

RUTLAND TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 11, 2022

The Rutland Township Board held its Regular monthly Board Meeting in the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Township Supervisor Raúl Lemus.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call indicated the following Board Members present: Supervisor Lemus, Trustees B. Siers, D. Kenik, J. Siers, and J. Alesi. Quorum established.

Also in attendance Clerk Rendl, Assessor Fritz and Commissioner Schultz.

As per recent CDC guidelines, face coverings were requested. Masks were provided by the Township for anyone needing one.

Clerk Rendl informed the Board that the dollar amounts shown on the agenda for approval (expenses) have changed, as additional December bills had been received and entered (Tuesday morning) following printing and posting of the agenda. The amounts presented at the meeting reflect the correct amounts. The correct totals are as follows:

Township \$ 30,717.23
Road District \$21,189.20

Motion to approve the January 11, 2022 Board Meeting Agenda with the aforementioned amended totals and approval of the December 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes made by Trustee B. Siers; second by Trustee J. Siers.

Vote: Voice vote. All Ayes.

Motion carried. 2022-01-01.

SUPERVISOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None. One Township resident in attendance.

REVIEW OF DECEMBER 2021 BILLS

TOWNSHIP

Trustee J. Siers questioned Assessor Fritz on his expense for the Illinois Property Assessment Institute x2. Explanation given by Assessor Fritz. **Motion** to approve payment of the December 2021 Township bills as presented, in the total amount of \$30,717.23 made by Trustee J. Siers; second by Trustee D. Kenik.

Vote: Roll call vote

J. Siers	yes	D. Kenik	yes
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J. Alesia	yes	B. Siers	yes
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R. Lemus	yes		
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Motion carried. 2022-1-02.

ROAD DISTRICT

Motion made by Trustee J. Siers to approve payment of the December 2021 Road District bills as presented, in the total amount of \$21,189.20; second by Trustee J. Alesi.

Vote: Roll call vote.

J. Siers	yes	J. Alesi	yes
B. Siers	yes	D. Kenik	yes
R. Lemus	yes		

Motion carried. 2022-1-03.

OLD BUSINESS***Security System Update***

Supervisor Lemus presented the proposal information received from Fox Valley Fire & Security. Discussion. Supervisor Lemus will contact Sentry Security to request their presence at the February meeting. Any decisions will be tabled until the February meeting when Sentry Security will be present to answer questions. Trustees will formulate a list of questions for Sentry. Supervisor Lemus will also investigate any insurance changes as a result of upgrading the security system.

Discussion re: Portable External Hard Drive

Trustee Kenik apprised the Board of his research of portable hard drives; cost and manufacturer. Discussion. Supervisor Lemus will get additional information on Cloud cost. Any decision is tabled until the February meeting after the presentation of additional information.

NEW BUSINESS***2022 Calendar of Scheduled Meetings***

Trustee J. Siers requested the omission of budget hearings & public inspection date & times on the calendar. The budget is still being discussed and changes being made. Discussion. Input from Commissioner Schultz and Assessor Fritz. Motion made by Supervisor Lemus; second by Trustee J. Siers to amend the calendar to delete the times & date for the Public Inspection, Township & Road District Budget hearings and approve the calendar as amended.

Vote: Roll call vote.

R. Lemus	yes	J. Siers	yes
J. Alesi	yes	D. Kenik	yes
B. Siers	abstain		

Motion carried. 2022-1-04.

Cleaning Service for Township Hall & Office

Trustee J. Siers briefed the Board on the previous cleaning services used for the township hall and office. Discussion. Trustee Siers will contact the service for a proposal and present the information at the February meeting.

Presentation of FYE 3/31/23 Proposed Road District Budget

Commissioner Schultz presented his budget and explanations and asked for questions from the Board. He stated that the *audit expense* line item might be underfunded, as there has been no Board decision on who will be retained and what the expense will be for the audit.

Presentation of FYE 3/31/23 Proposed Assessor's Budget

Assessor Fritz presented his budget information, reports on his and the office's performance and his request for increased budget. He informed the Board that he has lost his field inspector because his office cannot be competitive with salary and benefits, and the Deputy Assessor will be going to work for Ela Township part time very soon. Trustee J. Siers asked how many employees work in the office. Answer from Assessor Fritz - three. Discussion.

Presentation of FYE 3/31/2023 Proposed Township Budget

Trustee J. Siers opened the discussion with a question on what the current Reserve total is for the Township. Answered by Supervisor Lemus, \$130,000.00. Supervisor Lemus then presented the proposed Township budget with explanations. Trustee J. Siers stated that the current Township budget had been formulated using the levy totals and she felt the *Building & Grounds* line item was underfunded and reserve money should be appropriated for that. She suggested that \$40,00.00 be appropriated (from the Reserves) to the *Building and Grounds* line item. Additional discussion regarding the Assessor's budget. Discussion. Trustee B. Siers suggested that the Assessor's budget be increased to \$175,000 as he (Assessor) has requested. Discussion. Trustee J. Siers suggested a budget of \$167,000. There will be further discussion on the budget at the next meeting.

No Executive Session called for or convened.

REPORTS BY OFFICIALS

Commissioner Schultz thanked the Board for the informative discussion taking place and expressed his appreciation for the cooperative effort of this Board.

Assessor Fritz thanked the Board for their consideration of his budget request and informed them of the current work being done in his office. He also spoke on the impact the industrial construction (Amazon) is having on Powers and Freeman roads.

Trustee J. Siers asked if the exemption had been filed for the cemetery – answer yes.

Supervisor Lemus asked if there was any additional discussion. There being none, **motion** to adjourn was made by Trustee D. Kenik; second by Trustee J. Siers.

Vote: Voice vote.

All Ayes. **Motion carried. 2022-1-05.**

Meeting adjourned 8:58 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Kathleen J. Rendl

Kathleen J. Rendl, Township Clerk