

State of Illinois
County of Will
Town of Crete

CRETE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

JUNE 13, 2018

The regular scheduled meeting of the Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Liccar at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Roll call was called as follows: Trustees Elton – present, Grady – present, Hodge – present, Piacentini – present. Supervisor Liccar - present. Clerk Holubek was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2018 Board meeting was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor, minutes stand approved as written.

REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Liccar amended the agenda for the purpose of a report to be given by Linda Brown representing the Crete Health and Safety Fair. Ms. Brown reported the Fair will be held on Saturday, June 23rd. from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm. At the Crete United Methodist Church Parking Lot, In case of inclement weather, fair will be inside Crete UMC. Free screenings will be offered for Hepatitis C, Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, and Body Mass Index Measurements. Free Smoke Detectors compliments pf the Crete Fire Department and additional FREE giveaways provided by vendors. Free dental cleaning for children.

- . Crete Township Intermodal Relations Committee – No new news – To be continued.
- . Capital Improvement Fund – Fund has been established with the new budget
- . A recent meeting with the Crete Park Board attended by Supervisor Liccar and Trustee Elton, a decision was announced that the recently discussed joint effort to work with the park board to purchase the adjacent Old Plank Trail building together was not feasible. The building would not serve Crete Township's future plans, but left the door open.
- . Discussion of flooding issues - Road Commissioner Recupito and Tim Miller, Assessor Tamez along with Supervisor Liccar met with 2 representative from Willet Hoffman and Associates, Engineers Brian Convert- Structural Dept. Mgr. and Michael Leslie – VP and Moline Office Mgr. Copies of the aerial photos taken recently of various creeks around town, were given to these men and asked for a proposal what it would cost to do a study of the blockages and other draining problems we are currently having. They will come back with an estimate which will then be presented to the Board. They seem to think they could be helpful. Commissioner Recupito had stated he has worked with this firm before, and they seem to be of high caliber.
- . Discussion regarding future issues of the Crete Messenger – A person who can handle the graphics and putting it together has been selected. Trustee Elton and Supervisor Liccar are reviewing current and past pricing costs for ads to figure out the break- even costs, and making an estimate on what we could do for ad revenue and so forth to determine pricing for ads. We are offering about a 22 % discount from what Northwest Indiana Times had offered. Pam, current office staff has taken on the project of creating a pricing sheet, and a list of current advertisers and past ones, and will start contacting these prospective advertisers to defray the cost of the our newsletter.

Update of Tax Objection – No Updates to report.

Passage of Town Fund and Road and Bridge Fund Budgets for 2018/2019 – Motion to Approve passage of the Town Fund Budget was made by Trustee Hodge, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Town Fund Budget has been approved.

Motion to approve the Road and Bridge Fund Budget for 2018/2019 was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Road and Bridge Fund Budget has been approved.

Supervisor Liccar reported on the first Concert in the Park, having a Jazz ensemble from Crete Monee High School. A beautiful evening and a great turnout, a lot of folks came out and brought out lawn chairs and blankets. There was also a swing dance group and danced to the big band music. The students were very good and give them credit because not being aware at the time, the band director had passed away a few weeks ago and had been there for some time, got a new director, a student stepped up and organized rehearsals and did a really great job.

Supervisor Liccar noted a correspondence from Mr. Deel, a resident currently living in Crete but soon to be moving to Florida. He is looking to donate 9 lots he currently owns to the Township. Supervisor Liccar will contact Mr. Deel for more details.

CLERK :

Building Usage Application – received from Lauri Summers representing the Crete Township Democrats. Motion to approve the meeting dates for building usage was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor, usage approved.

Building Usage Application – Ridgefield Improvement Association – Annual Meeting. Motion to approve the meeting date was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor, usage approved.

Approval of Quote from Sound Tronix for Concert in the Park – Motion to approve the quote of \$1,200.00 was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Acceptance of Proposal for the Crete Township Messenger – Trustee Elton proposed accepting the proposal from WE THE PRINTER of \$6,529.00 for work to be done for the Messenger. Motion by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Grady. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Approval of Rental Service Agreement with Cintas – Motion to approve the Agreement with Cintas for rental service was made by Trustee Hodge, seconded by Trustee Grady. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – Yes, Trustee Grady – yes. Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Approval of invoice for painting of common areas and the Assessors' Office, including labor for office furniture moving was made by Trustee Hodge, seconded by Trustee

Elton. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Approval and passage of the Prevailing Wage Ordinance #18-02 was made by Trustee Elton seconded by Trustee Grady. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

TRUSTEE GRADY:

Trustee Grady gave the finance reports for all funds. Attached. Also suggested to establish caps. Motion to establish a separate bank account for the Capital Improvement Fund under the Town Fund Account was made by Trustee Grady, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER:

Highway Commissioner Recupito gave the following report: See attached.

ASSESSOR:

Request to declare surplus furniture. Motion to approve the request to declare surplus (1) aluminum desk with a detachable side desk was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Assessor Tamez and the Board had discussion regarding a proposed Employee Policy change to include Parental Leave to Eligible Employees. This policy would provide up to 12 weeks of leave time with the Township compensating at 60% of the employees regular, straight weekly pay for the first 6 weeks, and an additional 6 weeks of unpaid leave is available under this proposal.

Discussion was then heard, beginning with Supervisor Liccar. Supervisor Liccar stated currently no policy exists regarding and since the past Assessor may have paid the last pregnant employee or had the employee use accumulated vacation and sick days to be paid, is currently not known. Past records could be checked but remains in the past. Being a government agency, with limited revenues, our current benefit package for employees is generous. With completely paid insurance (health, dental, and eye care). Earned paid sick days and vacation days also. Also discussed was if in the future, male employees would wish to use this policy for time off of a new born. With the limited revenues, these request could be too constraining and a very expensive cost. At this time, the Township doesn't have the financial were with all to support this proposal.

Trustee Grady added this would be an additional benefit, that had not been approved and therefore be setting a precedent, but the main thing would still be an additional benefit, and has been said, the Township has always had a generous benefit package for the employees, and to approve another benefit would be somewhat putting a strain on the current budget, and do not see that at this point of time. In addition to that, this is not a common thing done in the industry. There are a few corporations that offer that benefit, but it's rare. Under the FALM Act, an employee can have time off for maternity leave, and be guaranteed her job when she comes back to work, but does not allow for company paid leave time. The employee can use her banked vacation days and sick days for some payment.

See attached report of activity for the Assessors' Office

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

PLAN COMMISSION – A meeting with the (2) solar farms was discussed. There was a small presentation of the solar farm on Goodenow and Dutton Road and one at the corner of Munz and Cottage Grove. They had a plan set up for the layout and have agreed with the County on specifications. At this time, the plan commission has nothing to add. The hearing in Joliet will not be before September, the County is backed up with other hearings. Unless something else comes up in the meantime, the Commission will reserve comments at this time.

Currently there are 5 solar farms proposed for the area, Trustee Elton stated a conversation with Judy Ogalla, Dist. 1 County Board member, she suggested the board pass an Ordinance limiting the amount of solar farms in the area, and it be sent to Will County. Trustee Elton states recommending the Board adopt this suggestion and pass an Ordinance. Supervisor Liccar reminded all the Township had no authority to regulate the airport, CSX or anything else. The State is behind solar farms, and the County wants to do this. Commissioner Rzymiski stated there were 4 bills that passed the House and Senate on the last day of State legislature, they will not become law until Governor Rauner signs them in September but will be watching this to see what the bills are for.

There might be a pollinator bill. When you plant grasses they should be conducive to butterflies and bees as well as other insects. It is likely although 4 companies are proposing building solar farms, only 1 will receive incentives from the State, and it may have to be determined by lottery as to which one gets the monies. He recommends the Township consider the request due to the density of a certain area, the amount of electric energy that could be absorbed by Commonwealth Edison is determined by these small substations and that's why there's four on Cottage Grove because right across the street from the entrance to the Plum Grove Equestrian Area, there is a small substation that runs along the right-of-way for the Township Park District, next to the electrical lines. How much power can actually go in to the substation before Com Ed has to make up-grades to the limit of how many farms can go in. There are a lot of unknowns here but the Township should consider creating an Ordinance for the County.

Road Commissioner Recupito stated the Township should adopt the Will County' Comprehensive Plan regarding solar farms, but we can then make changes to fit our requests regarding the limit of solar farms within Crete Township.

Supervisor Liccar suggested a committee be formed to study this issue, Trustee Grady also agrees. The committee should include Commissioner Rzymiski and Road Commissioner Recupito, Trustee Elton and Trustee Grady. There are so many issues that need to be worked out. Too many unknowns at this time. Motion to create this committee was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Hodge. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge, - Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. To be known as the "SOLAR FARM PROJECT COMMITTEE"

Building and Grounds –

Review and Approve Contract with Bedrock Concrete Arts, Inc. for exterior work to be performed at Town Hall. This was sought to improve safety at the Town Hall building due to a recent incident where a driver broke through a column of the building and was in danger of actually plowing his car into the building, endangering township employees.

Motion to approve the contract with Bedrock Concrete Arts, Inc. for concrete planters and new colored concrete across the parking lot face was made by Trustee Hodge,

seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor, roll call was taken as follow: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Motion to remove funds from contingency fund to building and grounds fund was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Senior Transportation – Trustee Hodge - No report.

Youth – Trustee Piacentini – No report

Mosquito Abatement – Trustee Piacentini reported the quote for the new mosquito truck comes in at \$24,700. A fire at the factory will set back delivery date for the truck.

Senior and Special events – Trustee Elton reported the Senior Picnic started off with wet weather, by party time the sun was out and everyone had a good time.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Citizens to address the board – None

Correspondence – Follow-up letter from CASA of Will County

Announcements – None

APPROVAL OF BILLS

TOWN FUND BILLS – Motion to approve the Town Fund Bills as presented was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Town Fund bills stand approved for payment as submitted.

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND BILLS – Motion to approve the Road and Bridge Fund bills as presented was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Grady – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Road and Bridge Fund bills stand approved for payment as submitted.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Grady. All were in favor, meeting stands adjourned at 8:24p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Holubek

Clerk