

February 20, 2007

(Due to bad weather, the February 13, 2007 meeting was cancelled and rescheduled to February 20, 2007.)

The regular monthly meeting of the Seneca Township Board of Trustee 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

Township Officials in Attendance: Supervisor Ersel Schuster, Trustees Rosemary Bartman, Susan Mathews, Thomas Dahlfors, Michael O'Leary, Road Commissioner Robert Helfers, Assessor Donald Andrews, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent Officials: Assessor Donald Andrews.

Guests in Attendance: Haskell Brown, Jake Mathews, Jarrett Mathews, Pat Andrews, Truman Aaron.

Public Speaking: None.

Approval of Minutes: Dahlfors made a motion to approve the January 9, 2007 regular monthly minutes as presented. Seconded by O'Leary. Motion passed.

Audit of Current Bills:

Road District – Bartman made a motion to approve the Road District bills for payment for the period of January 10, 2007 through February 13, 2007 in the amount of \$7,148.39. Seconded by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Town Fund O'Leary made a motion to approve the Town Fund bills for payment for the period of January 10, 2007 through February 13, 2007 in the amount of \$5,652.74. Seconded by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007, as listed below:

Illinois Fund– Mathews made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Illinois Fund for the period of January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007. Seconded by O'Leary. Motion passed.

Illinois Fund	Previous Balance	Trans to Prime	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
General Assistance	\$23,048.93	0	0	\$171.22	\$23,220.15
Town Fund	\$104,942.18	0	\$6,395.35	\$5,930.71	\$104,477.54
Road & Bridge	\$97,801.78	0	\$5,041.24	5,292.58	\$98,053.12
Permanent Hard Road	\$73,558.06	0	0	\$3,751.77	\$77,309.83
Building & Equipment	\$7,005.36	0	\$279.71	\$890.08	\$7,615.73

Prime Fund –Mathews made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Prime Fund for the period of January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Prime Fund	Previous Balance	Trans Between Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
General Assistance	\$70,788.08	0	0	\$314.08	\$71,102.16
Town Fund	\$249,342.11	0	0	\$1,106.34	\$249,342.11
Road & Bridge	\$114,438.43	0	0	\$507.76	\$114,946.19

General Assistance: Schuster reported she had some inquiries. Nothing further at this point.

Clerk's Report: Seemann has nothing to report.

Road Commissioner's Report: Haskell Brown – mail box issue – Haskell Brown spoke to the Board about his mailbox allegedly being knocked down by our snowplow. He stated that one of his neighbors was outside and saw the plow knock it down. He submitted a bill for \$60 to the Board for the replacement of his mailbox. He added that he will install the new mailbox himself. Helpers presented Mr. Brown and the Board a copy of an ordinance stating that by law, the township is not responsible for mailbox damage during snow removal. Helpers added that when he talked to his driver, the driver said he did not hit the mailbox, and therefore, refused to pay for the replacement of Mr. Haskell's mailbox. Trustee Thomas Dahlfors offered to personally pay the \$60 for the new mailbox. Mathews felt that wasn't fair for Dahlfors to pay for the mailbox, and made a motion that the township pay for the mailbox. Seconded by O'Leary. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed. Dahlfors felt that if our township adopts the ordinance Helpers presented, it should then be put in our next newsletter.

- Helpers informed the Board that our salt supplier for this year is Cargill. He stated we are having problems with the quality of their salt. It is lumpy and wet. He added that one time when they dumped the truck to use the salt, it just stayed in the truck because it had hardened. A representative from Cargill is supposed to be sent out to look at the salt.

- The Board commended Helpers and his crew for a job well done in regards to the snow removal and keeping our roads safe. Helpers stated that he, too, is proud of his crew for the job they did and are doing.

Planning Commission: - Information/review/action

- A. **Commission Activity Report**– Nothing to report.
- B. **Presentation – Andrews & Aaron** – On behalf of the Seneca Township Board, Schuster presented plaques of appreciation to our retiring Planning Commission members Pat Andrews and Truman Aaron for their years of service.
- C. **Petition #06-58 – Alan & Lynn Muir A1 to AC – Heliport site** - Schuster informed the Board that this petition has not gone to the ZBA voting meeting as of yet.
- D. **Update on pending zoning petitions-**
 - a. Petition #06-20 – Barbara Janet A1 to A1C – This petition was approved by the County Board.
 - b. Petition #06-71 – Ziemer A1 to A2 – This petition was approved by the County Board.
 - c. Petition #07-08 – Merryman Aggregate LLC – South Street – CUP – Schuster informed the Board that our planning commission reviewed this petition the best they could, however, there was nothing for our planning commission to really work with. Based on the Planning Commission recommendations and discussion of the McHenry County Soil & Water Conservation District report; issues including, but not limited to, possible contamination to shallow aquifers, 97.91% prime farm land, and it's historical property were discussed. No information has been given to us in regards to a business plan, traffic, or truck usage on the roads. In addition, the growing trend in the area is residential from the east.
 - Helpers feels that should this CUP pass the ZBA's approval, we should request a tonnage assessment of \$1.00 per ton in and out of the pit for the purpose of reimbursing the township for wear and tear to Seneca Township roads.
 - After discussion among the Board, Mathews made a motion to deny petition #07-08 CUP for earth extraction and mining operation based on the discussions as outlined, and directed Schuster to draft a letter to the ZBA. Seconded by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Old Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Building Project– update-** Three different blueprint type drawings from the architect of the proposed building project were presented to the Board for review. The Board discussed at length several possibilities for the design of our new addition to the townhall. Following the discussion, O’Leary made a motion to use the concept of “Option 1” beginning with the “Option 3” footprint and scaling it back as needed. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed. Schuster will relay the Board’s ideas to the architect, who will in turn, draw up new plans, which will include approximate costs to build the addition.
- B. **2007 Spring TOI Workshop 2/24/07** – Schuster reminded the Board about the TOI workshop scheduled for this Saturday.

New Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Legislation – Perspective 2006**The legislative topics were mentioned.
- B. **Proposed budget Road District 2007-2008** – Helpers presented the proposed Road District Budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 to the Board. Dahlfors made a motion to accept and put on display until the April hearing the proposed Road District budget for fiscal year 2007-2008. Seconded by O’Leary. Motion passed.
- C. **Proposed budget Town Fund 2007-2008** – Schuster presented the proposed Town Fund Budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 to the Board. Dahlfors made a motion to accept and put on display until the April hearing the proposed Town Fund budget for fiscal year 2007-2008. Seconded by O’Leary. Motion passed.

Other:Information/review/action

- Schuster distributed information to the Board regarding water demand and supply that was written up by Chicago Wilderness.
- Schuster asked the Board if anyone would like to attend the County Planning Commission 2030 Plan meetings and keep the Board updated as to what they learn? If so, they should let her know.

Motion to Adjourn: At 9:15 p.m. Bartman made a motion to adjourn tonight’s regular monthly meeting. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk