

**SENECA TOWNSHIP**  
**Regular Monthly Minutes**  
**August 12, 2008**

The regular monthly meeting of the Seneca Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Ersel Schuster at the Seneca Township Building located at 16506 Garden Valley Road, Woodstock, Illinois.

**Township Officials in Attendance:** Supervisor Ersel Schuster, Trustees Rosemary Bartman, Susan Mathews, Thomas Dahlfors, and Michael O’Leary, Road Commissioner Robert Helfers, Assessor Donald Andrews, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent Officials: None.

**Guests in Attendance:** Robert Pope, Scott Swanson, Keith Leidy, Mark Suma, Steven Schmeiding, Wesley Pribla.

**Public Speaking:** None.

**Minutes:** Dahlfors motioned to approve the July 8, 2008 Regular Monthly Minutes as presented. Second by Bartman. Motion passed.

- Helfers had amendments to the minutes, which Seemann pointed out to the board.
- Dahlfors motioned to approve the July 8, 2008 Regular Monthly Minutes as amended. Second by O’Leary. Motion passed.
- Dahlfors motioned to approve the July 14, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by O’Leary. Motion passed.

**Audit of Current Bills:**

**Road District** – Bartman motioned to approve the Road District bills for payment for the period of July 9, 2008 through August 12, 2008 in the amount of \$4,957.98. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

**Town Fund** – Bartman motioned to approve the Town Fund bills for payment for the period of July 9, 2008 through August 12, 2008 in the amount of \$8,223.45. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** July 1, 2008 through July 31, 2008, as listed below:

**Illinois Fund** – Mathews motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the Illinois Fund for the period of July 1, 2008 through July 31, 2008. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

<b>Illinois Fund</b>	<b>Prev. Bal.</b>	<b>Trans/Prime</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Ending Bal.</b>
General Assistance	\$25,238.97	0	\$130.00	\$67.80	\$25,176.77
Town Fund	\$139,020.23	0	\$5,517.55	\$2,806.81	\$136,309.49
Road & Bridge	\$139,069.66	0	\$6,139.77	\$5,193.88	\$138,123.77
Permanent Hard Road	\$143,282.13	0	0	\$1,548.96	\$144,831.09
Building & Equipment	\$46,526.03	0	0	\$409.04	\$46,935.07

**Prime Fund** – Dahlfors motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the Prime Fund for the period of July 1, 2008 through July 31, 2008. Second by Bartman. Motion passed.

Prime Fund	Prev. Bal.	Trans/Funds	Expenses	Interest Income	Ending Bal.
General Assistance	\$75,556.60	0	0	\$139.92	\$75,696.52
Town Fund	\$266,138.85	0	0	\$492.85	\$266,631.70
Road & Bridge	\$122,147.43	0	0	\$226.20	\$122,373.63

**General Assistance Report:** Schuster has nothing to report this month.

**Clerk’s Report:** Seemann has nothing to report this month.

**Road Commissioner’s Report:** Helpers reported that Peter Baker finished our blacktop program last Saturday. He feels they did a real nice job on it. The bridge deck is finished on Highbridge, which Helpers stated is a “big improvement.” The actual cost came in under what was originally estimated. The shouldering on Collins Road will take a lot of aggregate because Peter Baker got the specs calling for ¼” per foot on pitch from the center of the road.

- Helpers received a phone call yesterday from a bicycle club who wouldn’t tell him where they were from, who had been dealing with the sheriff and was getting nowhere. The race is a timed race consisting of approximately 150 participants that will not be stopping for stop signs, and do not respond to warnings. Helpers will call TOIRMA about this. The sheriff doesn’t want to get involved. Helpers’ concern is whether or not authorized flaggers will be patrolling the race. The race is scheduled to take place on August 30<sup>th</sup>, and start from the Railway Museum.

**Assessors Report:** Assessor Andrews reported that he turned the tax assessments in two weeks early. He added that in the fifteen years he has been the assessor he has always been 1<sup>st</sup> to get them in, with the exception of 1 year, when he missed being 1<sup>st</sup> by ½ hour.

- Andrews went to school today in Lisle to learn about assessing condominiums. He feels in time they’ll be coming to our community.
- Helpers questioned Andrews as to whether he found anything out about Reske’s Serenity Creek and how they get taxed? Andrews explained the process he took to assess it.

**Planning Commission: Information/review/action**

**A. Commission Activity Report – Committee reviewed/action on pending petitions:**  
Nothing to report this month. The planning commission did not meet.

**B. Zoning petitions for consideration, review and/or action by the town board:**  
a. None.

**C. Zoning Petitions – status:**

**a. Merryman Petition** – The court date for this petition has been moved to the end of September 2008.

**b. Petition #08-13; John & Kristine Benoit – A1 to A1C – Commercial Kennel:** This petition should be on the County Board agenda on 8-19-08. The ZBA voted 6-0 against this petition.

**c. Petition #08-21; Shinichi Kawayoke – A2 to A2C – indoor/outdoor storage of commercial equipment and a wholesale/retail business (limited.):** This petition should be on the County Board agenda on 8-19-08.

- d. **Petition #08-38; Susan M. Singleton; Request for a variance:** This petition was pulled from the agenda and will be back on 8-19-08 for their variance.
- e. **Petition #08-30; Steven & Susan Schmieding; Request for a variance:** This petition was pulled from the ZBA agenda and is pending. It is possible that it will be back on the ZBA agenda on 8-26-08.

**Note:** Schuster informed the board that she had received a letter from Mr. Pribla requesting that they (Mr. Schmieding & his attorney) wanted to be on the agenda. Our attorney suggested that we request from them a motion to reconsider their petition and to state the reasons why. She stated that upon receipt of that information he would then be put on the agenda. Mr. Pribla chose not to comply with our attorney's request. Schuster left it up to the board as to whether or not they wanted to reconsider the petition. If they so chose, she would then entertain a motion to open the floor and the petition would be open again for discussion. The board made no motions, therefore, the petition remains closed. Schuster informed Attorney Pribla that they are welcome to speak at the end of the meeting during the final public speaking portion of the agenda. Mr. Schmieding and Attorney Pribla chose to leave the meeting.

#### **Old Business: Information/review/action**

- A. **Building Project – Sign Proposal:** The agreement was signed for the proposal for the building addition. Siding, fascia, trim, and shutter colors and design choosing is the next step, which must be decided on tonight. After much discussion, the board chose the following: The stone style and color will be “Harvest:” siding – “Sail Cloth;” gutters, soffit & trim – “Montana Suede;” the slat shutters will be brown “Board n Batton.” Schuster will go tomorrow to get the permits for the inspections. The cost is \$640.00.

#### **New Business: Information/review/action**

- A. **Legislation – TOI Perspective:** Nothing to discuss this month.
- B. **Audit Committee:** Three people's names must be given to Seemann before the next meeting. The last day for the audit to be completed is September 30, 2008.

#### **Other: Information/review/action**

- Schuster received a thank you letter from Land Technology who worked with ALA.
- The annual official audit by a CPA will be coming up the end of this year. There are ten new standards that we have to meet.
- 618 Blackhawk Lane – A height variation request for an accessory structure will be coming up before us. This info was from Soil & Water.
- Bartman was given information regarding a trustee seminar to review and pass on to the other trustees.
- NIMS Training update is required. This is emergency situation training.
- McCog auction information for township equipment was given to Helfers for his records.
- Helfers asked if there was a start date for Mr. Rosemann to start building? Schuster stated that their performance bond is suppose to be ready by Friday. The voting in November has been written into the agreement that he will make sure the building is accessible for voting.
- The driveway and parking lot issue was discussed. We will need to hire someone to excavate and put in the driveway. The paving will be done at a later date.

Helfers suggested whoever is digging the foundation to also do the driveway excavating.

- Schuster will check on the maximum price allowed for not needing to go into the bid process.
- Dahlfors motioned to direct Schuster and O'Leary to enter into site development for the temporary access work & culvert with Land Technology, and proceed with driveway access. Second by O'Leary. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

**Note:** Helfers will donate the culvert for the driveway.

**Public Speaking:** None.

**Motion to Adjourn:** At 8:46 p.m. O'Leary motioned to adjourn tonight's regular monthly meeting. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn M. Seemann  
Township Clerk