

SENECA TOWNSHIP
Regular Monthly Meeting
November 13, 2012

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Seneca Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm 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, Assessor Paul Bockman, Road Commissioner Scott Swanson, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent Officials: None.

Guests in Attendance: Bob Pope, Dave Seemann, Norm Kisse, Roger Heimsoth, and Conrad Schultz.

Public Speaking: Roger Heimsoth spoke on behalf of the Union Fire Protection District regarding their concerns with the Central Forestree business located on Dunham Road. The fire department's main concern is the amount of mulch and the size of the mulch piles on that property that could cause a fire, which would be impossible to safely control. Mr. Heimsoth stated the fire department members will be writing a letter to the ZBA and county board members voicing their concerns in order to have a better chance of not having a mulch fire in Seneca Township.

- Conrad Schultz questioned why the property owners have been allowed to get this far with their business. He stated they are bringing trees in from out of state, which is illegal; numerous trucks are coming and going everyday, the wood and mulch amounts are tremendous, there are ground water concerns. Although a CUP has been applied for, no letters have been received by the surrounding property owners regarding a hearing. Township support is what the neighbors are asking for.

Minutes: Dahlfors motioned to approve the October 9, 2012 minutes as presented. Second by Bartman. Motion passed.

Audit of Current Bills:

Road District – Dahlfors motioned to approve the Road District Bills for payment for the period of October 10, 2012 through November 13, 2012 in the amount of \$7,054.65. Second by Mathews. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Town Fund – O’Leary motioned to approve the Town Fund Bills for payment for the period of October 10, 2012 through November 13, 2012 in the amount of \$5,805.52. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Kagel informed the board of a correction he made to last month’s Treasurer’s Report. Two bills were missed so he corrected the expense and ending balance amounts. Mathews motioned to approve the corrected September Treasurer’s Report. Second by Bartman. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

- Dahlfors motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the period of October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012, as listed below. Second by Bartman. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Checking	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
Town Fund	\$191,716.60	0	(\$9,073.01)	\$4,689.96	\$187,333.55
Road & Bridge	\$74,309.65	0	(\$11,103.54)	\$3,239.79	\$66,445.90

CD	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
Road & Bridge	\$126,638.57	0	(\$27,741.46)	\$1,102.89	\$100,000.00

Money Market	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
General Assistance	\$101,912.73	0	0	\$56.75	\$101,969.48
Perm Hard Road	\$232,592.12	0	(\$1,159.11)	\$3,138.18	\$234,571.19
Bldg & Maintenance	\$41,654.83	0	0	\$693.57	\$42,348.40

General Assistance Report: Kagel reported there were three applications picked up, however, none of them have been returned.

Clerk’s Report: Seemann reminded the board to complete their online training for the Open Meetings Act.

Road Commissioner’s Report: Swanson reported the speed limit on Davis Road has been reduced to 40 mph. Half of Davis road is owned by Dorr Township and half of it is owned by Seneca Township.

- Last month Swanson informed the board about a survey being conducted at the intersection of Rt. 176 and Dunham Road to see if a stop light is necessary. Tonight Swanson informed the board that a stop light will not be installed due to lack of funding. However, updated stop signs will be put up.
- In addition, Swanson reported the plows are ready for the winter, garbage pick-up along the right-of-ways had been taken care of, and tree trimming has been done.

Assessor's Report: Bockman reported he has had approximately 100 tax appeals. He added there is a hearing scheduled for December for a \$100,000 appeal, which the school board has to attend.

Planning Commission Report: Seneca Township Planning Commission member stated they haven't heard anything about the Dunham Road issue yet. He is concerned, however, about the McHenry County Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) that introduces A3 zoning. In his opinion, this will be opening "a big can of worms" if it passes, and feels it is not a good idea.

Old Business:

A. Discussion of possible conditional use application for business on Dunham Road; Seneca Township's options – County Board Member Mary McCann sent an email to Kagel informing him that the property owner applied for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) on November 1, 2012. She mentioned "upon early review there are a number of issues/questions that must be addressed before the application is complete." The township will be notified when the application is complete.

- Mathews made a motion to submit a letter from the Township to the Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, as well as all 24 county board members. Second by O'Leary. Motion passed. Swanson added that he has seen all the wood/mulch that is there and said he'd be concerned too.

- Dave Seemann spoke on behalf of the concerned citizens thanking the board for hearing them last month and "getting a feel" for what the property owners are doing. The residents are simply asking for the support of the board by having them address the upper boards to force a super-majority vote, especially now that the Union Fire Department spoke about their concerns.

- Kagel will send a letter now to the ZBA and the county board members, which all the Township board members will sign, and a follow-up letter once the CUP has been seen.

- Kagel suggested the residents should attend the zoning hearing for even more of an impact.

New Business:

A. Consideration of 2013 Town Tax Levy - Kagel informed the board that he has cut the 2013 Tax Levy by 2-1/2%. After discussion, Dahlfors motioned to approve the 2013 Tax Levy. Second by Mathews. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None.

B. Consideration of 2013 Road District Levy – Swanson stated he will be asking the same amount for 2013 Tax Levy as last year, neither increasing or decreasing the amount.

Dahlfors motioned to approve the 2013 Road District Levy. Second by Mathews. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O'Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Supervisor's Report:

Kagel received a 2012 Election of Executive Trustee ballot from IMRF. The board asked that this be put on next month's agenda for discussion.

Motion to Adourn: At 8:07 p.m. Dahlfors motioned to adjourn tonight's regular monthly meeting. Second by Bartman. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk