

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NORMAL TOWNSHIP**  
**Meeting Minutes for**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Activity and Recreation Center (ARC)**  
**600 East Willow, Normal, IL 61761**

The meeting was also made available for observation by non-voting community members via zoom.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Deputy Clerk Becca Rice.
2. **Nomination of Moderator:** Deputy Clerk Rice called for nominations for the meeting moderator.
  - a. Jess Ray nominated Samantha Scott.
  - b. Art Rodriguez seconded the nomination.The nomination was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

3. **Election and Swearing-in of Moderator**  
Deputy Trustee Rice swore in Samantha Scott as Meeting Moderator with the Oath of Office.

4. **Approval of Minutes of the April 12, 2022, Annual Meeting Minutes**  
Moderator Scott called for Approval of the April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Annual Town meeting was made by Floyd Aper and seconded by Mary Cranston.

The minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

5. **Approval of FY 2023 Financial Reports:**  
A motion to approve the financial reports for FY 2023 was made by Floyd Aper and seconded by Arin Rader.

The financial reports were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

6. **Reports Township Officials**

- a. Assessor Rob Cranston – Township Assessor Rob Cranston shared the duties of his position. He reported a change in assessed value from \$1,012,774,020 to \$1,083,351,343 which represents an increase of 6.97% (\$70,577,323). Of this increase, roughly 6% was due to a township multiplier, the rest was attributed to new construction and revaluation.

Assessor Cranston thanked the Board of Trustees, Supervisor Jess Ray, Road Commissioner Arin Rader, Clerk Dayna Schickedanz, Jill Schaab, and the entire staff of the Assessor's office for their help, support, hard work, and dedication throughout the year.

- b. Highway Commissioner Arin Rader – Highway Commissioner Arin Rader shared about the duties of his position. He reported that the mild winter left the township roads in fairly good condition and that salt was used more than plowing to clear snow. He reported that the township only used about half of the salt anticipated and the excess will be kept for use next winter. While there are no major road projects planned, Commissioner Rader reported there continues to be an increase in traffic along Northtown, Raab and Ziebarth Road, presumably from Rivian and Love's traffic. As such he will be looking into how to maintain the roads with the increased weights while creating minimal interruption to traffic. Commissioner Rader shared pictures of the building progress at the new maintenance facility. The Township is waiting on a few final pieces to finish the project, but he is happy with the project and is optimistically anticipating an end of April completion date. Commissioner Rader thanked the Board of Trustees, Supervisor Ray, Clerk,

Schickedanz, Assessor Cranston and Jill Schaab for all their support. Additionally, he thanked his staff for their service, especially when late night calls came in.

- c. Supervisor Jess Ray – Supervisor Ray shared the duties of his position as well as the duties of the ARC staff.
- i. ARC - Supervisor Ray recognized the ARC staff (Molly Camper, Elicssha Sanders, Sammy Scott and Preston Hill) and the many volunteers who offer engaging programming, excellent customer service to make the ARC a welcoming and fun place. Supervisor Ray reported that over the last year, ARC membership has increased by 21% (up from 2700 to 3269 members) which exceeded anticipated growth and can be attributed to the efforts of all the ARC staff and volunteers. To accommodate the needs and interests of the community, hours of operation at the ARC were returned to an operating schedule of 6 days a week. Other accomplishments this year included completion of the Green Space project, which provides a beautiful patio and lawn space for ARC members to enjoy, engagement of the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) team which saved 402 clients and estimated \$1,014 each and continued partnerships with local groups and programs to provide support and services to the Township's older adult population.
  - ii. GA Office – Supervisor Ray thanked Jill Schaab and Ruby Jones for their continued dedication and excellent customer service to the Township's General and Emergency Assistance clients. The total amount administered by the GA office, this year, to help prevent evictions and utility disconnections, was \$156,962 which was \$207 over last year.
  - iii. General Town - In July 2022, Supervisor Sarah Gramer resigned her position and Supervisor Ray was appointed to fill the remainder of her term. There was also a change in the Township Clerk position as Pat Turner moved outside of the Township and was required to resign from her position. To fill her vacancy, Dana Schickedanz was appointed to the remainder of the term. Thank you to Sarah and Pat for your services as elected officials and thank you to Dayna for your willingness to serve. In addition to Clerk Schickedanz being appointed, the Board also took action to appoint a Deputy Clerk so that, in the event of an illness or absence of the elected clerk, Township business could continue. Becca Rice was appointed to this position.

I am happy to report that, once again, the General Town levy was flat.

The Township Board has remained actively engaged in community outreach, as you can see in the year's meeting minutes. I would like to thank the Board (Floyd Aper, Arlene Hosea, Sally Pyne, and Art Rodriguez) for their continued dedication to the citizens of Normal Township as they work together to provide Township services in a thoughtful and prudent manner as well as collaborating with me as I learned my new role as Supervisor.

**7. Public Comment**

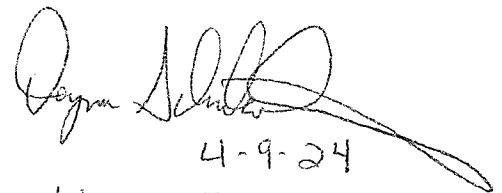
No public comment was offered.

**8. New Business**

- **Discussion and vote on the time for the Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Annual Town Meeting –** Moderator Scott opened the floor for discussion on the time for the next Annual Town Meeting. Jess Ray made the motion to accept April 9, 2024 as the date and Floyd Aper seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

**9. Adjournment**

Floyd Aper made the motion to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting and Molly Camper seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously by a show of hands and the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

  
4-9-24  
Normal Township Clerk