

NORMAL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
NORMAL TOWNSHIP HALL
NOVEMBER 20, 2014
8:15 A.M.

Board Members Present: Ray Ropp, Richard Phillips, Mel Schultz, Randy Schaab and Richard Farr

Elected Officials Present: Rob Cranston, Amy Conklin and Arin Rader

Elected Officials Absent: none

Others Present: Jennifer Engelman, Senior Center Director

Rick Phillips moved to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2014 monthly board meeting. Ray Ropp seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Randy Schaab moved to accept the minutes of the October 21, 2014 special meeting with the Farnsworth design team presenting interior and exterior color/design scheme for Senior Center Building renovation. Ray Ropp seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Ray Ropp moved for approval of the bills for the month of November.

The bills for the four accounts with payroll amounts being included in the last three of the accounts are as follows:

General Town -	\$196,869.77
General Assistance -	\$12,435.87
Senior Citizens -	\$13,827.95
Road & Bridge -	\$48,008.36

Mel Schultz seconded the motion and the motion carried.

(Note: Payroll is being met twice monthly as provided for by a Board of Trustees Resolution. Utility bills that fall within the budget line items are paid according to a Board of Trustees Resolution.)

In October there were 96 appointments with 69 individuals/couples seeking financial assistance. In September the numbers were 102 appointments with 69 applicants.

October's General Assistance was down to 38 clients receiving \$9,418.73 compared to September with 44 clients receiving \$11,000.00

October's Emergency Assistance increased serving 19 clients with \$6,525.00.

September's EA was 18 clients receiving \$4,320.63.

There were 6 people with appointments regarding Ameren shutoffs. Have been notifying individuals about the LIHEAP service.

Rob Cranston, Assessor, reported that the Board of Review hearings were light this year. The Marriott Hotel was the only one in question and they withdrew before the hearing.

Residential hearings went well. Township will qualify for bonus because the ratios were good.

Also, a new printer was purchased for the department.

Amy, Conklin, Clerk, informed the board that she learned a lot of various information at the TOI Annual Conference and enjoyed meeting and learning from other Townships members. Rick Phillips also attended the conference and let the board know that the state is marketing how important Townships are to our communities. There is a possibility that Townships will be reduced. He also informed us that when we receive notices to act on legislative concerns, we need to do so to protect the Townships. Also, if any board members have any legislative concerns they need to inform him at our December 18th meeting.

Arin Rader, Highway Commissioner, informed the Board that he is loading up the sale to be ready for the season. There are a couple of shoulders and a few road holes that need to be fixed before the weather gets too cold.

Jennifer Engelman, Director of the Seniors Program, informed us of the Christmas activities. They will have Hand Stencil Christmas Card class, Christmas Bingo on December 9th, four bus trips to the Festival of Lights in East Peoria which are all full, and the details on the Christmas Party are finishing up, which is also full with 176 citizens.

The Tai Chi instructor will be offering 2 free classes to help increase interest.

The temperature of the furnace is now at a comfortable setting for the seniors.

Supervisor Rich Farr, informed the Board that Faith In Action was hoping that we could help promote or provide a donation for their organization. Rick Phillips and Jennifer Engelman thought it would be great if the Township would contribute since the organization provides much needed services for Senior Citizens in the community. There was discussion how what to provide.

Motion to donate \$200 gift certificate to apply towards services/classes at the Normal Township Senior Center. Motion made by Ray Ropp and was seconded by Mel Schultz. The board approved the motion.

Board was informed of the Annual Legislative Breakfast on January 10th at 8:30 am at the Normal Township Senior Center.

The Dale Township dinner will be in Covell tonight at 6:30 with Carl Olson of the Bloomington-Normal Airport will be speaking.

The Senior Advisory Committee met on November 6th with the Building Committee meeting with Farnsworth. They were told to publish notice for Senior Center Building renovation for bid. The Farnsworth website has all the interested contractors listed.

Committee is also working on selling bricks to raise money for the Senior Center Building. They are also working on grants. Rick Phillips suggested that the committee contact Dan Brady and Bill Brady for the possibility that they may be able to help in this area.

Bid opening is set for December 11th at 2pm.

No citizens attending, no public comments.

Old Business:

Rich Farr and Rick Phillips are working on the new set-up with filing for the Non-Profit status for the Township Senior Center by applying for a Federal ID number. They are also going to work on starting a Foundation for the Senior Center which will be made up with Senior Citizens and others to form a Non-Profit Board so they can begin raising money separately from the Township.

The Fixture and Furniture Committee received approximately \$4000 worth of equipment.

The Senior Center Building name keeps evolving since there are other possibilities with joining the township of Bloomington and or offering services for other generations/groups. Rick Phillips suggested asking Mark Peterson of the City of Normal what their future intentions are for the currently used Senior Center at 1 Normal Plaza. This would help us in forming services and names for the new Sr Ctr Building on Willow/Fort Jesse.

Committee will be doing a walk-through with Farnsworth and interested contractors on November 25th at 2:00.

Morton Bank has approved a \$3 million loan with a 2.75% interest rate for the Senior Center Building renovation.

Tax Final Settlement: General Town received money more than 100% which is \$2,800.00 extra Tax Money. Road and Bridge received 101.57% which is \$6,379.00 more Tax Money.

New Business:

Motion by Rick Phillips to approve 2014 General Town Levy for 2015 receipts of \$1,854,000.00. Second by Randy Schaab. Roll count: All approved.

Motion by Randy Schaab to approve 2014 Road and Bridge Levy for 2015 receipts of \$760,000.00. Seconded by Mel Schultz. Roll count: All approved.

Motion to adjourn by Randy Schaab and seconded by Rick Phillips at 10:10 am.

Clerk

Date

Clerk

Date