

Atlanta Township
301 SW Arch Street, Atlanta, Illinois 61723
March 12, 2024
Monthly Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Atlanta Township Board was held March 12th, 2024, at the Atlanta Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Supervisor Julie Osborn. Those present were Supervisor Julie Osborn; Clerk Shellie Reed; Trustees Amy Wertheim, Georgia Green, Chuck Van Hoorn and Becky Brandt; Cemetery Manager Shelly Brooks and Highway Commissioner Wes Green. Public present was Kory Leesman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Julie Osborn.

The following items were discussed:

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Kory Leesman introduced himself as having put a bid in for the cemetery maintenance opening and gave a brief history of his business and experience: local in area; been mowing cemeteries for 24 years; understands the needs of a cemetery; tries to mow in one day at a time to keep it clean; has a crew of 3 people; understands importance of trimming; takes care of Hartsburg, Bethel and Armington cemeteries; does not do digging of graves; will fertilize and seed as needed with seed purchased by Township.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting were reviewed by each member. Trustee Brandt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Green seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting as presented.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: a letter was received from TOI regarding the Cox Report regarding township government. The report is 27 pages long and will be emailed to everyone. The report can be added to the Decennial Report as it basically proves small local government is better and more cost efficient.

CLERK'S REPORT: Logan County Township Officials Dinner Update – there are 16 townships attending with 124 RSVP's. There will be a 50/50 raffle

Economic Interest Statement Forms – reminder to turn them in if not done so.

Annual Town meeting notice was read for approval and Highway Commissioner Green asked a piece of equipment he would like to get rid of be added to the agenda. Notices will be posted March 26.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER REPORT: Highway Commissioner Green reported the following: graded all gravel roads while it was dry; took plows off 2 trucks - one is still on in case of snow; Randy's tree service took down 3 trees on 2300th street which were about to fall in the road; installed a new yield sign on 2100th street; ordered culverts - one near Larry Liesman's needs replaced; Brad Goodman hauled about 100 tons of 3/8ths rock; did an interview for the TOI Scholarship with Isabella Bree;

CEMETERY REPORT: Cemetery Manager Brooks reported the following: Al checked a space for a monument; Al marked a space for Adams Memorials; a crack was noticed in the Ary vault and Cunninghams were called to get it fixed; clean-up notices have been distributed

to city hall; here and post office to remove Christmas decorations by April 1; 2 new burial cards have been typed; several calls were taken this month, one asking where someone was buried and one for rules on a cremation burial along with assistance locating graves; a compliment on the cemetery was received.

OLD BUSINESS:

Finalize Cemetery Maintenance Sexton Bids – two bids were received – one for maintenance only from Kory Leesman and one from Allen Adams for maintenance and grave digging. Discussion was held on both bids. A motion was made by Trustee Brandt to accept the bid from Allen Adams for maintenance and burial duties from April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 a 15-month contract for a total of \$37,500.00. Trustee Van Hoorn seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: 5; Nays:0. The motion carried and the contract is awarded to Allen Adams.

NEW BUSINESS:

Electronic Recycling Day – the city is willing to do another electronic recycling day and the date of April 20 from 9 am to 12 pm has been agreed on. As last year, costs for some items. Clerk Reed reached out to Mt. Hope, Oran and Eminence Townships to see if interested in joining it and all declined.

City-wide/Township Clean-up Day will be May 11 from 8 am – 12 pm.

Cemetery Manager Salary Increase – Trustee Wertheim made a motion to go into a closed meeting. Trustee Green seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed to go into Closed meeting. Closed meeting was held until final discussion ended. Trustee Wertheim made a motion to leave closed meeting and Trustee Green seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion passed to end Closed Meeting. Effective April 1, 2024, Cemetery Manager Salary is increased to \$500.00 per month.

2024-2025 Initial Budget Proposal – the proposed final budget for posting was reviewed. Trustee Green made a motion to approve the proposed Town Budget and the proposed Road and Bridge District budget for posting. Trustee Brandt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. The motion carried to approve the proposed budget for posting.

FINANCIAL REPORT & PAYING OF BILLS: Board Members reviewed the bills to be paid. Trustee Brandt made a motion to approve the financial report and paying of the bills. Trustee Green seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: 5; Nays: 0. The motion carried and bills were authorized for payment.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: Supervisor Osborn said there is a lobby day with TOI in Springfield, April 17 if anyone is interested.

Supervisor Osborn adjourned the meeting at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellie Reed
Atlanta Township Clerk