

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 10, 2018

Clerk Holubek called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Crete Town Hall, 1367 Wood St. Crete, Il.

Pledge of Allegiance was then given to the flag.

Clerk Holubek then asked for nominations for the Moderator of the meeting, nominations were made for Tim Miller by Frank Elton, seconded by Bob Hodge. Additional nomination was called for Nick Markobrad by Mr. Markobrad, but was told he could not nominate himself. Supervisor Liccar than nominated Mr. Markobrad, seconded by Bob Hodge. Since there were (2) nominees, vote by hand was taken. Tim Miller received 14 hands, Mr. Markobrad received 1. Tim Miller was selected by the electors as Moderator for the meeting.

Michael Liccar made a motion to pay the Moderator a fee of \$25.00. Clerk Holubek stated the prior year moderator fee was set at \$50.00. Supervisor Liccar changed this motion to set the fee at \$50.00, seconded by Bob Hodge. Tim Miller will be donating the moderator fee to the Crete Pantry.

Mr. Miller than announced the date for the 2019 annual Town Meeting as April 9, 2019 and motion to set the time of 7:00 p.m. was made by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Lauri Summers, Will County Dist. 1 Board. All were in favor.

Clerk Holubek than read the Supervisor's Annual Reports as follows:

TOWN FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$971,810
The amount received from all sources:	\$658,429
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(669,742)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$960,497
The amount tax levied the preceding year:	\$642,144
The amount of property tax collected:	\$638,988

TOWN INSURANCE FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$20,536
The amount received from all sources:	\$35,073
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(29,733)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$25,877
The amount tax levied the preceding year:	\$35,225
The amount of property tax collected:	\$35,051

TOWN RETIREMENT FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$75,593
The amount received from all sources:	\$55,173
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(56,411)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$74,355
The amount tax levied the preceding year:	\$55,303
The amount of property tax collected:	\$55,031

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$93,057
The amount received from all sources:	\$47,840
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(15,705)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$125,192
The amount tax levied the preceding year:	\$47,905
The amount of property tax collected:	\$47,670

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$179,619
The amount received from all sources:	\$1,537,731
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(1,527,133)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$190,218
The amount of tax levied the preceding year:	\$1,260,500
The amount of property tax collected:	\$1,255,669

ROAD AND BRIDGE INSURANCE FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$11,675
The amount received from all sources:	\$33,649
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(60,296)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$(14,972)
The amount of tax levied the preceding year:	\$33,816
The amount of property tax collected:	\$33,686

ROAD AND BRIDGE RETIREMENT FUND

Fund balance at beginning of fiscal year:	\$26,301
The amount received from all sources:	\$77,261
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(73,478)
Fund balance at end of fiscal year:	\$30,084
The amount of tax levied the preceding year:	\$77,494
The amount of property tax collected:	\$77,197

CONSOLIDATED FUNDS

Funds on hand at beginning of fiscal year:	\$1,378,591
The amount received from all sources:	\$2,445,157
The amount expended for all purposes:	\$(2,432,497)
Funds on hand at end of fiscal year:	\$1,391,250
The amount of tax levied the preceding year:	\$2,152,386
The amount of property tax collected:	\$2,143,291

RECOMMENDATIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSION BY ELECTORS

CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT FUND – Supervisor Liccar explained to all the purpose of creating a Capitol Improvement Fund with the idea of possibly building a new Town Hall and Campus. Explaining reasons for this included needing more room for meetings, storage and future events. A committee has been created which includes Crete Township Elected officials, community organizers, some non-for-profit leaders in town, some members of other taxing bodies. The Board has been considering this venture for some time. Parking spaces are also limited to about 20 vehicles at this time. The current Town Hall is approximately 4,600 square feet. Supervisor Liccar mentioned some of the local organizations which currently use Town Hall for meeting and events, which also includes the Crete Food Pantry, which has been an ongoing problem. Storage is at a premium, when the Pantry has additional surplus food, storage is contained to the basement. Many of the volunteers are seniors, who must take this food down stairs. Also, many computer supplies must be retrofitted because the building is 30 years old. The Town Board would like to do more in the way of senior events and youth events, but currently this building is too small. We would also like to do more cultural and recreational activities. At a meeting of the Feasibility Group which includes the Township Board and many local group reps met on March 27th at Town Hall at which Pat Polzin, representing the Crete Park District had suggested an interest in partnering with Crete Township to create a joint facility with shared offices which would give us the ability to put together a community center. The community center would be used for not only for additional meetings, , this would also save costs by both entities would share facilities, but also for convenience of park activities and township activities, also in the past, the township has done activities with the Crete park district and to date, we are currently putting together a concert in the park this summer, once a month. This would give us the ability to do more joint activities as well as cultural activities for citizens of all ages. The park district currently has trained staff to do these programs.

Jill Hornick questioned the use of the Steger Community Center, Supervisor Liccar stated the proposed sale of the current town hall, and have our own community center and

a new and improved town hall with room for today and the future. The question came up regarding the possibility of the Village of Crete purchasing the current town hall. The park district is currently considering purchasing a piece of property adjacent to the current Old Plank Trail Bank – Mortgage Center and additional 15 acres of vacant land to the south of the current building. Supervisor Liccar stated we are looking for property which would be centrally located within Crete Township. Jill stated that currently, Crete Township is not part of the Crete Park District, and Supervisor Liccar stated there would be an intergovernmental agreement between both parties. Jill also questioned how the taxing would work, currently we do not pay into the park district and if we want to be included in their programs, we would have to pay additional fees. Supervisor Liccar stated that agreements must be decided upon regarding cost, but the Township would not increase our levy. Currently, Crete Township residents who participate in the park district programs (special programs) do not pay non-resident fees, but for regular programs they will pay non-resident fees. There are many factors which need to be worked out should this venture go forward, and we're not there yet. Sharing capital costs as well as operating costs would be the goal. Mr. Markobrad questioned the total use of the proposed Town Hall Campus. Supervisor Liccar stated the goal would be to replace the current Town Hall and include additional space for activities. In addition, we would also have a joint community center, which would include not only more meeting rooms for the non-profit groups but there would be specific space for the food pantry. Mr. Markobrad questioned if that meant more activities for seniors and youth. Pat Polzin of the Park District stated the current building was built in 1976, and they outgrew it the next day. Currently, the park district is relying on the school district to provide additional programs that cannot be held at the district. A building on Main St. currently housing ballet classes, which are currently over 200 strong. The building on First St. currently houses 1 ½ offices only, the hall will be maintained as is with current reserved space currently booked until the end of the year. Pat Polzin stated "Why have 2 taxing bodies in the area spend the same amount of money separately, come together pull their resources and work together". The summer rate for participation is now the same rate for all. Almost all of their senior programs are all one rate. 80% of the summer book is now one rate, no non-resident rate applies. Supervisor Liccar stated the Township is still in the talking stage regarding this venture. Lauri Summers, Dist. 1 County Board stated if this project goes forward "IT WILL NOT BE THE TAJ MAHAL". Supervisor Liccar stated the Township has limited funding, so this project cannot be a Taj Mahal. Pat Polzin stated "THE PARK DISTRICT WILL NOT RAISE TAXES". The Park District will use bonding. Supervisor Liccar stated it has taken many years to accumulate the money in reserve, and we have again lowered our levy again this year, and we want to keep things status quo.

FLOODING AND DRAINAGE CONTROL

There are certain areas within the Township where we have recurring flooding problems. Some areas of concern are Exchange and Burrville, Stoney Island, Stateline, Stateline and Danne, Danne Road, Old Post Road, Anne Lane, Sangamon and Norfolk. Two months ago with the with the snow melt, we had several roads closed and completely under water. Being on the Board since 2001, and Supervisor since 2017, was receiving several calls in regards to this matter, as well as the Road Commissioner, Tony Recupito. When dealing with flooding, if it pertains to the roads, the highway dept. is responsible, but all they can do is wait for the water to go down and block off the roads for use. The Township technically doesn't have and jurisdiction over areas that are flooding, and the reasons behind it, not knowing for sure, but along Stateline Rd, the creeks do not drain. They are covered with beaver dams or downed trees. The township has hired a company to fly over the effected areas to spot possible reasons for flooding issues. A better solution to this problem would be to create drainage districts. These drainage districts would have their own board of commissioners and their job would be to deal with drainage issues and flooding. There are 2 ways to create drainage districts, both would involve the Army Corp of Engineers. (1) Petition signed by 20% of the land owners owning more than 1/4th of the land or 25% of the landowners owning majority of the land, must go to court and petition for creation of the district, (2) 10% of the landowners owning 1/5 of the land within the district must again go to court and petition for a referendum regarding the creation of a district. Crete Township is not aware of any current drainage district which are still active, Lauri Summers requested the Township contact the County for verification.

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