing the Facility Use Policy for revisions. The policy was passed when the Washington Township Center was opened in 2002 and is in need of updates. The policy was passed when there was no office staff at the township offices and the terms for accessing the center have changed. The Board has also requested that a \$50 Maintenance Service Fee be added to the policy. Clerk Burgess will have a revised copy for the Board to review at the July meeting.
7. Consideration and Approval of Resolution #10-05, “A Resolution By the Washington Township Road District to Offer a Property Tax Reimbursement to Dutch American Foods Inc. in the Trim Creek Business Park” – The proposed resolution was approved by Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer and outlines the Road District’s participation in Washington Township’s resolution offering a tax reimbursement to Dutch American Foods. The Road District will pay 70% of the total reimbursement offered to Dutch American Foods.

MOTION:

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve Resolution #10-05, "A Resolution By the Washington Township Road District to Offer a Property Tax Reimbursement to Dutch American Foods Inc. in the Trim Creek Business Park". Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

8. Trailer Activity on Corning Road – Trustee Becker reported that there appears to be a smaller house trailer moved unto property located on the south side of Corning Road approximately 1/2 mile west of Stony Island Avenue. The trailer may have been moved unto the property illegally and Will County Sheriff Mike Mach, a Washington Township resident, volunteered to investigate the area for the Board.

Payment of Bills:

Town Account

The Board reviewed the bills as presented by Supervisor Howard and Clerk Burgess.

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 **\$32,773.03**. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Road & Bridge

The board reviewed the bills as presented by Commissioner Meyer.

MOTION: Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve payment of all applicable payroll, bills, and appropriate transfers or debits for the Road & Bridge Account totaling **\$36,673.34**. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Peterson – yes, Becker – yes, Waterman – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Insurance Fund

The board reviewed the Insurance Fund bills as presented by Supervisor Howard.

MOTION: Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve payment of Insurance Fund bills totaling **\$9,791.00**. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Trustee Waterman requested that the Board receive a monthly Budget Report going forward.

Announcements:

Senior Movie Night will be held on June 16 at 6:30 pm at the Washington Township Center.

Upcoming Seminars and Meetings:

1. July 5, 2010 – Washington Township Board Meeting - 7:00 pm at the Washington Township Center.

Adjournment:

Being no other business or discussion, Trustee Waterman made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Becker, and after being unanimously approved by voice vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TRUE & CORRECT COPY
Joseph Burgess – Town Clerk

Approved by Board of Trustees Date: July 5, 2010