

SENECA TOWNSHIP
Regular Monthly Minutes
November 10, 2009

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

Township Officials in Attendance: Supervisor James Kagel, Trustees Rosemary Bartman, Susan Mathews, Thomas Dahlfors, and Michael O’Leary, Road Commissioner Scott Swanson, Assessor Donald Andrews, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent officials: None.

Guests in Attendance: Paul Bockman, Bob Pope, Diane Evertsen, Bob Helpers, Mary McCann.

Public Speaking: Diane Evertsen introduced herself and informed the board that she has a website with various information, including that of McHenry County Board activity.

- McHenry County Board Member Mary McCann informed the board that Kishwaukee Valley Road will be closing in early December for approximately six months due to bridge repairs.
- Mary McCann reported that the McHenry County 2030 Plan Hearing will be held in January. Information regarding this plan can be found on the McHenry County website www.co.mchenry.il.us
- Assessor Andrews questioned why busses don’t come to Marengo? Mrs. McCann stated she would check into that.

Minutes: Dahlfors motioned to approve the October 13, 2009 Regular Monthly Minutes as presented. Second by O’Leary. Motion passed.

Audit of Current Bills:

Road District - O’Leary motioned to approve the Road District bills for the period of October 14, 2009 through November 10, 2009 in the amount of \$12,329.82. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Town Fund - Bartman motioned to approve the Town Fund bills for the period of October 14, 2009 through November 10, 2009 in the amount of \$6,379.40. Second by Mathews. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: October 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009, as listed below:

Harris Checking	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
Town Fund	\$119,744.07	\$1,750.41	(\$10,995.98)	\$4,069.54	\$114,568.04
Road & Bridge	\$183,216.20	(\$1,707.82)	(\$8,028.75)	\$3,586.48	\$177,066.11

Harris CD	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
Road & Bridge	\$123,000.00	0	0	\$599.79	\$123,599.79

Harris Money Market	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
General Assistance	\$103,036.31	(\$42.59)	0	\$83.59	\$103,077.31
Hard Road	\$135,720.67	0	(\$30,421.42)	\$2,438.83	\$107,738.08
Bldg & Maintenance	\$49,750.67	0	0	\$623.26	\$50,373.93

General Assistance Report: Kagel has nothing to report this month.

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

Road Commissioner's Report: Swanson informed the board that he and his crew have finished tree trimming with the boom mower.

- The laying of the binder in the township parking lot has been finished.
- Shouldering of the township roads is being worked on, and they are working on getting the trucks, plows, and sanders ready for winter.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Andrews stated there have been a lot of tax assessment appeals, but not nearly as many as he thought there would have been. He added that many of the assessments were lowered due to the economy.

- Andrews had concerns regarding the levy. He felt there wasn't enough money levied for contractual services; and nothing was levied for training. Kagel explained where the money for the training was to come from, and felt there was enough money for contractual services, but added that if need be, line item transfers could be done at a later date to cover any needed expenses.
- Andrews suggested putting the four back lights in the Assessor's office on separate wiring from the rest of lights because he feels they don't all need to be on at the same time.

Planning Commission Report: The Planning Commission did not meet this month. No report.

- Kagel mentioned that a resident on Kishwaukee Valley Road is requesting a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to "allow the operation of a landscape contractor business, as well as to allow the outdoor and indoor storage of commercial equipment and vehicles on the property in question." The hearing for that request is scheduled with the McHenry County Zoning Board of Appeals on November 12, 2009. The board discussed this petition and felt there wasn't enough information given to make a decision. The resident did not go before the township planning commission or the township board to discuss their plans. There are several unanswered questions regarding such things as how much and what type of items will be stored there? The board is concerned with the burning of landscape materials on that property that are being brought in from other locations. Planning Commission member Bob Pope would like Kagel to write a letter to the ZBA stating that we didn't have enough notice to have a meeting to discuss this petition. McHenry County Board member Mary McCann said she would take the letter to ZBA chairman Richard Kelly on Thursday for us.

Old Business: Information/review/action

A. Compensation Resolution - Kagel gave the board copies of Resolution #11-09 regarding the

new elected officials compensation and payment schedule. After reviewing this said document, Bartman motioned to accept Resolution #11-09 as presented. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

New Business: Information/review/action

A. Tax Levy Ordinance:

- a. **Town Fund Levy** - Kagel informed the board that he increased last year's levy by 1.5%. The board feels this is way too low due to the fact that the building remodeling isn't complete, and the Town Fund owes the Road District money for the driveway and newly installed well. They felt a 4% increase is necessary. Kagel will revise the Town Fund Levy and present it to the board at next month's meeting for approval.
- b. **Road District Levy** - Swanson presented his Road District Levy to the board showing a 4% increase from last year. Both the Town Fund and the Road District levies will be approved at next month's meeting.

B. McHenry County Natural Hazard Plan - Kagel received a letter stating the township would not receive any FEMA funds if there we don't have a hazard plan developed. Bartman volunteered to attend a meeting scheduled for November 16, 2009 regarding this issue so she could bring back more information.

Public Speaking: Mary McCann informed the board about a project the county is working on in Wonder Lake regarding a garbage disposal contract. She feels it's something other areas might be interested in looking into.

Supervisor's Report:

- Kagel received a "Report Card" from the State Comptroller regarding filing our Audit Report and how we stand compared to other townships in our area.
- A letter from the Attorney General's Office was received regarding the new Freedom of Information Act and Open Meeting Act laws.
- The Veterans Assistance Commission Executive Board sent an invitation to their open house scheduled for November 12, 2009. This information was passed on to Assessor Andrews who is a member of the American Legion.
- The McHenry County Board sent a letter suggesting the township board should make a resolution for groundwater protection.

Adjourn: At 8:45 p.m. O'Leary motioned to adjourn tonight's regular monthly meeting. Second by Bartman. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk