

October 9, 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, and Michael O'Leary, Road Commissioner Robert Helfers, Assessor Donald Andrews, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent Officials: None.

Guests in Attendance: Marilyn Kelly, James Kelly, Don Wagner, Mary Lou Mateja, Bob Mateja, Scott Polit, Cindy Romano, Norbert Ziemer, Bob Wagner.

Public Speaking: Marilyn Kelly spoke on behalf of the Seneca Township residents who, as she stated, "successfully were able to get Enbridge denied." Her main issue was that they were "unhappy" that they found out our board voted to recommend approval of the petition.

- Mary Lou Mateja had taken pictures of Enbridge working on some of their pipeline. She passed those pictures around for the board to look at. Mrs. Mateja spoke about some of the problems Enbridge has had that she knows of from other areas. She is worried about water contamination. She, too, is upset with the Seneca Township Board's decision to recommend approval of their petition.

Approval of Minutes: Dahlfors motioned to approve the September 9, 2007 regular monthly minutes as presented. Second by O'Leary. Motion passed.

- O'Leary motioned to approve the September 25, 2007 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Audit of Current Bills:

Road District - Bartman motioned to approve the Road District bills for payment for the period of September 12, 2007 through October 9, 2007 in the amount of \$45,817.50. 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 September 12, 2007 through October 9, 2007 in the amount of \$11,420.32. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: September 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007, as listed below:

Illinois Fund – Bartman motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Illinois Fund for the period of September 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007. Second by Mathews. Motion passed.

Illinois Fund	Previous Balance	Trans to Prime	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
General Assistance	\$23,737.83	0	0	\$903.01	\$24,640.84
Town Fund	\$106,470.18	0	\$22,517.91	\$64,730.75	\$148,683.02
Road & Bridge	\$124,349.41	0	\$3,967.00	\$32,814.13	\$153,196.54
Permanent Hard Road	\$126,978.44	0	\$1,330.25	\$43,406.29	\$169,054.48
Building & Equipment	\$17,157.99	0	0	\$10,863.19	\$28,021.18

Prime Fund – Dahlfors motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for the Prime Fund for the period of September 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007. Second by Mathews. Motion passed.

Prime Fund	Previous Balance	Trans Between	Expenses	Income	Ending Balance
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		Funds			
General Assistance	\$73,284.60	0	0	\$307.09	\$73,591.69
Town Fund	\$258,135.92	0	0	\$1,081.70	\$259,217.62
Road & Bridge	\$118,474.43	0	0	\$496.45	\$118,970.88

General Assistance: Schuster will be attending a seminar in Rockford this month. Nothing else to report.

Clerk's Report: Seemann has nothing to report.

Road Commissioner's Report: Helpers informed the Board that he received the bid letter for this year's salt, and that North America Salt won the bid. Helpers ordered 500 ton.

- The McHenry County convicts have been picking up the litter along the right-of-ways. This is the second time this year they have done so.
- Helpers and his crew will begin their final mowing program of the year tomorrow.
- They are getting ready for winter.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Andrews stated that the taxes were published September 26th in the Woodstock Independent Newspaper. He added that the taxes could be appealed within thirty days.

Planning Commission: - Information/review/action

- A. **Commission Activity Report – Committee reviewed/action on pending petitions-** Nothing this month.
- B. **New Petitions to be considered for action and/or review by the town board:**
 - i. **Petition #07-50 – Rick Bellairs – Menge Rd property – A1 to E5 estate:** This petition was pulled from the ZBA agenda.
 - ii. **Petition #07-? – Sam & Cindy Romano – Garden Valley Rd. – A1 to A1-C:** There is no information on file. No date has been set for the hearing. They continue to operate illegally.
- C. **Update on Petitions Pending County Board Action:**
 - i. **Petition #07-? – Enbridge Energy Limited – 4204 Franklinville Rd. – Union, II – CUP:** Following the county board's petition denial, the petitioners request is now in court.

Old Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Building Project– update** Building Project – update Attorney Bob Wagner explained the laws of bidding to the Board. In addition, he addressed our options for the next step in the building project.
The Board questioned the architect as to why the bids came in so much higher than he had projected and what our options might be to lower the cost? Architect Scott Polit stated that he designed the addition to our specs. He offered some suggestions to our original design to try to reduce the cost, as well as, discussed the option of a pole building versus stick built. The board discussed two options: 1) Redesign the addition; 2) Draft a letter and send it to the original bidders asking for their suggestions, along with some of our ideas, as to what could be done to reduce the cost of the addition. The Board and Architect Scott Polit both agreed that the #2 option would be the best idea at this point. Dahlfors motioned to direct Schuster to draft a letter to thank / reject the bids to the bidders, have our attorney and architect review the letter prior to sending it, then send it out to all the people who bid on the project asking for their opinions. The letter should also include the amount we plan to spend on the project. Second by Schuster. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

New Business: Information/review/action

- A. **Legislation – TOI Perspective** Most of the board members just received their book today. Will postpone this topic to the next meeting.
- B. **Influenza Grant:**
 - i. **Amend 2007/08 Town Fund Budget – place on 30 day review – Hearing set for 6:45 p.m. 11/13/07** – Schuster informed the Board that we received the Influenza Grant money, which she deposited in the bank. This is the reason for the budget amendment. Schuster highlighted the changes in the budget for the Board to review. Mathews motioned to place the amended 2007/08 Town Fund budget on review for thirty days. Second by O’Leary. Motion passed.
- C. **TOI Survey Suggestions:** The Board would like TOI to address the issue of Special Use Permits.

Other:Information/review/action

- Flu shot information was handed out to the Board regarding information for anyone who needs assistance with getting the shot.
- Avian Flu information was handed out to the Board.
- The McHenry County Planning Commission is having a meeting on October 10, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. regarding its 2030 Land Use Plan. They will discuss their plans for development. The meeting will take place in the Administrative Building on Ware St. in Woodstock. Schuster stated that the townships will also have the chance to meet with them. Kenosha & Walworth will be meeting to discuss their Land Use Plan the following night.
- Possible update and additions to our Land Use Plan will be reviewed by the Board at the November meeting.
- An invoice from Bank of America for the Road District in the amount of \$203.49 was received. Dahlfors motioned to approve payment of this invoice prior to next month’s meeting. Second by Bartman. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Schuster. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:47 p.m. Dahlfors motioned to adjourn tonight’s regular monthly meeting. Second by Mathews. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk