

State of Illinois
County of Will
Town of Crete

CRETE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MAY 8, 2019

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

Board members present were: Elton, Piacentini and Hodge. Grady was absent. Clerk Buiter was also present.

Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2019 Board of Trustees meeting was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor, minutes stand approved as written.

REPORTS:

Supervisor – Update of Flooding in the Township

The problem is the township does not have jurisdiction over the flood zones. The property owners adjacent to the creeks are responsible for insuring the creeks are cleared. Several possible solutions from a long-term perspective would be to get the property owners together and see if there is a possibility of forming a homeowner's association that they could fund themselves to take care of the blockages from downed trees and beaver dams. The second solution would be to form a taxable body that would be a drainage district and that would be done through the court system. The problem would be that would be another tax on homeowners and now the real estate tax deduction is being limited. To start the ball rolling Mary Margaret Tamez has put together a listing of creek properties along the state line areas. There is a mailing going out to the property owners. This is set for June 5, 2019 at 6:30PM at the town hall. There will probably four or five of these meetings since there is four or five areas that are affected by this flooding.

Senior Transportation – Supervisor Liccar requested from Wendy Garlish that lets us know both myself and Trustee Hodge know that the Area of Aging, federal agency that provides funding for the program, is pocketing the money from the fare box money from the paratransit riders. How it works now the \$2.00 suggested contribution is now required and that belongs to the federal government. That is part of the reason we are having deficits in this program. We ran a loss of \$25,000 first time in a long time. We budgeted \$45,000 for this program last fiscal year and it jumped up to \$80,000. Supervisor Liccar reiterated that he wants to meet with this agency so we can get at least the fare box collections back asap. They also had told us that they were looking into modifying the outsourcing that they currently do or find a different way to handle the outsourcing busing. Currently it is run through PACE and PACE outsources to another firm who charges per ride which charges \$38.00 per one way ride which why this system does not work. This charge is per trip, distance does not matter. Wendie Garlish made a presentation to the Will County Board at the last meeting, at which there were several County Board members. Several of them came up to her and were responsive to her suggestions. It seems the presentation was well received, and currently there is talk of possibly putting some monies into the program, but the County does not meet regarding their budget until December. There is going to be a meeting on May 10, 2019 on these issues but Supervisor Liccar or Trustee Hodge could not make it. Supervisor Liccar will meet up with Wendy in the next two weeks.

Supervisor Liccar warmly welcomed the new clerk of Crete Township, Jim Buitter. In addition, he read a resolution recognizing the services of Kathy Holubek. Motion made to adopt the resolution was made by Trustee Piacentini and seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge - yes, Trustee Elton -yes, Trustee Piacentini -yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Clerk - A motion was to declare the 2011 Chevrolet 1500 GMC work truck as surplus was made by Trustee Elton. Motion was seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

A motion to publish the sealed bid to begin the process for selling said 2011 Chevrolet 1500 GMC work truck was made by Trustee Elton. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hodge . Motion seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – Yes.

Motion was made to grant the application to allow Ridgefield Homeowners Association to use the Town Hall on November 7, 2019 and November 5, 2020 by Trustee Elton and seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor.

A motion to appoint Patty Hanus as Deputy Clerk was made by Trustee Elton. Motion was seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Piacentini - yes Supervisor Liccar – yes.

A motion was made to publish the township budget in the Southtown Newspaper by Trustee Piacentini. The motion was seconded by Trustee Elton. The Budget was worked on for two evening workshops in April 2019. The budget workshops included the Road Commissioner and the Assessor. All were in favor. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Trustee Grady – Financial reports – See attached.

Supervisor read the Financial reports in the absence of Trustee Grady. General discussion by Supervisor Liccar was to emphasize the fact the township money is collateralized by FDIC and is audited annually to insure that are properly classified.

Highway Commissioner – See attached written report of activity.

Tim Miller discussed the activities going on at the road commission. Maintenance is always ongoing. The last day for snow plowing was April 14, 2019. They have started monthly branch pickup. They have repaired the Richton Road bridge. They have done some cold patching and spread some shoulder stone on Burville Road and other locations. They spread weed control and did some side installation repairs on Macke Road. With all the rain flooding the creek areas there are a lot of downed trees that clog up the colverts so they have been cleaning those areas up. Tim mentioned the fact one of the homeowners cut down all the oak trees on a property before the bank took over the property. The trees were over 100 years old. The cut trees were in the right of way and bank removed those. The road commission was very appreciative of this. They took delivery of a track loader. There were several roads shut down to standing high water. Road closures were on Old Post Road, Burville Road, and State Line Road. They set up barricades up an citizens get out of their cars and remove the barriers and the roads get reopen and can make the roads unsafe for other citizens.

Assessor – See attached

Plan Commission – John Rzymyski commented about the new Crete Township Fire Station 1 LED sign on Klemme Road. The district had obtained a federal grant from Homeland Security to aid in this. The Will County Land use department had several questions about the size and letters and what can be shown on the sign. The plan commission agreed to recommend that the special use permit and all variances be accepted. They set it out on May, 7, 2019. At the hearing the Land Use and Zoning Committee approved the special use and variances 7-0. Now it will go to the Will County Board committee next week. Motion was made to approve special permit use and variances for Crete Township Fire Station 2 and send a letter recommend to waive the excessive fees charged by the Will County by Trustee Elton and seconded by Trustee Piacentini. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Another item was mentioned that the Will County Board members should be made aware of the onerous requirements to get this sign approved by Will County that the Fire Protection District had to get an approval from St. John. Laurie Summers did get the \$2900 fee waived but the variances of \$1500 had to be paid. Supervisor Liccar was in shock of all these bureaucratic costs and laws.

Solar Update: Three of the five projects that were approved by us and the county were accepted in the incentive pool which means they get money from the state . We don't know if we get three. There was a lottery was held. The first one will have the choice to go ahead with their project. To get their project approve they had to get a connection approval from Commonwealth Edison. The township does not know the connection agreement entails. Either it said yes or yes you must pay for the infrastructure which means new lines and transformers. The developer pays for it. We don't know how much it is. The first name project, Woodland Solar, present two projects and both were accepted. The third one was Berrago. We still don't know will happen if the Woodland Solar pays for all the infrastructure or partner with someone. They are making things up as they go along. Nothing will probably happen this year.

Update on the Chicagoland South Economic Development Committee. They met last Friday, May 3, 2019. They sent a letter to JB Pritzker signed by 150 South Suburban officials asking for \$150 million in the Capital Budget Plan to start an infrastructure on I-57 interstate exchange for the South Suburban Airport. Supervisor was quite perplexed by this. Crete signed up under the Crete mayor signature. The airport is being pushed as a freight airport.

CSX Update: They will probably selling the land and probably will not being go ahead.

Building and Grounds – Trustee Hodge reported that Trustee Elton will update us on the flower planters. Trustee Elton has talked to the flower guy and he will plant a variety of plants, which will annuals and perennials. In addition, Crete will be watering them and maintaining them. Assessor Tamez mentioned that a neighbor stated the generator was beeping. Trustee Elton was out there and heard nothing. Supervisor Liccar suggested we find out who we have a maintenance agreement and have them check out.

Senior Transportation – No further report

Youth – No report

Mosquito Abatement – Trustee Piacentini mentioned just waiting for the weather. He did go to Joliet for the class to be recertified to put the briquets out.

Senior and Special events – Senior Picnic – Crete Park on July 31, 2019

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – Riley Schrieber discuss the unsafe traffic conditions at the 394 and Goodenow Road. A lot of cars are blowing through red lights turn left on red arrows. He called IDOT to put up cameras and they are okay if the equipment is up to standards but they sent him back to township. Supervisor Liccar and Trustee Elton mentioned that we don't have policing authority and if we collect any fines, it would go to county sheriff or state police departments.

CORRESPONDENCE – Village of Crete sent a letter looking for donations. A motion was made to donate \$500 to the Crete Memorial Day Parade Committee by Trustee Elton. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hodge. All were in favor. Roll Call was as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

ANOUNCEMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

Road and Bridge Fund Bills – Motion to approve the Road and Bridge Fund bills for payment as submitted was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hodge. Roll call was taken as follows: Trustee Hodge – yes, Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Road and Bridge fund bills stand approved for payment as submitted.

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

Respectfully submitted

Jim Buiter
Clerk