

**Official Proceedings of the Washington Township Board of Trustees**  
**July 6, 2009**  
**Washington Township Center**  
**30200 Town Center Road, Beecher, IL**

Meeting called to order to pay bills for the month of June and transact any other business that may come before the Board of Trustees. Meeting agenda and guest sign-in sheet are attached.

Supervisor Howard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and 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, Ted Deery

Absent: None

**Other Officials present:**

Clerk Joe Burgess and Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer, and Will County Sheriff Paul Kaupas

**Approval of Township Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes Dated June 1, 2009:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the June 1, 2009 Township Budget Hearing 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 June 1, 2009 Township Budget Hearing as presented. Trustee Waterman seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Becker – yes, Waterman – yes, Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Approval of Road & Bridge Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes Dated June 1, 2009:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the June 1, 2009 Road & Bridge Budget Hearing minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2009 Road & Bridge Budget Hearing as presented. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Approval of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Dated June 1, 2009:**

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the June 1, 2009 board meeting minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

**Motion:**

Trustee Deery made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2009 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Public Commentary:**

Prior to any public commentary, Supervisor Howard remarked that it has always been his desire to give everyone a chance to speak at township meetings and explained that all public commentary will be allowed as long as it is done in an orderly fashion.

Township resident George Willy was concerned that Governor Quinn’s new budget had money allocated to acquire land for the proposed airport, which he said, was unnecessary and the associated pollution would affect the health of township residents. Willy said that residents should “sue” the State of Illinois for allowing excessive pollution that had been “proven” to be harmful to children and pregnant women.

Will County Sheriff Paul Kaupas addressed the Board and introduced Detective Sergeant Duane Davis, Deputy Chief David Van Dyke and Deputy Jim Jones who were with him to report on the recent crime wave that has been occurring in eastern Will County and bordering counties as well. Detective Davis was asked to address the assembly and reported that over the last six months, the Will County Sheriff’s office was working closely with the Kankakee County Sheriff’s office and the Lake County (IN) Sheriff regarding the crime surge in those counties and that the counties had hired a crime analyst to assist with the investigation. The analyst was reviewing all of the reported details associated with each break-in and using his expertise, could develop patterns of when, why and where the crimes were occurring and attempt to forecast where future crimes could occur. Davis said that since hiring the expert, 12 people have been arrested and 55% of the crimes had been solved. The police department has also recovered numerous stolen goods including guns, televisions, video and audio equipment and has begun returning them to their rightful owners. The investigation is ongoing and the last reported burglary that he was aware of occurred on June 10 and they believed they were making significant progress in apprehending and deterring additional crimes.

During public questions the Sheriff heard comments that his office had not contacted a resident (in attendance) who was burglarized in March 2008 and the response time of his department to emergencies in Washington Township were too long. Detective Davis took information and promised to get back to residents requesting information. The Sheriff’s department currently has 11 deputies covering eastern Will County with 4 officers on days, 5 on afternoons and 4 on nights. When asked how to handle loud music late at night, the residents were told that loud music could be considered as a “breach of peace” and they should call the police at their non-emergency number.

Commissioner Meyer was concerned about speeding in the township and said that he no longer receives the traffic report for moving violations that occur in Washington Township. Meyer said fines paid to the township have also declined significantly and would like to see more police presence in the township. The sheriff’s department will look into Meyer’s request.

## **Reports**

1. Road Commissioner – Commissioner Meyer presented his written report (attached) and asked for questions or comments. There were no questions regarding his report.
2. Assessor – No report, Assessor Blume was not in attendance.
3. Town Clerk – The 2009-2010 Town and Road & Bridge budgets have been filed with the Will County Clerk's office. Copies of the 2009 Prevailing Wage Ordinances have been filed with the state agencies as required by law and public notices were published in the local paper.
4. Washington Township Planning Commission (WTPC) – No report.
5. Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Howard reported that he has received many positive remarks about the township float entered in the Fourth of July parade and he thanked the board and all of the volunteers who worked on the float. A senior dance is being considered for the fall and may be done in lieu of a senior breakfast. Howard and Transportation Director Pat Peters participated in a conference call with the RTA regarding the 2009 RTA Grant application.
6. Open Space Initiative Committee – Mike Mach reported that the committee met last week and they have located several grants that could be used to purchase property for open space. The Board had no concerns with the committee moving forward to review the grant applications they have discovered. The Open Space Committee will be meeting again on July 7 at 7 pm at the Washington Township Center.
7. Transportation Report – Director Pat Peters reported that the current 2008 RTA matching grant awarded to the township in the amount of \$60,000 has been reviewed and the funds should be released soon. She has also told the RTA that August 1 is the target date to expand the township's current dial-a-ride service from two days to five days a week. Peters is applying for a two year RTA matching grant that will pay \$30,000 in 2009 and \$15,000 in 2010 and she has requested \$2000 for a computer for the township's dispatcher. Ms. Peters is also applying to Medicare so the township would be eligible for Medicare reimbursements for any Medicare passengers who utilize the bus service.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Washington Township Employee Handbook – Trustee Waterman distributed a draft copy of the proposed Washington Township Employee Handbook. Waterman indicated that there was additional information to insert in the handbook but he asked the board to review the handbook and recommended that the Board discuss it at the August board meeting.
2. Review Committees and Appointments – Supervisor Howard recommended that no action be taken on this item at this time. There were no objections to Howard's recommendation.
3. A Resolution Adopting a Community-wide Strategic Plan for the Beecher Community – Supervisor Howard recommended that no action be taken on this agenda item at this time. There were no objections to the Supervisor's recommendation.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consideration and Approval of Planning Commission Recommendations – There were no Planning Commission recommendations to be acted upon.
2. Consideration and Approval of Resolution #09-02 - Authorizing Applications for and Execution of a Job Access Reverse Commute or New Freedom Grant Agreement Under the Regional Transportation Authority's General Authority to make such Grants – Supervisor Howard explained that resolution #09-02 gives the township's designee (Pat Peters) the authority to file RTA grant applications and release any additional information that may be required during the grant authorization process. The resolution is required by the RTA and is to be included with the 2009 New Freedom grant application that is being completed by Peters.

### **Motion:**

Trustee Waterman made a motion to pass resolution #09-02 a resolution Authorizing Applications for and Execution of a Job Access Reverse Commute or New Freedom Grant Agreement Under the Regional Transportation Authority's General Authority to make such Grants as presented. Trustee Deery seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Waterman – yes, Deery – yes, Peterson – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

3. Consideration and Approval of Resolution #09-01 - A Resolution In Appreciation for Washington Township Trustee Dennis Koehn – Supervisor Howard presented resolution #09-01 and read the resolution which recognizes and honors former Trustee Dennis Koehn for serving on the Washington Township Board for twenty years. A copy of the resolution will be included in the minutes.

### **Motion:**

Trustee Becker made a motion to pass resolution #09-01, A Resolution In Appreciation for Washington Township Trustee Dennis Koehn as presented. Trustee Deery seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Becker – yes, Deery – yes, Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Supervisor Howard publicly thanked former Trustee Koehn for his dedication to the people of Washington Township and personally thanked Dennis for the “guidance” and advice offered to him when he became the new Supervisor of the township four years ago.

## **Payment of Bills:**

### **Town Account**

The Board reviewed the bills as presented by the Supervisor Howard. It was noted that there were two transfers from the Town Fund to the Insurance Fund and Supervisor Howard explained that the two transfers totaled the amount levied for the Insurance Fund and were necessary to ensure the Insurance Fund received the total funds allocated by the county. The Insurance Fund is the only township fund that the Will County Treasurer does not automatically transfer funds directly into so the Supervisor is required transfer the funds from the Town Account into the Insurance Fund. A HomePages bill was also paid for advertising the Dial-a-ride service and will be partially reimbursed when the township receives its approved 2008 RTA grant funds.

**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 **\$21,294.25**. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Deery – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**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 as presented for the **Road & Bridge Account** totaling **\$41,864.79**. Trustee Deery seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Peterson – yes, Deery – yes, Waterman – yes, Becker – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Insurance Fund**

The Board reviewed the bills as presented by Supervisor Howard.

**MOTION:**

Trustee Deery made a motion to approve payment of all bills as presented for the **Insurance Fund** totaling **\$9,923.00**. Trustee Becker seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Deery – yes, Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Waterman – yes, Howard – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**Announcements:**

None.

**Upcoming Seminars and Meetings:**

1. August 3, 2009 – 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 Waterman, and after being unanimously approved by voice vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph Burgess – Town Clerk

Approved by Board of Trustees Date: \_\_\_\_\_