

WEST DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

State of Illinois
Lake County
Town of West Deerfield

DATE: December 16, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of West Deerfield Township was called to order by Supervisor Alyson Feiger at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was held at the West Deerfield Township Center, 601 Deerfield Road, Deerfield, Illinois.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Feiger. Roll call was taken by Clerk Kristen Scott. Present were Trustees Marc Brown, Ron Levitsky, Ron Schwartz and Jack Strom; Supervisor Feiger; and Clerk Scott. Also present, at Board request, was Robbie Boudreau, executive director of Southeast Lake County Faith in Action Volunteers. Mark Brown was also present.

MINUTES

Trustee Levitsky motioned to approve the November 18, 2014 minutes. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a voice vote was taken. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. For discussion and potential action: Adoption of Tax Levy for 2015

Trustee Schwartz reiterated his concern that year-to-date revenues are not matching last year's revenues, and that without a levy increase the Township may engage in deficit spending. Discussion followed. Trustee Levitsky motioned that West Deerfield Township levy \$892,727 (Town Fund) and \$56,982 (IMRF), totaling \$949,709, for 2015, representing no increase over this year's levy. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor, the Levy was approved as outlined.

NEW BUSINESS

A. For discussion and potential action: Resolution Authorizing Contracts with Ron Schwartz for ACA services

Supervisor Feiger drew the Board's attention to a resolution authorizing contracts with Ron Schwartz for services provided to Township residents related to the Affordable Care Act. Discussion followed regarding wording of the resolution. Trustee Levitsky motioned to approve Resolution 2014-2, striking the words "significantly discounted" from page one, paragraph five; changing the ensuing phrase to "at a rate of \$20.00"; and adding the word "no" before "more" on page two, paragraph three. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. There being no further

discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (abstain), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). The majority being in favor, the motion was approved.

B. For Discussion and Potential Action: IMRF Transfer

Following brief discussion, Supervisor Feiger motioned to transfer \$20,000 from the General Town Fund to the IMRF Fund. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

C: For Discussion and Potential Action: Increased security measures for township building

Supervisor Feiger expressed her preference to have all building locks re-keyed, and two panic buttons installed in the office, at a total cost of \$2,568.20 for a three-year contract. Trustee Levitsky motioned to allocate \$2,568.20 for Township Building security. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

D. For discussion and potential action: Township funding or partial funding for NAMI

Supervisor Feiger reported on her discussions with representatives from National Alliance on Mental Illness, and how the Township may be able to support their work. Discussion followed. Trustee Levitsky motioned that the Township sponsor the NAMI program, “Shattered Dreams,” on March 9, 2015, at an expense of no more than \$500. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor, the motion was approved.

Trustee Strom added that he believed that support of NAMI’s Crisis Intervention Training, described by Trustee Levitsky at last month’s meeting, would be money well spent by West Deerfield Township; Trustee Schwartz and Trustee Brown both concurred.

E. For discussion and potential action: Supplemental West Deerfield Township transportation system funded by West Deerfield Township

Supervisor Feiger welcomed Robbie Boudreau, executive director of Southeast Lake County Faith in Action Volunteers, a local agency providing assistance to seniors and disabled adults. Ms. Boudreau detailed the growing need for “rescue transportation,” or weekend/after-hours transportation not otherwise covered by FIA volunteers or West Deerfield Township’s *Going Places* van service. Ms. Boudreau noted that West Deerfield Township residents use approximately 40% of Faith in Action services. Further discussion followed. Trustee Levitsky motioned that West Deerfield Township grant \$5,000 to Southeast Lake County Faith in Action for Rescue Transportation for seniors and disabled adults, with funds drawn from the “New Initiatives” budgeted line item. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. Further discussion followed, including Trustee Strom’s suggestion that the word “stipend” be removed from the proposal submitted by Ms. Boudreau. Roll call was then taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee

Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

F. For discussion and potential action: Faith in Action Direct Assistance program

Ms. Boudreau outlined Faith in Action’s Direct Assistance program, which provides housekeeping-type services to area seniors on a contract basis, and through which Faith in Action serves as the emergency contact for seniors who have no family to provide advocacy services in the event of a medical crisis. Ms. Boudreau asked to return to the Township Board with more information on the program at a future date.

G. For discussion and potential action: Funding for medical alert systems

Ms. Boudreau discussed a program run by neighboring townships wherein residents whose income falls below a certain standard receive medical alert systems free of charge. These systems are provided at a reduced rate from the supplier, and the installation/set up is facilitated by local fire departments. Ms. Boudreau recommended securing statistics on the need for this program in West Deerfield Township, and Supervisor Feiger offered to return to the Board with further information.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor Feiger apprised the Board of matters of interest, including 1) 33 casework clients served during the past month; 2) the Holiday Wish program, which included 58 donors assisting 55 singles, 23 couples, and 31 families this year; and 3) the “Toys for Tots & Food Pantry Drive-Thru” event on December 13, which was its most successful to date.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Trustee Brown discussed Lake Forest Hospital’s expansion program, and the hospital’s desire to provide transportation/taxi service for its patients. He reported that he asked the hospital to put in writing ways they feel West Deerfield Township could assist in this goal. Trustee Levitsky called the Board’s attention to the Illinois Energy Now – Public Sector Energy Efficiency Program, and queried whether West Deerfield Township could receive grants to upgrade any of its lighting. Supervisor Feiger responded that due to the Township building’s fairly recent construction, the lighting currently installed is energy efficient. Trustee Schwartz noted that he has received nothing but positive comments on the Township newsletter, which was recently mailed to residents.

AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

After discussion of various issues, Trustee Schwartz motioned to approve the bills as presented, with the exception of payment to Ron Schwartz in the amount of \$303.75. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

Trustee Levitsky then motioned to approve payment of \$303.75 to Ron Schwartz. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. There being no discussion, roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (abstain), Trustee Brown (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). The majority being in favor the motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Levitsky moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at West Deerfield Township Center, 601 Deerfield Road, Deerfield, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Scott
West Deerfield Township Clerk