

WEST DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

State of Illinois
Lake County
Township of West Deerfield

DATE: June 16, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the West Deerfield Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Township Supervisor Alyson Feiger at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom 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, as was Food Pantry Board President Bob Rosenbacher.

MINUTES

Trustee Levitsky moved to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2020 Board Meeting, and was seconded by Trustee Schwartz. There being no 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Feiger noted that 1) she has liaised with attorney Greg Jones and Lake County officials to coordinate repairs and drainage issue resolution in the Del Mar Woods neighborhood roadways. 2) She explained that a "virtual" pick-and-choose Food Pantry is now in place wherein senior clients make selections which are then packed and delivered by volunteers. She noted that ten new clients had joined the Pantry rolls so far in June. Donations are tapering slightly since mid-March, but the Pantry has a healthy reserve for now. 3) The "Summer Cooling Program" implemented last year will be available again to residents without access to air conditioning or a common room in the building in which they live, with parameters similar to the LIHEAP heating assistance program. 4) The target date to resume West Deerfield Township's Transportation Program is tentatively July 6, contingent upon finding qualified drivers, as the current drivers may be unable to continue based on health concerns. Supervisor Feiger also out-

lined strict practices to be implemented to prevent COVID-19 transmission. Meanwhile, she explained, Township staff is coordinating rides for many transportation clients through Faith in Action, noting that the Township's grant to FIA for auxiliary services is being well utilized during this period. 5) She relayed the re-open dates of other municipalities and community services and the limitations/restrictions they anticipate due to virus concerns. 6) Supervisor Feiger said "Summer Bags" for Food Pantry client families, with "Fourth of July" items including typical picnic supplies, and gift cards to area restaurants, would be distributed. 7) Supervisor Feiger presented ideas for discussion and book groups, training for first responders, and a statement addressing racial divisions in the wake of national protests following the death of George Floyd, and asked for the Board's input.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Healy reported that his staff has been very busy addressing questions regarding the Senior Assessment Freeze, and first installment tax bills. They are also working hard to complete the 2020 assessment rolls by July 15, in advance of the typical deadline, at the request of the Lake County Assessor's office. They have fielded numerous calls and emails, and have met residents in the Township parking lot to respond to questions as effectively as possible.

OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

Trustee Levitsky suggested that staff seek competitive bids for various services on an annual basis to ensure the Township continues to receive quality service for the lowest cost to taxpayers; Supervisor Feiger agreed to obtain these bids. In response to Trustee Schwartz's query, she detailed the various web-based services William Lowe has provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, when informational updates have been needed on a near-weekly basis.

AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BILLS

Following discussion, Trustee Levitsky motioned to approve the bills as presented, and was seconded by Trustee Kharasch. 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 Levitsky motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Trustee Schwartz. 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 meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at 7 p.m., via teleconference, unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Scott
West Deerfield Township Clerk