

**NORMAL TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, September 15, 2022 AT 8:15 AM
304 MULBERRY, NORMAL, IL**

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 8:15am by Township Supervisor Jess Ray

Motion: Art Rodriguez

Second: Floyd Aper

Aye-Art Rodriguez, Floyd Aper, Jess Ray

Nay-None

2. Land Acknowledgement - Supervisor Jess Ray read a statement acknowledging the ancestral history of the Township land.

3. Roll Call

Trustee Art Rodriguez	Present
Trustee Floyd Aper	Present
Supervisor Jess Ray	Present
Trustee Arlene Hosea	Present
Trustee Sally Pyne	Present

Additional Elected Township Officials Present

Dayna Schickedanz	Clerk
Arin Rader	Road Commissioner
Rob Cranston	Assessor

Others Present

Deb Shaw	ARC Senior Advisory Committee
Eliccsha Sanders	ARC Membership Director
Molly Camper	ARC Director of Programming (Via Zoom)
Sammi Scott	ARC Communications Director (Via Zoom)

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of the August 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: Art Rodriguez

Second: Arlene Hosea

Aye: Floyd Aper, Art Rodriguez, Jess Ray, Arlene Hosea, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

6. Approval of Expenditures from August 19, 2022 – September 15, 2022

The Board discussed the months expenditures and gained clarification about particular line items before voting to approve the following expenditures from August 19, 2022-September 15, 2022.

Normal Town:	\$97,557.29
General Assistance:	\$11,540.91
Senior Citizen Fund:	\$26,242.97
Road & Bridge:	\$26,714.12

Trustee Aper asked about a specific line item appearing on the General Assistance Fund Check Register which listed "Central Customer CH/" as the Payee. Caseworker Jill Schaab explained that Kroger provides vouchers for fuel in the amount of \$40. The Township keeps confidential records of which General Assistance clients receive these vouchers, for auditing purposes.

Motion: Floyd Aper

Second: Arlene Hosea

Aye: Arlene Hosea, Jess Ray, Art Rodriguez, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

7. Reports

A. Community Engagement

Art Rodriguez discussed that on October 5th the VFW would be hosting a legal aid clinic for veterans impacted by water conditions at Camp LeJeune. Floyd Aper suggested adding this to the ARC Calendar. There will be another veteran's event on November 5th in downtown Bloomington, outside of the McLean County History Museum. It will be the 25th Anniversary commemorating the WWII Memorial, and the Korean/Vietnam Wars Memorial will be unveiled.

Art Rodriguez attended the statewide NAACP convention in Marion, IL the previous week and spoke on veteran's issues.

Art also noted that there is an annual statewide VFW scholarship for Juniors and Seniors in high school valued at \$5,000. The National scholarship award is \$35,000. There is a deadline of 10/31 to apply, and applicants do not have to be children of veterans.

Sally Pyne attended a national webinar on Systemic Racism. She also has been working with the ISU indigenous organization, Tribe, to have a representative come and speak on the importance of land acknowledgements.

Jess Ray presented an invitation to all present to the Community Health Care Clinic's Open House on September 28, 2022 from 4:30pm-6:30pm. All were invited to attend and tour the facility.

B. Assessor

Assessor Rob Cranston announced that he received seven appeals this year. He also noted that it is Board of Review season for his workforce.

C. Clerk

Clerk Schickedanz expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve, and thanked all for their understanding during the time of transition.

D. Highway Commissioner

Commissioner Rader explained that the new building has started going up, with the roof and framing being completed over the past few days.

Commissioner Rader also talked about replacing road shoulder rock, which washes away annually with heavy storms.

E. ARC Staff and Senior Advisory Committee

Jess Ray reported that a KNR class at ISU will be completing a project with staff at the ARC, to include providing assistance in planning the Veteran's Day ceremony. He also informed the board that Farnsworth is working on details related to punch out for the Green Space. The project to do repairs to the masonry work at the ARC kicked off the week of September 12th. Faye Sanders, a member of the Senior Advisory Committee, has submitted her resignation. Jess thanked her for her service and will be working with Deb Shaw, Chair of the committee, to bring a recommendation to the Township Board for a replacement. The process of hiring a new ARC Director of Operations is moving forward.

F. Supervisor

Jess Ray obtained and distributed new 2022 copies of the TOI handbook to all board members. Farnsworth is close to having everything completed with the masonry for the ARC Green Space. Highway Commissioner Arin Rader expressed concern that the Green Space does not offer the return on investment the board had initially hoped it would. Jess Ray went on to note that the furniture and landscaping is not yet in place. Trustee Floyd Aper asked about seating for the area. Jess then stated that he will ask Farnsworth to see if it will be changing. There was also discussion of the possibility of looking into tables and canopies for the area, as well as researching the feasibility of a Monarch Garden.

Jess discussed ARC insurance liability questions brought up at the previous meeting, including what the township's liability for ARC parking lot fender benders, vendor agreements, and contract employees would be. Jess spoke with our TOIRMA representative to ensure we are adequately covered and offered the TOIRMA phone number to the board members for any follow-up questions.

8. Public Comment: None

9. New Business

Approval of Township Health Insurance Renewal

Jess Ray presented the option of continuing the current benefits as they are, with minimal price increases. The recommendations were provided by Mark, a representative at Van Gundy, the current insurer. For example, the employee cost for Dental will go from \$271.26 to \$272.34, annually. There will be the potential for adding vision insurance next year.

Motion: Arlene Hosea

Second: Sally Pyne

Aye: Arlene Hosea, Jess Ray, Art Rodriguez, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

Discussion of ARC Director of Operations Search

Jess Ray announced that the Search Committee would be meeting the following Tuesday (September 20th) to review the short list and arrange interviews with the candidates for the position.

10. Suggested Items for the Next Agenda

Trustee Sally Pyne suggested investigating the possibility of the ARC hosting COVID-19 immunization clinics again for the new bivalent immunizations to protect against new variants of the virus.

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Arlene Hosea

Second: Floyd Aper

Aye: Jess Ray, Art Rodriguez, Floyd Aper, Arlene Hosea, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 9:40am.

Next Regular Normal Township Board Meeting: Thursday, October 20, 2022 – 8:15 AM

Next Senior Advisory Committee Meeting: Thursday, October 6, 2022 – 9:30 AM

_____/_____/_____
Dayna Schickedanz - Normal Township Clerk Date