

WEST DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

State of Illinois
Lake County
Town of West Deerfield

DATE: September 20, 2016

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

Roll call was taken by Clerk Kristen Scott. Present were Trustees Ron Levitsky, Ron Schwartz, and Jack Strom; Supervisor Feiger; and Clerk Scott. Trustee Marc Brown arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Present at the Supervisor's request was Adam Lasker of Ancel, Glink, Township attorneys.

Also present was Paras Parekm. Peter Fitzgerald of the Deerfield Rotary Club joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Trustee Levitsky motioned to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2016 Board meeting. Trustee Strom seconded the motion. Trustee Strom noted one correction under Old Business, Salary Setting, which Clerk Scott noted. There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Feiger welcomed the members of the public attending the meeting. Mr. Parekm stated that he was interested to learn how the Township Board functions.

OLD BUSINESS

A. For discussion and potential action: Approve Township Transportation Policy

Mr. Lasker reviewed the new Transportation Policy designed to govern the Township's Going Places program, noting various changes based on Board member input. Mr. Lasker agreed to update the document with all changes and the policy would be on next month's agenda for final approval.

B. For discussion and potential action: Salary Setting for Township Elected Officials

Supervisor Feiger again suggested a 3% salary increase each year for the next four years, in keeping with the rate of inflation. Discussion followed, including review of West Deerfield Township officials' salaries in relation to those of elected officials throughout Lake County. Supervisor Feiger motioned to increase salaries by 3% per year for four years. Trustee Schwartz seconded the motion. Further discussion followed. Roll call was taken: Trustee Levitsky (nay), Trustee Strom (nay), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (nay), and Supervisor (aye). The majority being opposed, the motion was not approved.

Trustee Strom then motioned to approve salary increases of 1% for the Supervisor, Assessor and Clerk for each of four years, and no increase in salary for four years for Trustees. Trustee Levitsky seconded the motion. Trustee Levitsky then proposed an amendment to the motion of 1% percent increase for the Supervisor, Assessor and Clerk for years one and two, and a 2% increase for years three and four. Trustee Strom amended his motion to state that the Supervisor shall not receive compensation as Road District Treasurer. Trustee Levitsky proposed an amendment stating that the Supervisor, Assessor and Clerk shall receive health insurance benefits; and another amendment that the Supervisor shall indeed receive \$1,000 per year as Road District Treasurer. Trustee Strom accepted Trustee Levitsky's friendly amendments. There being no further discussion, roll call was taken on the amended motion: Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Strom (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Brown (nay), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). The majority being in favor, the amended motion was approved (Salaries for Supervisor, Assessor and Clerk shall increase 1% for two years, and 2% for years three and four, Trustees shall receive no increase; Supervisor, Assessor and Clerk shall receive health insurance benefits; Supervisor shall receive a stipend as Road District Treasurer).

NEW BUSINESS

A. For discussion and potential action: Establish Estimate of Tax Levy for 2017

Supervisor Feiger suggested reducing the Town Fund by 2% and leaving the IMRF fund the same as 2016. Discussion followed. Supervisor Feiger motioned to approve Tentative Ordinance 2016-4, setting the 2016 Levy, collectable in 2017, at \$857,375 (Town Fund), \$56,982 (IMRF), totaling 914,357, representing a 2% reduction (Town Fund) over last year. 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.

B. For discussion and potential action: Township Participation in Deerfield Rotary Shared Membership

Peter Fitzgerald outlined a new program of shared membership in the Deerfield Rotary Club, wherein a membership would constitute one active membership, and five "friends," or auxiliary memberships. The weekly cost would remain the same, while the annual membership fee of \$200 would increase to \$400. The Board asked several questions, including Trustee Levitsky's query if it is common for government entities to maintain Rotarian membership. Mr. Fitzgerald replied that almost every government agency is represented in Rotary. Mr. Fitzgerald thanked the Board for considering its proposal, and the Board in turn thanked the Rotary their consistent service to both the local and international communities. After brief discussion, Trustee Schwartz motioned to accept the Deerfield Rotary Club's offer of a shared membership, with funds coming from the Dues line item. 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 begin in favor the motion was approved.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Feiger stated that she has attended Lake County Storm Management meetings to keep abreast of developments which may affect the Del Mar Woods neighborhood. The Healthy Lifestyle Expo was well-attended, and a good opportunity to share information regarding the

Township transportation program, client assistance, and other programs with residents. She further stated that Faith in Action was using the Township's grant to help clients with transportation needs outside the parameters of WDT's Going Places program, as the Board intended the grant be used. She reminded the Board of the upcoming Passport Fair to be conducted by the Lake County Circuit Court's mobile passport team at the Township's offices on Saturday, October 15. Lastly, she reported that Township staff were assisting a number of residents in applying for LiHEAP, noting that Trustee Schwartz may provide additional help with this service.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Trustee Levitsky noted that website coordinator David Ferris had been very helpful in determining how best to make Township historical documents available on the website. Clerk Scott reminded the Board that the Township's Halloween Party for children with special needs would be held October 29, 1-3 p.m., at Deerfield Village Hall. Trustee Brown reported that a management team from the Highland Park Jewel store, along with representatives from Jewel corporate headquarters, had lunch and toured the Food Pantry that day, following a substantial donation to the Pantry several months ago.

AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

Following brief discussion, Trustee Strom motioned to approve the bills as presented. 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.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Levitsky motioned to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Feiger seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7 p.m., at the West Deerfield Township Center, 601 Deerfield Road, Deerfield, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Scott
West Deerfield Township Clerk