

**RUTLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2015**

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The Rutland Township Board held its regular monthly meeting in the Town Hall. Supervisor Sanders called the meeting to order at 7:00pm which was followed by the Pledge to the Flag. Roll call showed the following members present: Supervisor Sanders, Clerk Carlsen, Trustees Schuldt, Bulmahn, & Payson. Trustee Eaton was absent. Also present were Assessor Siers and Road Commissioner Schultz.

MOTION TO APPROVE OR AMEND THE AGENDA

Trustee Bulmahn requested that the Investment Report be combined with the Cash Reserves report on the agenda. Trustee Schuldt also asked that the Ancel, Glink bills be removed from any future agendas.

MINUTES

There was no discussion so a motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015. Vote: Voice vote, all ayes. 2015-11-01 Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The first person to speak was Huntley resident Joy Swoboda asking about reducing the levy and budget for 2016. She was told that we will be discussing the Levy later in the agenda but Budget discussions are in April or May. Barbara Soracco questioned the Assessors budget increase and asked if she could find a way to lower it. Catherine Portera asked if any of the auditors suggested deficiencies had been corrected. She was told that state law is being followed in these areas and that the Township is following these laws. The Supervisor stated that it's her decision to have only one signee on checks and that is her choice. Discussion followed on these issues with the Supervisor stating that if the residents are not happy with her performance they can vote for someone else in 2017. The Assessor was asked by M. Mulhall if she could cut her full time person to part time since the quadrennial reassessment is done? The Assessor said no she could not as she was hired as full time prior to that. Jim Fitzgerald asked about selling some of our road equipment and was told that would not be fiscally responsible. Resident Dick Stack asked if we couldn't have part time employees in the road district rather than full timers. The Road Commissioner stated that the men are kept busy every day and the wages would be higher for part time people than full time people. The Road Commissioner also stated that road paving never ends and if you don't keep at it, it only gets worse. The Township will soon be gaining two more subdivisions to maintain as well.

SUPERVISORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Supervisor stated that Board members will soon be receiving requests from the county for their Statements of Economic Interest reports.

APPROVAL ROAD DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR MARCH 31, 2015

Trustee Bulmahn noted that the corrections have been made to these reports though he still needs a copy of the corrected Balance sheet and the P&L. With that said, **a motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Supervisor Sanders to approve the financial reports as corrected for the Road District Reports for the Year Ending March 31, 2015.** Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-02 Bulmahn yes, Sanders yes, Schuldt yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL TOWNSHIP AND ROAD DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR 7 MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2015

Following a brief discussion on the Town Financials, **a motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to approve the Township Financial Reports for the 7 months ending October 31, 2015.** Vote: Roll call vote: 2015-12-03 Bulmahn yes, Schuldt yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

The Road District Financials were next on the agenda so with no discussion **a motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to approve the Road District financials for the 7 months ending October 31, 2015.** Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-04 Bulmahn yes, Schuldt yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

PRESENTATION TOWNSHIP AND ROAD DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR 8 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2015

Trustee Bulmahn questioned why nothing was spent year to date for the Road District acct# 6560 for Quick books charges? The Supervisor stated that these processing fees will be adjusted at the end of the year. There was no further discussion and the Trustees will look over the reports and vote on them at the December meeting.

REVIEW OF NOVEMBER BILLS – AUTHORIZE NOVEMBER TOWNSHIP BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Trustee Schuldt questioned the charges on the Township credit card of just over \$400.00 for the TOI seminar in Springfield. He felt these charges were not justified and should have been discussed with the Board beforehand. Trustee Bulmahn questioned the Assessor regarding the duties of her employees and asked who had the most hours worked this year. **A motion was then made by Supervisor Sanders and seconded by Trustee Payson to approve the Township bills for November 30, 2015 in the amounts of \$15,401.02 for salaries, invoices of \$1,349.81, Auto Pays of \$947.05 and QuickBooks charges of \$117.15 for a Total of \$17,815.03.** Vote: Roll call vote, 2015-12-05 Sanders yes, Payson yes, Trustee Schuldt no, Bulmahn yes. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE NOVEMBER ROAD DISTRICT BILLS FOR PAYMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Supervisor Sanders to approve the Road District bills for November 30, 2015 in the amounts of \$13,122.99, invoices of \$3,175.96, Auto Pays of

\$1,331.00 and QuickBooks charges of \$89.20 for a Total of \$17,719.15. Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-06 Bulmahn yes, Sanders yes, Schuldt yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – INVESTMENT REPORT

Trustee Bulmahn then gave a detailed report on his analysis of the Township cash reserves as of November 30, 2015. He has determined that both the Town and Road are fiscally healthy with no debts and enough reserves to carry us for the next year or so. A lengthy and informative discussion followed on this report with input and suggestions from the residents attending as well as the Board members. Trustee Bulmahn' analysis shows that there is \$131,345.00 for the Town and \$206,417.00 for the Road District remaining in excess cash reserves at November 30, 2015. Further discussion ensued with a **motion by Trustee Bulmahn seconded by Trustee Schuldt to transfer #10,000.00 out of the Building & Grounds account \$3,708.00 out the the restricted Money Market account for General Assistance and \$4,000.00 for a total of \$17,708.00.** The money itself will be transferred into the General Fund Account. Vote: Roll call vote. 22015-12-07 Bulmahn yes, Schuldt yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. Motion carried. This being determined Trustee Bulmahn suggested that we purchase another CD and then **Trustee Bulmahn made a motion seconded by Trustee Schuldt that out of the excess reserves of \$131,345.00 for the Town we purchase a \$100,000.00 CD for one year.** Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-08 Bulmahn yes, Schuldt yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS- APPROVE THE TOWNSHIP AND ROAD DISTRICT LEVIES

The Road District Levy was first to be discussed with the Road Commissioner providing information along with justification for his Levy determination. With all things being said, and the Road Commissioners concurrence, **a motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to approve Tax Levy Ordinance # 2015-09 the Levy for the Road District in the amount of \$460,000.00.** Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-09 Bulmahn yes, Schuldt yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion on the Town then began with information from the Supervisor given on Levying for the New Construction. She suggested that we Levy for \$248,600.00. Trustee Payson expressed his concern about leaving enough money for the incoming Board in 2017. It was determined that the Town Levy would go up by 5% and **a motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and seconded by Trustee Bulmahn to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance # 2015-08 for the Town in the amount of \$252,700.00.** Vote: Roll call vote. 2015-12-10 Schuldt yes, Bulmahn yes, Sanders yes, Payson yes. All ayes, motion carried.

REPORTS BY OFFICIALS – The Clerk again requested that the Township consider at budget time going paperless.

The Assessor noted that the roof on the trailer is in need of repair. And, Trustee Bulmahn stated that the Fence at the cemetery is in need of repair.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:21, a motion was made by Trustee Schuldt and seconded by Trustee Payson to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Voice vote. All ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charleen Carlsen Rutland Township Clerk

Supervisor Margaret Sanders

Trustee Steve Schuldt

Trustee John Payson

Trustee Bulmahn

Trustee Eaton