

**Sangamon Township
Regular Meeting Minutes
Held at Sangamon Township Building, 1264 Old Rt 47 White Heath, Illinois
October 14, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of Sangamon Township was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Kathleen Piatt. Roll Call was taken. Present were Supervisor Piatt and Trustees John Foley, Mike Nolan, Bill Blickhan and Bill Olson.

Also present were Cemetery Sexton Frannie Dick, guest Scott Whitehouse, Highway Commissioner Larry Sebens and Clerk Kevin Duff.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: none

Minutes: Trustee Nolan made a motion seconded by Trustee Blickhan to approve the minutes from the September meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously

Invoices: With clarification of an invoice from Progressive Chemical for the purchase of road signs, a motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Trustee Foley to approve the invoices. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Communications: The second installment of property taxes was deposited to the Township's accounts.

A thank you was received by a recipient of emergency general assistance.

A family in Sand Lake Subdivision has asked for a Free Little Library box to be placed on their property.

A reminder was made for Highway Commissioner Sebens to submit a bill for the drive and parking lot stone provided at the Ball Diamond.

Levy Letters were received from Attorney Amy Rupiper for the Town and for the Road and Bridge.

An engraved vase and flowers will be ready for the November meeting for presentation to honor a Sangamon Township resident.

Documents were received from Attorney Rupiper for vacated roads to Amy Hyatt. The documents were signed by Highway Commissioner Sebens and Clerk Duff. The vacation request was published as required in the Piatt County Journal and Ms. Hyatt paid all expenses for the vacation according to past Township practices.

Supervisor Piatt will investigate what contributions have been made in the past in response to a request for funds by Piatt County Senior Services.

Clean Up Days will be tomorrow October 15 and Saturday October 16.

Old Business: In response to Assessor Denise Dees not wanting to renew her contract for 2022, Supervisor Piatt contacted Mr. Whitehouse who is interested in the contract. Mr. Whitehouse is the assessor for Goosecreek, Willow Branch and Blue Ridge Townships in Piatt County and several townships in Dewitt County. A discussion occurred about the current Sangamon Township salary of \$9,000/year and the higher salaries of nearby assessors. Salaries are typically based on \$9.50/parcel and Sangamon currently is paying \$4/parcel. With 1863 parcels in the Township, a competitive salary would be \$12,000/year. Mr. Whitehouse stated that a salary of \$10,000/year is acceptable to him. A motion was made by Trustee Nolan and seconded by Trustee Olson to execute a one year assessor contract to Mr. Whitehouse for

\$10,000 contingent of Supervisor Piatt confirming with Mr. Whitehouse. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Piatt and Cemetery Sexton Dick reported on the Cemetery Committee meeting held just prior to the Township Meeting. Since January, 7 burials and 12 cremations have taken place. The Cemetery Committee discussed the possibility of disbanding the Committee with support expressed to keep the Committee by one Committee member to provide the opportunity for other Township residents to participate in Township responsibilities. Supervisor Piatt brought up the need for record keeping and that the Committee doesn't have the authority to approve expenditures. A motion was made by Trustee Nolan and seconded by Trustee Foley to thank the Committee for their services and dissolve the Committee as of 2022. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Supervisor Piatt will notify Committee members. Sexton Dick agreed to attend two Township meetings/year to provide cemetery updates. He will come to the Township meeting in March and September. In March, the Board will have a discussion about developing a policy for pauper burials in the Township cemeteries.

Supervisor Piatt will talk to Cody Harrington about a more reasonable pace for mowing the ball diamonds (and the other Township properties). The White Heath Rec League has suggested that a Township Trustee serve as a non voting member of the Rec League Board. Trustee Blickhan and Trustee Foley agreed to alternate service on the Rec League Board. A brief discussion was made about the Township possibly paying for a solar light at the parking lot. Ameren will install the light at no cost.

The report formats provided by Kelly's Accounting are acceptable to the Board. The revenue received from the State's Motor Fuel Tax does not show up in the reports because the revenue is controlled by the County.

The audit report has been received and copies have been given to the Trustees. Supervisor Piatt will clarify with the auditors that the Insurance Fund needs to reimburse the Town Fund instead of the other way around as stated in the report. Supervisor Piatt will also clarify that dividends were treated as interest paid and deposited into the general fund. Supervisor Piatt will also request that the audit include how much money the Township has in IMRF as reported in previous reports like 2017. The audit will cost between \$6-7,000. Supervisor Piatt will discuss relevant audit comments with Kelly's Accounting.

Supervisor Piatt and Trustee Blickhan met with owner Dave Kaufman from Knight Environmental about possible changes to the Township's recycling program. Supervisor Piatt will follow up about the possibility of a larger dumpster being purchased (with possible funding assistance from Kirby Hospital), appropriate signage matching needs, and the location of signage and the dumpster.

Supervisor Piatt will contact Dennis Reed about the half demolished house across from the Road Maintenance Shed.

On line banking will be discussed at a later meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Olson and seconded by Trustee Nolan to raise the Town Levy 5% with the \$9,405.00 increase being added to the Town Fund; the revised Town Fund will be \$183,422.95 and the revised total Town Budget will be \$197,542.79. (Increases are based on the levy funds received.) A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Supervisor Piatt and seconded by Trustee Blickhan to raise the Road and Bridge Levy 5% with the \$15,360.00 increase being proportionally distributed between the three Road and Bridge accounts; the revised Road and Bridge budget will be \$286,428.18, the Joint Bridge Budget will be \$19,962.57 and the revised Equipment Budget will be \$16,803.28 and the revised total Road and Bridge Budget will be \$321,194.03. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: A motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Supervisor Piatt to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm. Respectfully Submitted, Clerk Duff

