

NORMAL TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AND MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
NORMAL TOWNSHIP BUILDING
304 EAST MULBERRY
FEBRUARY 22, 2018
8:15 AM

Public Hearing began at 8:15AM for the Budget Amendment Resolution- there were no comments

Board Meeting was called to order at 8:20AM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Sarah Grammer, Trustees Sally Pyne, Samantha Quigle, Ray Ropp

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Arlene Hosea

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Assessor Rob Cranston, Highway Commissioner Arin Rader and Township Clerk Amy Conklin

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: ARC Director of Operations Mindy Morgan, ARC Advisory Alan McDowell, Curt Richardson of McLean County Unit School District Number 5, Attorney for First Site Elizabeth Megli and Derek Beigh of the Pantagraph

Sally Pyne made the motion to approve the January 18, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes and Samantha Quigle seconded and was approved

EXPENDITURES for January 19- February 22, 2018

General Assistance: \$25,685.90

General Town: \$53,542.36

Road and Bridge: \$10,367.47

Senior Citizen: \$70,147.22

Sally Pyne had a question on 4 landlord's receiving \$10,557 which was 47% of total monthly GA funds dispersed. Sarah Grammer stated that these landlords rent a small amount of properties and rent to higher risk renters.

The high payout to an instructor teaching at ARC charges a higher fee and teaches many classes. Need to look at possibly hiring a full-time or a couple part-time instructors and look at the true cost considering all the administration duties and time on managing instructor's classes.

Sally Pyne made a motion to approve the expenditures and Sam Quigle seconded and was approved

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Sally Pyne, Sarah Grammer and Arlene Hosea attended the Martin Luther King Luncheon and sat at the Normal Township table sponsored by Arlene Hosea. Glad to have a township presence present. Attended McLean County Chamber of Commerce Business After hours and spoke with several new contacts about the ARC and the functions of township government

ASSESSOR REPORT by Rob Cranston

Board of Review Report for final Assessment- added \$4.4 million in assessed value. Received a 1.0 multiplier. 2017 Assessed Value \$961,873,772.

Board of Review for First Site apartment properties decreased by amount \$955,922- net increase from 2016 EAV \$3,476,872. 2017 Value after BOR- \$960,907,368.

Assessments will most likely decrease next year.

CLERK REPORT by Amy Conklin- nothing to report

ROAD COMMISSIONER REPORT by Arin Rader

The property that township will purchase was approved by the McLean County Zoning Department

Contacted the State on the decline of overpass of 2000N Road over Rt.39- the County and IDOT have already reviewed this issue to be fixed

SENIORS PROGRAM

Mindy Morgan stated that the security is up and running and the Silver Sneakers program is getting more awareness from members

Alan McDowell reminded the board that the ARC is only 2 years old and they are learning as they go. Artwork will be hung on June 1st. Developing a 7 year plan for the ARC

GENERAL ASSISTANCE REPORT by Sarah Grammer

January had 102 appointments for 91 residents

January 2018 GA

55 clients for \$13,347.95

January 2017 GA

26 clients for \$6,416.89

January 2018 EA

13 clients for \$8,390.08

January 2017 EA

12 clients for \$4,289.00

Many disabled clients are receiving assistance while waiting for their Social Security to begin. Planning on working with clients who have criminal backgrounds and local businesses who will hire those with this past record.

Would like to continue a 12 month rolling GA/EA report

SUPERVISOR REPORT by Sarah Grammer

County Clerk will be emailing Economic Interest forms and are due May 1st
Budget Hearing will be with the April Board meeting
Need more people to sponsor 14 tables- Sally Pyne thought the vendors that
The ARC and Township uses would be good to approach to purchase

No Closed Session
No Public Comment

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS

Sally Pyne made the motion to approve the 2018 Budget Amendment and Sam Quigle seconded and was approved

Discussion on 2019 budget- Ray Ropp does not want Township Reserve line to keep decreasing. Sally Pyne would like for all grants to be reviewed and why Township supports these organizations
Will vote on Budget at March meeting

Ray Ropp made the motion to approve the Meeting Dates for Normal Township Board from April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. Sally Pyne seconded and was approved

Sarah Grammer and Arlene Hosea met with Tony Tucker, who is Associate Director University Advancement ISU and Director Ewing Cultural Center, to receive advice on how to rent space (ARC)

Renting the auditorium during the weekend would not be fiscally worthwhile

Possible renting rooms during main ARC hour

Mindy Morgan advised the Board that parking during ARC hours should be considered since there is limited space

Alan McDowell suggested in having an Event Manager for the ARC

Apartment Tax Settlement

Curt Richardson of Unit 5 School District brought an Agreement involving First Site and Unit 5 and explained the process of appealing tax assessments and how Unit 5 and First Site came to this point. First Site only wants to pay so much for property taxes in which Unit 5 depends on. Both parties want "stability" every year. First Site stated they will appeal every year that they believe their assessed value is too high and or disagree with the Board of Review. Attorney Elizabeth Migli explained and defended First Site's position.

Assessor Rob Cranston is not involved in this agreement. He explained how properties are valued and he valued these apartment properties based on what the market says. His numbers were appropriate and fair

After listening to this situation, Ray Ropp asked if this is even legal. He believes that Assessor Rob Cranston correctly appraised the value and would support Rob's

elected office position and not the agreement. Sarah Grammer asked if the school district could provide the township with a list of the owners, just the president or manage of each company.

Board agreed to discuss this agreement further and will not vote on this until the April Board meeting.

Ray Ropp moved to adjourn meeting at 10.39AM and Sam Quigle seconded and was approved.

Normal Township Clerk- Amy Conklin

Date