

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for February 24, 2009, was held in the Community Room of Wheeling Township, 1616 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Supervisor Schroeder called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Ulreich called the roll and the following members were present: Supervisor Michael Schroeder, Trustee Michael Domrzalski, Trustee Ruth O'Connell, Trustee Kathy Penner, Trustee JoAnne Schultz and Clerk Paula Ulreich.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Highway Commissioner Scott Saewert, Wheeling Township Assessor Dan Patlak, Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Josephine Stellato, Wheeling Township Director of Senior Services/Disabilities Kristine Freeman and Wheeling Township Attorney Nanci Rogers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Schroeder led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2009

Motion by Supervisor Schroeder, seconded by Trustee Domrzalski, to approve the minutes of January 27, 2009 as presented.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes...Motion #1 carried.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None.

OFFICIAL'S REPORT

Highway Department: Highway Commissioner Saewert reported:

- Traffic and street sign replacements are on hold until weather permits.
- The Woodland Drive Drainage Ditch Restoration and the Feehanville Drainage Channel Restoration projects have been awarded and will commence when weather permits.
- The Woodland Drive Road Resurfacing project is out for bid.
- Engineering plans have been completed on the Hill Street Drainage Ditch Restoration project.
- The Highway Commissioner attended the following meetings:

- Cook County Inspectors and the Cook County Commissioner were met with to review projects being done in the Forest River Subdivision.
- The Upper Des Plaines River/Tributaries Advisory Committee Meeting was attended.
- The Lower Des Plaines Watershed Meeting was attended.
- The Arlington Heights Director of Public Works was met with to discuss cooperative road maintenance efforts along road sections between the incorporated and unincorporated areas.
- All financials were reviewed to close Fiscal Year 2008-2009.
- Three permits, one for new construction, one for a 2nd story home addition, and one for a concrete driveway are pending.
- Two permits, one for new construction and one for rear yard drainage improvements are completed.
- No permit violations are pending.
- No revenue was received in the last month.

Assessor's Department: Assessor Patlak reported:

- The Assessor's Office has remained busy since early January assisting over 600 walk-ins and more than 900 individuals who have called the office. First installment property tax bills generated a high volume of questions about appeals and exemption eligibility. During the past two months 558 Senior, Senior Freeze, Homeowner or Disabled exemption applications have been processed.
- The Cook County Assessor's Office is still reviewing appeals submitted several months ago by Wheeling Township property owners. The Board of Review is expected to open for Wheeling Township appeals within two months of the time the County Assessor's Office reports their decisions.
- The Cook County Assessor's Office is anticipating a new mailing in March for residents who purchased a home in 2008 to receive entitled exemptions.
- No sales transfer sheets have been received from the Cook County Recorder's office since the first week of January, possibly due to slow sales or a back-up at the County.
- The AIMs system was updated with new Board of Review and exemption forms.

Clerk's Department: Clerk Ulreich asked the board if a resolution to approve the payment of bills and make expenditures from Township funds within the first quarter prior to the time when the budget is adopted is necessary. Attorney Rogers advised that it was not.

Administration Department: Director of Finance and Administration Stellato reported:

- Confirmations for end of the year budget line items have been completed.
- The General Assistance Department has experienced a large increase of clients.
- One full time bus driver is resigning to take a job in another field. One long time driver has been diagnosed with cancer. Therefore, Senior Services/Disabilities

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN & ROAD BUDGET

Supervisor Schroeder explained how Wheeling Township provides transportation through TRIP (Township Riders Initiative Program) funding. This program provides 6 day a week transportation for individuals in need of medical attention. The \$50,000 TRIP allocation for Wheeling Township has already been used.

TRIP Program Problems and Solutions:

- One problem is that Wheeling Township uses 49% of the total program's rides and other townships do not use their total allocation.
- Rides to Hines Hospital are now limited to Tuesday and Friday to save money.
- This year Palatine, Schaumburg and Wheeling Townships are tracking expenses and have exceeded the monthly funding.
- There has been discussion of eliminating Saturday rides but this becomes a problem for those on dialysis on Saturdays.
- Highway Commissioner Saewert is currently in discussion with the board to help with extra funding for this program. He has the ability to transfer funds from the Road and Bridge budget to transportation.

BUDGET DISCUSSION-SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES/STAFF SALARIES

The Supervisor and Board began the budget discussion process by reviewing the 36 Social Service agencies applying for funding to Wheeling Township. The Social Service agencies comprise the largest expense in the Town Fund. Mrs. Stellato explained that if the staff is given some direction on funding, then other line items can be put into place, keeping in mind all budgetary constrictions.

The new agencies which came forward to make presentations were reviewed. Trustee Domrzalski felt that taking on new agencies in this economy would not be a good idea. He also would like to keep the agencies at the current funding level as FY2008-09. Supervisor Schroeder felt that "Escorted Transportation Services" is a duplicate of what Wheeling Township provides. It was noted that the Township is continuing yearly spot audits, verifying residency of agency clients. Recommendations from the Social Service Agency Advisory Committee was reviewed.

By board consensus, it was recommended to keep agency funding at the same level as last year.

APPROVAL OF YEAR END BUDGET LINE ITEM CHANGES

Assessor Patlak and Highway Commissioner Saewert requested several line item change within their budgets, while keeping the bottom line the same.

NAYS: None...Motion #11 carried.

MOTION #12: AUDIT FOR THE TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Penner, to approve Batches 256, 257 and 258, against the Town Fund in the amount of \$163,755.81, to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Penner, O'Connell, Domrzalski,
Schroeder

NAYS: None...Motion #12 carried.

MOTION #13: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Domrzalski, seconded by Supervisor Schroeder, to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes...Motion #13 carried.

The regular meeting for Tuesday, February 24, 2009 was adjourned at 9:36 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

Paula L. Ulreich
Wheeling Township Clerk