

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for May 26, 2009, was held in the Community Room, of the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North 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, and Trustee JoAnne Schultz.

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those assembled joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**TOWN and GENERAL ASSISTANCE** Attorney Nanci Rogers opened the public hearing for the FY2009-10 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of Wheeling, including the Town and General Assistance funds, at 8:01 p.m. She asked those who would like to speak to give his/her name and address before giving any testimony. Asking for and hearing no public comment, the hearing was closed at 8:02 p.m.

**ROAD DISTRICT** Attorney Rogers then opened the public hearing for the FY2009-10 Road District Budget and Appropriation Ordinance at 8:02 p.m. Mr. Jerry Busse, Forest River Subdivision, asked what the money is going to be used for in Road District proposed budget, line item 31 – Contingencies \$25,000 and line item 32 – transportation \$75,000. Highway Commissioner Saewert answered, as explained at the meeting he had with Forest River residents last month, transportation will be for the Township bus program and contingencies would be used, if necessary, for any over expenditures within the budgeted line items. With no further comment, the public hearing was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF MEETING – APRIL 28, 2009**

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Penner, to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2009 board meeting, as presented.

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

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Mr. Jerry Busse, Forest River, explained that the Highway Department has begun the Graylynn restoration by digging a pipe along River Road, along the property which the Township owns. He stated that the area has been like this since the 1930's and always drains. Three feet of dirt has been taken away and he thinks that the money being spent on ditches is wasted because nothing is gained. The Highway Department is also building a berm which won't work if the river floods. "We don't have much accumulation of water and all we need now are roads." The County said some water backup is due to a homeowner putting in a driveway. Mr. Busse feels that a little less should be done sometimes, not more. "Water has been there for 75 years and it's no big deal." He would like a new engineer hired by the Township. He has "bucked heads" with Mr. Olson and feels he should not be involved with their sanitary system issues. He passed out some pictures and said the ditch is only 6' from one home's lot line.

Highway Commissioner Saewert replied that the ditch needs to have culvert pipes so the water has a way the drain out before new roads can be put in.

Mr. Busse replied, "If you raise the road 16" the road will be dry."

Mr. Saewert described how he is trying to remove 2' of silt to get the water out of the subdivision to help with drainage issues.

Joan Huening, Forest River Subdivision, asked if the subdivision could see the engineering plans before work begins so they know what's happening. Mr. Saewert answered that a monthly meeting could be set up. Ms. Huening asked if the engineer could attend the meetings. Mr. Saewert replied, "It depends." He would have to be compensated for attending. She also asked if a flood valve is being installed to protect the area. Mr. Saewert replied yes.

**OFFICIALS' REPORTS**

**Assessor:** Assessor Dan Patlak reported:

- The Cook County Assessor's Office at the Rolling Meadows Courthouse closed on May 8. As a result of tracking walk-ins, the Township has found that at least 20% of the people went to Rolling Meadows, or would have, due to not being aware of its closing.
- The Township Assessor's Office has been exceptionally busy due to several assessment related deadlines: the May 28 deadline for Board of Review appeals, Cook County Assessor exemption renewal deadlines for the Senior Freeze, Long-time Homeowner and Disabled and Disabled Veteran exemptions.
- Last year during May the Assessor's office serviced 276 constituents on location and 251 by phone. At this point for 2009, 555 walk-ins and 487 calls

have been handled. Clients have been served promptly and have avoided long waits by an increase of hours for the part-time staff.

- The Assessor's office is up to date in processing permits and recording sales.

**Highway Commissioner:** Highway Commissioner Saewert reported:

- The Traffic and Street Sign Replacement Project is on hold.
- The Woodland Drive Drainage Ditch Restoration Project is completed except for final topsoil and seeding.
- The Feehanville Drainage Channel Restoration Project is about 50% completed.
- A contract for the Woodland Drive Road Resurfacing project has been sent and a bond received. The project will start after the Woodland Drive Drainage Ditch Restoration Project is completed.
- Engineering plans are being reviewed for possible changes on the Hill Street Drainage Ditch Restoration project.
- Meetings and Activities:
  - Work was done with Cook County Inspectors to review projects being completed and permit violations in the unincorporated areas.
  - Emergency Repair Program grants were applied for drainage and road resurfacing on Hill Street, Graylynn Drive, Gregory Street, Portwine Road and Forest View Road.
  - In inquiry was made about a creek stabilization project with MWRD for McDonald Creek.
  - The Lower Des Plaines Watershed Meeting in Northlake and the Des Plaines II Plan Form Meeting in Chicago were attended.
- Two permits, one for new construction and another for a concrete driveway are pending.
- No permit violations are pending.
- No revenue was collected.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Mrs. Stellato reported:

- Last year Wheeling Township took part in a study titled "Uneven Capacity and Delivery of Human Services in the Chicago Suburbs" conducted by the University of Illinois. The study is complete and Wheeling Township is highlighted in the study for the Mobile Dental Clinic partnership and contracting with non-profits for human care services. A copy of the completed study is available for review.
- According to a call from Senator Matt Murphy, capital project grants may be available from the State of Illinois. A number of capital projects have been delayed due to budget increases for the array of in-house services Wheeling Township provides. Senator Murphy asked for a "wish list" with estimated costs to be submitted to him as soon as possible. Supervisor Schroeder and

Administrator Stellato prioritized in the following order: transportation, exterior building renovations (windows, canopy, sign) and a fixed site community dental clinic.

- Jim Lopez, representative from the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs, has seen a number of Wheeling Township residents during the past few weeks. The DVA has done a number of press releases, staff has made referrals, and the service is now listed on the Township website. It is hopeful that his caseload will increase.
- Statistics for the month of April, 2009: Food Pantry visits, 246; Mobile Dental Clinic applications, 57; Access to Care applications, 46; Angel Fund requests, 16; bus rides, 2,286; Nurse, in-office visits, 69; Nurse, home visits, 46; Meals on Wheels delivered, 1,466; employment placements, 2.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Review of Cement Apron Plans**

Administrator Stellato apprised the board that the plans for the replacement of the aprons at the entrance and exit of the Township building have been completed and have been sent to IDOT for their approval. Upon receiving their approval, bids will be received and a permit requested from the Village of Arlington Heights.

### **Review of Canopy and Sign Plans**

Mrs. Stellato provided several conceptual plans from Tinaglia Architects for the erection of a canopy over the west entrance to the building to the parking lot and for a new sign for the east side of the building. The board reviewed the plans but no decisions were made. Other canopy and sign concepts will be obtained, with quotes, before a definitive decision is made.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

The board held final discussion of all budgets prior to final adoption for FY2009-10.

**TOWN and GENERAL ASSISTANCE BUDGET** Supervisor Schroeder began by discussing letters from Carol Anderson and Maureen Seleski requesting further consideration for Escorted Transportation Service (ETS) funding for this fiscal year. He also had telephone conversations with Regina Schlamp and Maureen Seleski on behalf of ETS. They are all board members and would like this board to be aware that their agency is not a duplication of services provided by the Township because the escort stays with the client for the duration of a ride. The agency was requesting \$3,000 for administrative costs. Their escorts are all volunteers.

Supervisor Schroeder then asked the board if they would like to include them in our FY2009-10 funding. Trustee Domrzalski felt that funding them at this time would be setting precedence. The board agreed to provide them another opportunity to present their agency during the next funding cycle.

The tentative Town and General Assistance budget was considered and accepted as presented.

### **MOTION #2: FY2009-10 TOWN FUND BUDGET ADOPTION**

Motion by Trustee Penner, seconded by Trustee Schultz, to adopt Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2009-01, for the Town and General Assistance Fund, for an aggregate of \$3,379,815.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Penner, Schultz, O'Connell, Domrzalski, Schroeder  
NAYS: None...Motion #2 Carried.

**ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET** Supervisor Schroeder began the Road District budget discussion by asking Highway Commissioner Saewert about the discrepancy in the number of miles of unincorporated roads in the reports the Road District provided. It seems that there is a difference from 2006 and 2009. Commissioner Saewert explained that Deputy Commissioner Neitzke rounded up the number in 2009 instead of extending them out to be more exact. The board reviewed the actual locations of roads the Township is responsible for. Commissioner Saewert will set up a meeting with the Cook County Highway Department to obtain the current official number of unincorporated Township roads.

Commissioner Saewert addressed several concerns Mr. Busse brought up in Forest River. The Commissioner is trying to fix flooding issues, not just roads. One side of Gregory was patched but is now eroding, caused by the winter freeze and then flooding. It must be fixed properly. Most of the culverts have been filled over the years and the Road Department is trying to make the proper adjustments.

Trustee Domrzalski asked if a retention basin was being dug on the Township property to help alleviate flooding. Commissioner Saewert responded that a swale is being dug. Trustee Schultz asked if the lot is ever completely filled with water. Commissioner Saewert replied it is always wet.

Trustee O'Connell asked how long the roads would last in Forest River without the drainage. Commissioner Saewert replied if water is always standing, potholes will occur, which is why the east side of Hill and Gregory need drainage.

Trustee Domrzalski asked if the engineering arm of the budget has gone out to bid. Commissioner Saewert answered that the engineer has been with the Township for some time and hasn't raised his rates but other options will be investigated within the

next 90 days. He is paid by the hour for engineering services, which includes spot checks on projects.

Trustee Penner asked if the County reviews the plans before work is done. Commissioner responded that they look at them but are not always familiar with the whole area. Permits for work do go through Cook County, not the Army Corp of Engineers.

Trustee O'Connell asked how much money has been spent in Forest River over the last eight years. Commissioner Saewert answered in the last five years this subdivision has received the greatest attention from the Highway Department, spending at least \$600,000, trying to restore drainage.

Commissioner Saewert explained that he has an overall 4-5 year plan for all the subdivisions and completes the work, prioritizing, with input from the engineer, and as funds and grants become available. Adjustments to the projects can be made at any time.

The board expressed concern about the budget increase. Trustee Domrzalski has an objection to the Highway Department providing \$75,000 towards Senior/Disability transportation. He would like to know if this is a one time transfer or if it will be an annual transfer. Trustee O'Connell feels there is enough money available to maintain the roads and has no problem with funding the transportation department. With the budget being \$100,000 more than last year, the board felt some projects could be eliminated or postponed, in order to lower the budget.

**MOTION #3: FY2009-10 ROAD DISTRICT FUND BUDGET ADOPTION**

Motion by Supervisor Schroeder, seconded by Trustee Penner, to adopt Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2009-02, for the Road District, reducing line item Contract Work Drainage and Construction by \$26,000, to read \$314,000, for the total amount of \$558,400.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schroeder, Penner, O'Connell, Schroeder  
NAYS: Domrzalski...Motion #3 Carried.

**MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND**

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Penner, to approve Batch #169, against the Road and Bridge Fund, in the amount of \$9,525.56 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Penner, Domrzalski, O'Connell, Schroeder  
NAYS: None...Motion #4 Carried.

**MOTION #5: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND**

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Penner, to approve Batch #266 and 267, against the Town Fund, in the amount of \$217,462.48, to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Penner, Domrzalski, O'Connell, Schroeder  
NAYS: None...Motion #5 Carried.

**MOTION #6: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND**

Motion by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Penner, to approve Batch #052069, against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$1,025.00, to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Schultz, Penner, O'Connell, Domrzalski, Schroeder  
NAYS: None...Motion #6 Carried.

**MOTION #7: ADJOURNMENT**

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

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes...Motion #7 Carried.

The regular meeting for Tuesday, May 26, 2009, was adjourned at 10:31 p.m. The next scheduled board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at 8:00 p.m.

Paula L. Ulreich  
Wheeling Township Clerk