

State of Illinois
County of Will
Town of Crete

CRETE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MARCH 13, 2019

The Regular scheduled meeting of the Crete Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Liccar at 7:02 p.m.

Trustees in attendance were: Elton, Grady, Hodge and Piacentini. Clerk Holubek was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor, minutes stand approved as written.

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Special meeting was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Grady. All were in favor, minutes stand approved as written.

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR – Supervisor Liccar has reviewed (2) bids for I.T. Services for the Township offices. Requested a third bid before approving any bid.

Senior Transportation meeting update – Supervisor Liccar updated information regarding the current Senior Transportation program after attending another meeting with Will County. Items discussed were: Cost has been escalating. He explained the Township has provided this service for about 15 years, and originally started with Southland Senior Services, and when they abruptly went out of business, the Township partnered with Washington Township to be able to provide Paratransit service. Washington Township was able to operate this very effectively, in the sense that they hired their own drivers, rented buses from PACE, and they also received a grant from the Federal Government Area on Ageing, which covered about 85% of the cost of busing as related to Seniors. Costs were significantly less. At that time, the cost per round trip was about \$20.00. The County of Will got involved with wanting to establish a mobility program within the Counties transportation program which was established about 8 years ago. Will County than applied for the grant from Area on Ageing and received it instead of Washington Township. With this, the costs started going up. Meetings with Will County began to partner with them on this Will Ride program. The program now included Crete Township, Washington Township and Frankfort Township and Monee Township Will and Peotone Township were also included. Will Ride than got the (2) grants, Area on Ageing a Federal Program which provides about 85% of the cost and JARC and New Freedom, these are primarily provided for disabled individuals and Seniors and only pays about 50% of the cost. The Will Ride program is a County program but is directed by the County Executive. Will County contracts with PACE to provide services. PACE subcontracts to another service where the buses and van are dispatched from in Alsip. Although Will Ride is a County program, the County provides no monies to the program. The gross costs at what PACE charges Will Ride varies depending on ridership and vary from month to month is currently between \$38 and \$42 per one way trip. The round trip cost would be \$76 or \$84 for a round trip. To defray the costs, there is an Area on Ageing grant, which is a Federal Program, which pays 85% for seniors only. The New Freedom Grant pays about 50% for those who are disabled but are not Seniors. A suggested donation per ride is \$2.00. The average net cost for Crete Township for the calendar year of 2018 is \$11.73 for a one way ride, and \$23.46 for a round trip ride. Crete Township makes up a little over 50% of the Will Ride program. Currently, we are being charged on a per ride basis not on mileage. If we have a resident wanting to go to Walt's for groceries it's the same \$23.46 that someone from Frankfort goes to Joliet. Our opinion is to be fair, the charges should reflect mileage not per ride. Currently, the costs are

increasing yearly, and the problem is that we receive our invoices 3 to 4 months after the fact. So, by the time we receive the bill, we are having a hard time controlling the costs. Our current budget for this program is \$55,000.00. Our current cost for calendar year 2018 is now coming up to about \$70,000.00 to administer this program. Since we get no other significant sources of funding, Crete Township property taxes, which basically funds this program, we went through all the ridership and did an analysis, the significant portion of the ridership, at least 50% is for medical purposes. Riders use this for dialysis and other doctor appointments and dentist appointments. 8% is used for shopping, 20% is used for work (disabled going to special schools or special work programs) After looking at cost, we did an analysis of cost and tried to see what services we could cut to bring the cost down. As a result of that we decided to eliminate primarily the social programs. The Township has approximately 23,000 residents and currently we have 120 residents using this program and some of these riders are going to movies and social parties, with a lot of difficulties the Township Board had decided that social programs was least important for the residents. After further discussion, we decided that medical and dialysis and shopping would continue to be available through the Will Ride Program. Work would also be available for the disabled. Crete Township considered starting their own service, but after looking at all aspects, which would include getting the buses, hiring drivers, having staff scheduling rides, the gross cuts are still expenses. Speaking to PACE, it was suggested that currently there is a program called the Municipal Van Pool which would be a satellite program to service Eastern Will County. Frankfort Township has now started their own service and only uses Will Ride for riders going outside the Township boundaries. Supervisor Liccar stated the last meeting in Joliet produced (3) County Board Member to which Supervisor Liccar questioned whether Will County would or could contribute to the busing service. No response was heard. Supervisor Liccar stated this program is well received and necessary, and the Board of Trustees will continue to seek other avenues to keep this vital program, without interruption.

Architectural Services Proposal – The Crete Township Board recently met with the Architectural Firm of the Linden Group. They were recommended to the Board by the Ginko Planning Group, we have been working with through the Village of Crete with regards to the possibility of building a new Town Hall. Mr. Grant Carrier attended a meeting to discuss different approaches to building, whether it be mortar and brick, or the possibility of modular construction. Modular construction could be cheaper and faster once the pad is in place. He showed all in attendance several photos of recent buildings erected for town hall, police and fire departments in our area. He suggested the Board take a tour of these facilities to get ideas for future reference. A proposal for Conceptual Building Programming/ Site and Land plan analysis was presented for consideration. Hourly time and expense per schedule of rates allowance: 40 – 55 hours @ \$145.00 per hr. totaling \$5,800 to \$7,975.00. Motion to accept this proposal was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Grady. 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.

Set dates for Budget Workshop – Budget workshop scheduled for April 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Motion to approve the budget workshop date as April 17 @ 6:30 p.m.

CLERK:

Approval of agenda for the Annual Town Meeting – Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge. 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. Agenda stands approved as presented.

Notice of Early Voting Dates and Times – Early Voting will begin on March 18th and continue through March 23rd, with hours from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Announcement of date for 2019 Annual Town Meeting being April 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Request for donation for the Easter Egg Hunt – Motion to donate \$500.00 to the Crete F-Men for the Easter Egg Hunt. Motion to approve was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor.

Request from Meals on Wheels for Corporate Sponsorship – Motion to table this request was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor, this request stands tabled.

TRUSTEE GRADY – Trustee Grady reported on all Fund Balances for the Month. See attached.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER – Tim Miller read the Highway Commissioners' report. See attached.

ASSESSOR – Assessor Tamez read the monthly report. See attached.

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

Plan Commission – John Zymski, chairman reported on the Solar Farm Lottery.

Building and Grounds – No Report

Senior Transportation – No additional information.

Youth – No report

Mosquito Abatement – Trustee Piacentini gave the following report concerning briquet updates and zombie deer.

Senior & Special Events – Trustee Elton reported the date and time of the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at Lincolnshire Country Club on Friday, March 15th at Noon.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD –

Pamela Humes – Had written a letter to Supervisor Liccar on 3-7-2019 regarding the proposed cut in services for Senior Transportation. She has been using the service for grocery shopping and other functions in her daily living. After hearing Supervisor Liccars' complete explanation regarding service and possible cuts to it, she better understands the complex matter but still hopes a solution can be found to keep the service as is. She thanked the Board for current transportation availability.

Ethel Applebee – Ms. Applebee also was concerned regarding the senior bus service, which she uses for shopping. Hopes it can be continued to better service the community.

CORRESPONDENCE – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF BILLS – Motion to approve the Town Fund Bills as presented was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge, 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 Bills stand approved as submitted.

Motion to approve the Road and Bridge Fund Bills as presented was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Grady. 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. Road and Bridge Fund Bills stand approved as submitted.

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Grady. All were in favor, meeting stands adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathie Holubek
Clerk