

WEST DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

State of Illinois
Lake County
Township of West Deerfield

DATE: April 14, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the West Deerfield Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Township Supervisor Alyson Feiger at 7:55 p.m. following the Public Hearing on the Budget and Appropriations Ordinance Fiscal Year 2020-21. The meeting was conducted via teleconference in accordance with Gov. J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order (COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5) issued March 16, 2020, regarding provisional Open Meeting Act suspensions.

Roll call was taken by Clerk Scott. Present were Trustees Kaye Kharasch, Ron Levitsky, Ron Schwartz, Paras Parekh, and Supervisor Feiger.

Township Assessor Tom Healy was also present.

MINUTES

Trustee Levitsky moved to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2020 Board Meeting as amended, and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. There being no discussion, a voice vote was taken. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. For discussion and potential action: Approve Disability Program Committee Funding Recommendations

Supervisor Feiger called the Board's attention to the recommendation summary (attached) provided by Clerk Scott. Brief discussion preceded Trustee Levitsky's motion to approved the committee's recommendation to fund three applications in the total amount of \$4,500.00. He was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. There being no further discussion, Clerk Scott took roll call: Trustee Kharasch (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Parekh (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

B. For discussion and potential action: Supplemental contribution to the Career Resource Center

Trustee Schwartz suggested that the Township augment the Community Service Funding approved in March to the Career Resource Center, given the job losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, believing the Service Committee would have recommended a higher level of funding had they known the widespread impact the virus would have on employment. Following discussion, Trustee Levitsky motioned to approve \$500.00 in additional funding to the Career

Resource Center, and was seconded by Trustee Kharasch. Clerk Scott took roll call: Trustee Kharasch (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Parekh (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

C. For discussion and potential action: Adopt WDT Families First Coronavirus Response Act Policy

Supervisor Feiger called the Board's attention to a policy addressing a proposed emergency employee medical leave policy in compliance with Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (attached). Following brief discussion, Trustee Schwartz moved to adopt the policy as presented, and was seconded by Supervisor Feiger. Clerk Scott took roll call: Trustee Kharasch (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Parekh (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Feiger outlined the various ways the Township staff is responding to the vast increase in demand for services and offers of assistance during the pandemic: 1) The Township is continuing to meet all its obligations; 2) General and Emergency Assistance are being administered when appropriate, with many calls from residents asking where/how to sign up for other assistance programs; 3) the Food Pantry continues to operate, with no volunteers allowed in the building, but some delivering food to home-bound residents; Trustee Kharasch has assisted in sourcing fresh dairy products for Pantry clients. Supervisor Feiger noted that many Pantries have been forced to close as staff and volunteers become ill, but no Township pantries have yet done so; 4) a "Telephone Buddy Program" is in place to help keep vulnerable residents connected with community volunteers; 5) Dr. Jerry Zachar continues to work with Township residents through telecommunication during the shut-down; 6) Supervisor Feiger is working closely with other governmental bodies to coordinate residents eager to volunteer in one capacity or another.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Healy reported that he and his staff are exercising some remote access to the office, and are staggering in-office work times to reduce contact. The Senior Freeze application deadline was delayed by Lake County in response to the pandemic impact. Assessor Healy said in the interim his staff is preparing for 2020 assessments, and anticipating the mailing of tax bills in May.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Trustee Schwartz noted that Affordable Care Act Counselor information will be added to the Township website, as some options may still be available to residents in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Clerk Scott noted the Township remains OM A compliant in accordance with Gov. Pritzker's executive orders, and related two personal stories of providing groceries to residents seeking first-time assistance at the Township office.

AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

Following discussion, Supervisor Feiger motioned to approve the bills as presented, and was seconded by Trustee Schwartz. There being no further discussion, Clerk Scott took roll call: Trustee Kharasch (aye), Trustee Levitsky (aye), Trustee Schwartz (aye), Trustee Parekh (aye), and Supervisor Feiger (aye). All being in favor the motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Trustee Schwartz motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Trustee Kharasch. A voice vote was taken; all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 7 p.m., via teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Scott
West Deerfield Township Clerk