

**Sangamon Township
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Held at Sangamon Township Building, 1264 Old Rt 47 White Heath, Illinois

November 14, 2019

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 Bill Olson, Bill Blickhan, John Foley and Mike Nolan.

Also present were visitors Linda Bailey, Thomas Scott, Jr., Kelly Griffith, Mark Sieja, Kevin Duff - Clerk, and Larry Sebens - Highway Commissioner.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

Ms. Griffith stated that she is a candidate or the State's Attorney for Piatt Co. and talked about her experience as a attorney. She was invited to a neighborhood meeting at Hickory Hills to discuss abandoned/unsafe properties.

Mr Sieja distributed a copy of the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant article for the Board's reference. He has not heard from the County regarding the status or new complaints about abandoned/unsafe properties.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Trustee Foley and seconded by Trustee Nolan to approve the minutes from October. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

Invoices:

After hearing from Commissioner Sebens about the sign purchase to allow the road signs south of route 10 to be replaced (about 1/3 of the total road signs in the Township), a motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Trustee Olson to approve the invoices. A roll call vote was take and the motion passed unanimously.

Communications:

Supervisor Piatt talked to the director of Kirby Ambulance Service to check if Walden Pond subdivision was being assessed to the Township and Monticello. He confirmed and reduced the Township's assessment to \$20,900. The new census will likely raise the assessment.

The IDNR area administrator has provided information to help the Township apply for a grant for park development to perhaps help with the grading of the new ball field and parking lot construction. Clerk Duff will find probable costs for the work.

The 3.5 acres of farm ground in the newly acquired park land has been rented for next year to \$200/acre to Don Morris.

Old Business:

Assessor's Report: the County has assigned a multiplier of 1.065 for the Township, less than Assessor Dees expected. Assessor Dees can comment at the next meeting.

Regarding abandoned/unsafe properties, the Vermillion County Land Bank held a meeting in Paxton on November 5 hosted by representative Tom Bennett. The Land Bank has assisted outlying communities such as Rantoul. Champaign County is moving to join. The Land Bank is interested in talking to Piatt County and would provide structure and guidance in redevelopment and also has access to grants. The Land Bank is not affiliated with the Farm Land Bank and is not a lending institution. Trustee Blickhan will follow up with Mr. O'Shaunnesey from the Land Bank.

There was no report from the Cemetery Committee.

Supervisor Piatt will ask Kelly's Accounting to look at the reports for the Town and Road and Bridge funds to clarify the property tax items. Supervisor Piatt will also verify that the park purchase expenses are all included in the year to date summaries.

The spreadsheets for current balances expenses are missing numbers for the state taxes received and payments made to Social Security. These numbers and the final expenses for December will help the Board look at next year's budget. A tentative budget was distributed.

Trustee Nolan made a motion seconded by Trustee Foley to approve a Town Tax Fund Levy of \$179,255 total payable 2020. This amount is within the allowable increase of 5% without a Truth in Taxation Hearing. A roll call vote was taken and approved unanimously.

Trustee Olson made a motion seconded by Trustee Blickhan to approve a Road and Bridge Fund Levy of \$293,644.95 total payable 2020. This amount is also with the allowable increase of 5%. A roll call vote was taken and approved unanimously.

No reports were made about the ball diamond, the park purchase or the audit.

New Business:

None.

A motion was made by Trustee Olson seconded by Trustee Blickhan to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.