

SENECA TOWNSHIP
Regular Monthly Minutes
June 11, 2013

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, Road Commissioner Scott Swanson, Assessor Paul Bockman, and Clerk Dawn Seemann. Absent Officials: None.

Guests in Attendance: Robert Pope, Neil Mason, Joe Flosi, Tom Zank, James Hong, Eddie Hong, Aesoon Hong, Esther Hong, Jae Kim.

Minutes: Dahlfors motioned to approve the May 14, 2013 regular monthly 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 May 15, 2013 through June 11, 2013 in the amount of \$25,235.88. Second by O’Leary. 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 May 15, 2013 through June 11, 2013 in the amount of \$14,864.12. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed. Voting yes: Bartman, Mathews, Dahlfors, O’Leary, Kagel. Voting no: None. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Mathews motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period of May 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013, 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	\$128,650.44	(\$2.06)	(\$12,519.71)	\$12,240.80	\$128,369.47
Road & Bridge	\$22,857.02	\$2.06	(\$14,894.16)	\$8,182.07	\$16,146.99

CD	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
Road & Bridge	\$100,000.00	0	0	0	\$100,000.00

Money Market	Prev. Bal.	Transfer Funds	Expenses	Income	Ending Bal.
General Assistance	\$101,924.59	0	(\$862.00)	\$141.20	\$101,203.79
Perm Hard Road	\$231,425.94	0	(\$1,795.81)	\$8,677.01	\$238,307.14
Bldg & Maintenance	\$21,664.87	0	(\$3,125.00)	\$1,793.66	\$20,333.53

General Assistance Report: Kagel informed the board that he had one emergency assistance case. It is the 1st case in approximately one year.

Clerk's Report: Seemann gave Kagel the information he needed to pre-order the updated Clerk's Handbook.

Road Commissioner's Report: Swanson reported that River Road has been paved; the shouldering will be done next week with the help of Greenwood Township; and the binder will be laid next year. Mowing of the right-of-ways has been completed, as well.

Assessor's Report: Bockman stated he has visited most of the properties with open and closed permits, and those with new added constructions. He also followed up on county questions. He will have the updated assessment books turned in to the county shortly. The assessment notices will be mailed out within two weeks.

Planning Commission Report: The Planning Commission met this month regarding Petition #12-08. The petitioners are asking for an amendment to their existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow expansion of an existing apple orchard. After discussion of the request, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the petition subject to the following: 1) Commercial carnival rides will not be permitted; 2) No electronic or mechanical rides, with the exception of hay rides will be permitted; 3) Lighting will be kept to a minimum, with any parking lot lighting being down lighting; and 4) The scope shall remain agricultural tourism centered.

Public Speaking: Attorney Tom Zank spoke on behalf of the Hong family. Mr. Zank presented a "bird's eye view" drawing of the proposed expansion plans and discussed specific details.

- Seneca Township Resident Joe Flosi, who is a neighbor of the Hong family, was concerned about the lack of buffer between his property and the apple orchard. He is worried the lack of trees will allow the spray from treating the trees will drift over to his property and contaminate his horses' water and food. He would like a 24 hour notice from the Hong's prior to them spraying the trees so he can move the horses, turn over the water and food troughs, close windows, etc. The pesticide contamination is Mr. Flosi's main concern.

- Seneca Township Resident Neal Mason spoke of his concerns regarding traffic issues. He stated, "A turn lane would be a great help." Mr. Mason is also concerned about noise from possible carnival rides, and from the frost fans which are used when the temperature drops below 32 degrees.

- Esther Hong elaborated on some of the concerns. She stated there will be no carnival rides, they are not requesting to sell alcohol, and the traffic is diverted to specific entrance and exit driveways. Mr. Hong explained that the frost fans automatically turn on when the temperature hits 32 degrees and shuts off as soon as the temperature is warmer than 32 degrees.

-The next ZBA meeting regarding this petition is scheduled for June 19th.

New Business:

A. Consideration by Seneca Township Board of recommendation to McHenry County ZBA for conditional use permit by Hong family - The board reviewed and discussed Petition #12-08. Although our Seneca Township Planning Commission did not have a problem with the petition, the McHenry County ZBA had questions, which will be addressed at the next hearing scheduled for June 19, 2013. Kagel addressed the residents' concerns, stating the spraying concern has nothing to do with the CUP and is a neighbor issue, and the traffic issue on Rt. 176 is in the planning stages according to a letter he received. He stated we could make suggestions to the county regarding a turn lane, but ultimately we cannot force a turn lane because it is a state route highway. Therefore, upon further discussion and considering the aforesaid, Mathews motioned to approve recommendation of the CUP with the same conditions of the Seneca Township Planning Commission and have Kagel send a letter to the ZBA stating such. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

B. Intent to Comply Ordinance (Prevailing Wage Act) - Bartman motioned to approve the Intent to comply with the Prevailing Wage Ordinance. Second by Dahlfors. Voting yes: Bartman, Dahlfors, Kagel. Voting no: O'Leary, Mathews. Motion passed.

Supervisor's Report:

- Kagel informed the board the front entrance of the township building is in need of minor repairs. He explained that the "W" trust is weathered and in time will cause the boards to rot. The suggestion was made to enclose the trust with siding. Kagel called the builder to give us a price to fix the problem. Kagel will also be calling an electrician to take care of the flag light wiring.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:20 p.m. O'Leary motioned to adjourn tonight's regular monthly meeting. Second by Dahlfors. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Seemann
Township Clerk