

**NORMAL TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, June 15, 2023 AT 8:15 AM
304 MULBERRY, NORMAL, IL**

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 8:22 am by Township Supervisor Jess Ray
2. **Land Acknowledgement** - Supervisor Jess Ray read a statement acknowledging the ancestral history of the Township land.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Public Comment**
No public comment was heard.

5. **Roll Call**

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

Additional Elected Township Officials Present

Dayna Schickedanz	Clerk
Rob Cranston	Assessor
Arin Rader	Road Commissioner

Others Present

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

6. **Approval of May 18, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

None

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

7. Approval of General Town Expenditures of \$111,351.07 from May 17 – June 14, 2023

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

Interest rates have been favorable.

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

8. Approval of General Assistance Expenditures of \$14,027.82 from May 17 – June 14, 2023

Motion: Floyd Aper

Second: Sally Pyne

Discussion:

Trustee Aper asks why expenses have increased year over year. Supervisor Ray explains that certain lines of funding provided by state and federal grant programs have ended, contributing to an increase of need locally.

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

9. Approval of Senior Citizen Fund Expenditures of \$41,599.19 from May 17 – June 14, 2023

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

None.

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

10. Approval of Road and Bridge Expenditures of \$8605.83 from May 17 – June 14, 2023

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

None.

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

11. Reports**A. Community Engagement**

Trustee Sally Pyne enrolled in Chair Yoga at the ARC, and spoke about how wonderful the programming is. Trustee Pyne also spoke about (in conjunction with the Township's commitment to honoring indigenous lands) the McLean County Board partnering with the History Museum to dedicate a plaque in LeRoy for the Kickapoo Nation.

Trustee Floyd Aper attended the TOI meeting at the ARC, along with between 70-80 statewide township participants. There was discussion about the decennial meeting requirement. The consensus among meeting attendees was that the newly required decennial survey could lead to the elimination or consolidation of townships. Trustee Aper learned more about the Highway Commissioner and employment practices for all Township employees. The hiring of individual township employees has to be approved by the Township Board.

Supervisor Jess Ray attended the Veteran's Fair with an ARC table, access/functional needs advisory panel meeting, United Way Housing Coalition, McLean County reducing social isolation meeting, forum meetings on community mental health, and the TOI meeting at the ARC.

B. Assessor

Assessor Rob Cranston reported that the Assessor's office is on schedule to turn their books into the state on August 17th.

C. Clerk

Clerk Dayna Schickedanz had nothing to report at this time.

D. Highway Commissioner

Commissioner Arin Rader reported that he had a meeting for the punch list items upcoming, regarding how to run new controls, and a few smaller items to complete. He also stated that there was still roughly \$152,000 in payments due. Trustee Pyne asked about road wear and tear. Commissioner Rader explained how roads are cored to verify composition, which will allow them to know the load bear. Gathering this data will inform what work needs to be completed in the future.

E. ARC Staff and Senior Advisory Committee

Deb Shaw reported that every other meeting the focus is now on committee work, and that the new format is much more productive.

Elicsha noted that membership is steady or declining due to summer weather, which has historically been the case. Sammi said that the coffee sponsorships were filling up quickly for the following year.

Trustee Pyne asked if the new Sunshine Coordinator, Barb Dallinger, could come to one of the meetings to share the mission of the new role, as well as to share some impact stories with the Board.

F. Supervisor

Jess Ray reported on the specific numbers of general assistance and emergency assistance cases, what the needs were, and the potential reasons for the uptick. He also shared information on assets and investments. Currently performing an IRMF compliance review; thanks to Jill Schaab on taking on the majority of the work on this.

13. Old Business

Discussion of Township Policies and Procedures

Supervisor Ray sent sexual harassment prevention training out as well as having all Township employees sign acknowledgements of the handbook.

14. New Business

Discussion of Appointments to the Senior Advisory Committee

Supervisor Ray tabled this due to no applicants at this time.

Discussion and Vote of Property Tax Abatement Ordinance for Brandt Industries

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

Supervisor Ray explains that the Economic Development Council feels that Brandt are still meeting their obligation. Supervisor Ray asks that the Board confirms that Brandt can continue on the abatement. Trustee Aper asks what the Board did previously (the month before), and Supervisor Ray noted that the Board did nothing because he was not under the impression that action needed to be

taken. However, the Board would need to vote on whether to approve Brandt should continue on the abatement.

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

15. Suggested Items for Next Agenda

Old Business carried over

- Senior Advisory Committee Appointments
- Decennial Meeting Update
- Barb Dallinger Guest Speaker
- Township Policies and Procedures

Grant Process will begin in July or August

16. Adjournment

Motion: Sally Pyne

Second: Floyd Aper

Discussion:

None

Aye: Jess Ray, Floyd Aper, Sally Pyne

Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 am.

Next Regular Normal Township Board Meeting: Thursday, July 20, 2023 – 8:15 AM

Next Senior Advisory Committee Meeting: Thursday, July 6, 2023 – 9:30 AM

Dayna Schickedanz - Normal Township Clerk

____/____/_____
Date