

January 9, 2007

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.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Guests in Attendance: Alan Muir, Ed Dean.

Public Speaking: None.

Approval of Minutes: Dahlfors made a motion to approve the December 12, 2006 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 December 12, 2006 through January 9, 2007 in the amount of \$4,398.93. Seconded by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Town Fund– Dahlfors made a motion to approve the Town Fund bills for payment for the period of December 12, 2006 through January 9, 2007 in the amount of \$15,372.16. Seconded by O'Leary. Voting yes: Bartman, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: December 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, as listed below:

Illinois Fund – O'Leary made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Illinois Fund for the period of December 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Illinois Fund	Previous Balance	Trans to Prime	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
General Assistance	\$22,948.37	0	0	\$100.56	\$23,048.93
Town Fund	\$119,945.03	0	\$15,722.34	\$719.49	\$104,942.18
Road & Bridge	\$100,769.81	0	\$3,772.54	804.51	\$97,801.78
Permanent Hard Road	\$75,113.41	0	\$1,880.82	\$325.47	\$73,558.06
Building & Equipment	\$6,974.80	0	0	\$30.56	\$7,005.36

Prime Fund – Bartman made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Prime Fund for the period of December 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Prime Fund	Previous Balance	Trans Between Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
General Assistance	\$70,474.73	0	0	\$313.35	\$70,788.08
Town Fund	\$248,238.35	0	0	\$1,103.76	\$249,342.11
Road & Bridge	\$113,931.85	0	0	\$506.58	\$114,438.43

General Assistance: Schuster has nothing to report.

Clerk's Report: Seemann has nothing to report.

Road Commissioner's Report: : Helfers has nothing to report, other than to say that it's been quiet since the last snowstorm.

- Schuster relayed a message to Helfers that she received via a phone call from Mr. Wilson who lives on Secor Road asking why the beer bottles weren't picked up? Helfers stated he has cleaned it up, and that this is an ongoing issue.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Andrews informed the Board that there are about 75 outstanding permits from people who either didn't get occupancy permits before December 13, 2006, which is the cut off date, or they are new since then. These will go on to next year's totals. He added that last year the last sale we had for the year 2005 was December 19, 2005. That was the 83rd sale. This year the last sale he received as of December 15, 2006 was the 75th. Sales are down from last year. Most of these permits are for additions, decks, etc. Andrews stated that no more than 12 or 14 were for new homes.

Planning Commission: - Information/review/action

- A. **Commission Activity Report**– The new Planning Commission met last night. Susan Standish took over as the Planning Commission Chair.
 - Schuster asked the Board if they would like to order plaques to give to the outgoing members of the Planning Commission? They all agreed this would be a good idea. Schuster will take care of getting them ordered.
- B. **Petition #06-58 – Alan & Lynn Muir A1-A1C – Heliport site** – Attorney Ed Dean represented Alan Muir regarding Petition #06-58. Attorney Dean asked that the Board reconsider our position regarding the denial of the Muir petition to allow a heliport on his property. Schuster explained to Mr. Dean that our Planning Commission and our Board has already acted on this petition, and that his presentation was supposed to have taken place prior to our actions. Attorney Dean went on to address some points in the letter he received from our Board, with our Board, which included, but were not limited to storage of the helicopter, signage posting, injury to animals & noise levels. The McHenry County Sheriff Department's possible use of the petitioner's helicopter was also discussed. O'Leary asked how long the CUP they are asking for would last? Attorney Dean stated 10 years. After hearing Mr. Dean's statements/request, Schuster asked the Board if there is a motion to reconsider our position regarding petition #06-58. None were made. The Board's letter and position stands as before, which is the recommendation to the McHenry County Zoning Board of Appeals to deny petition #06-58.
- C. **Update on Pending zoning petitions:**
 - a. Petition #06-20 – Barbara Janet A1 to AC – Schuster explained that again, this petition was pulled from the County Board Agenda. They are still operating illegally.
 - b. Petition #06-71 Ziemer A1 to A2 – This petition is pending approval on the County Board. The petition comes up again in January.
 - FYI – Robert Henry took out a permit to build a building for what looks to be some sort of store on Rose Farm Road. Follow-up of this issue will be on next month's agenda.
 - Schuster informed the Board that she has talked to Virginia Peschke & Barb Wheeler, as discussed last month, and they have agreed to come to one of our meetings to talk with us about some zoning issues we are dealing with.

Old Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Building Project– update**Schuster told the Board that she has sent the retainer to the Architect and they were out last week to take measurements.
- B. **Proposed Resolution – Water Authority** – Schuster informed the Board that she felt the proposed resolution was not ready to present, so she suggested postponing this issue until next month. Bartman stated that she doesn't feel we should have a resolution at all. She feels that we as a Board should not speak for all the Seneca Township residents by deciding whether or not our township is for or against the Water Authority. Some discussion took place, after which,

Bartman made a motion that the township does not have a proposed resolution for the Water Authority. Seconded by O'Leary. Voting in favor of this motion: Bartman, O'Leary, Dahlfors. Those opposed to this motion: Schuster. Motion passed.

- C. **2007 Spring TOI Workshop** – Trustee O'Leary informed Schuster that he, too, would also like to go to the TOI workshop on February 24, 2007 at the Radisson Hotel in Rockford. Schuster will send in the registration and fees.

New Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Legislation – Perspective 2006** – Tuesday, March 6, 2007, is TOI's Annual Topics Day in Springfield. Anyone interested in attending should let Schuster know.

Other:Information/review/action

- Helpers told the Board that he received a letter from the McHenry County Emergency Management Agency regarding a meeting notice for the filing of reimbursement funds for the November 30, 2006 and December 1, 2006 snowstorm that affected our county. This meeting is to apply for a possible grant for excessive labor and material that was used as a result of the storm. Helpers feels the labor and material used are part of the job. He will not be applying for that grant because grant money comes from the taxpayers, and feels this grant is unjust.
- The Board members each received invitations/information to the Land Conservancy dinner.
- TOI is promoting a calendar celebrating its 100 year.
- Schuster attended a McHenry County Planning and Development meeting on January 4, 2006. Agritourism and temporary permits was discussed. Schuster learned that the people on Kishwaukee Valley Road who were using their property for soccer matches last year may have to get some sort of permit from the county. The P&D are discussing rewriting the temporary permit ordinance. This will be an ongoing issue. Schuster will relay any ideas/suggestions anyone has regarding this ordinance to the county.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:05 p.m. O'Leary made a motion to adjourn tonight's regular monthly meeting. Seconded by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk