

Meeting Minutes ~ Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
)
Winnebago County,)
)
Town of Harlem,)

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THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the Office of the Town Clerk at 819 Melbourne Avenue, Machesney Park, Illinois on January 11, 2023.

PHYSICALLY PRESENT:	<u>Gary Jury</u>	Chairman
	<u>Matthew Gabel</u>	Town Clerk
	<u>Ron Esser</u>	Town Trustee
	<u>Paul Hofmann</u>	Town Trustee
	<u>Aaron McKnight</u>	Town Trustee
	<u>Josh Gesner</u>	Town Trustee

Mr. Gary Jury acting as chairman, and Matthew Gabel as clerk.

The following official business was transacted:

Others present: Road Commissioner Ed Tegland, Assessor Jon Vaiden, Attorney Galluzzo.

Citizens: None.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM.

Trustee McKnight gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum declared present.

A motion was made by Trustee Hofmann to approve the November 9, 2022, regular board meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee McKnight. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- General Assistance Report – 6 active, 0 pending, 0 application, 1 terminated, 0 denied.
- Financial Reports – On file.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS: None.

Ed Tegland was sworn in for the duties of the office of Harlem Township Road Commissioner.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S REPORTS:

Supervisor: Memorandum provided at meeting. See below in Meeting Minutes.

Assessor: Toys for Kids program was another success this year. Toys for Kids Program provided toys for 85 children. Assessor's office is working on the reduction requests that are greater than \$100,000. Hearings are occurring now through February. Continuing education is starting now.

Clerk: No report.

Road Commissioner: Repairs on truck #2 to satisfy IDOT inspection. Trucks are scheduled to get fitted for swing front plow. Had Winnebago County Sheriff Correction crew out and filled pot holes on Atwood Road, Hamborg Road, and two subdivisions. Selling the 1993 International Truck.

General Assistance: Received 21 phone calls for rental assistance, could not assist many of them. 6 active clients right now.

Supervisor Jury's Memorandum:

I wanted to take this opportunity to document our process for the selection and appointment of a new Township Road Commissioner.

We discovered through a post on Facebook that Harlem Township Road Commissioner Mike Meier had become ill and was found unresponsive in bed and was incapacitated. Upon learning this, I contacted Township Attorney Gino Galluzzo to learn how we would handle the situation of maintaining operations during Mike's illness. This was important because the Levy had not been completed, appropriations were not done, and we were unaware if any salt had been ordered for the season. Furthermore, the bills for the Road Commission required the approval of the Commissioner or Deputy to be paid. As a result, the Board, on November 9, 2022, approved my appointment of Ed Tegland as Deputy Road Commissioner. Ed's resume showed that he was well qualified for the job, and he had several references demonstrating that he had the leadership skills to perform the role of Deputy.

Unfortunately, we also found out approximately November 9th, that Mike Meier had passed away. This created a vacancy in the position of Township Road Commissioner which, according to the Township Code was to be filled by the Board. In the interest of a fair and open process, the position was advertised, but there were no other applicants other than Ed Tegland. On December 16, 2022, the Board voted to appoint Ed as Road Commissioner. The only additional requirement for Ed to meet was that, by statute, he had to be of the same political party as had been Mr. Meier. Ed represented that he had voted as a Republican in the last primary election, which was sufficient to show that he, like Mike Meier, was a Republican.

I am pleased to report that Ed has proven to have been a good choice. Since taking office, Ed has had the garage and office cleaned and organized and made certain that the Road Commission bills are in order and accurate. He has resolved the snowplow issue that had been present and purchased a dump truck/snowplow at approximately 50% of the original estimate. He was able to get the Road Levy timely completed by December 14th and is planning for future projects and improvements. Ed has also established regular office hours and is engaging with his constituents. While we were all

saddened by Road Commissioner Meier's death, the Highway Commission is in good hands with our new Commissioner, Ed Tegland.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Approval of Bills for Payment – Town – General Assistance – Park – Road & Bridge

Town Fund: A motion was made by Trustee McKnight to approve payment of the Town Fund Bills in the amount of \$120,756.03 Seconded by Trustee Esser. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

G.A. Fund: A motion was made by Trustee Gesner to approve payment of the G.A. Bills in the amount of \$5,309.36. Seconded by Trustee McKnight. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

Park Fund: A motion was made by Trustee Hofmann to approve payment of the Park Fund Bills in the amount of \$4,416.78. Seconded by Trustee Gesner. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

Road & Bridge Fund: A motion was made by Trustee Esser to approve payment of the Road & Bridge Fund Bills in the amount of \$24,260.00. Seconded by Trustee McKnight. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

FURTHER DISCUSSION OF TOWNSHIP MATTERS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Trustee McKnight to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Gesner. Motion carried. 5 Ayes (Trustee Esser, Hofmann, McKnight, Gesner & Supervisor Jury).

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Gabel
Harlem Township Clerk