

**Sangamon Township
Regular Monthly Meeting**

Held at Sangamon Township Building, 1276 Old Rt 47 White Heath Illinois

July 10, 2014

Minutes (as amended August 14,2014)

The regular monthly meeting of Sangamon Township was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Ray Spencer. Roll call was taken. Elsie Robinson, Ray Spencer, John Foley, Bill Olson and Steve Harper were present.

Debbie Marshall-Clerk and Brent Buckalew-Assessor were also present.

A safety moment was recognized.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mark Gilbert gave public comment and shared his views against the Township implementing a storm siren. John Jordan feels that every village in the Township needs one if we are buying sirens. Mary Rivers also spoke against a storm siren. She feels that the public can easily rely on new technology to receive storm warnings, and the sirens are old fashioned. Mike Nolan would like more details in the minutes regarding public comment and is also concerned about the Township Boards' support of the closing of White Heath School.

The June 2014 minutes were read. With no discussion, Elsie Robinson made the motion to accept as read and Steve Harper seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

After review of the invoices presented for payment, a motion was made by Steve Harper to approve and pay the invoices. Elsie Robinson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Ray reported that after visiting with Colleen Kidd(Piatt County Clerk), he learned that there are no plans to relocate Sangamon #2 polling place at this time.

Brent shared that currently, there are no penalties for not obtaining a building permit in Piatt County. So, if anyone has a chance to discuss it with a Piatt County Board member, it would be a good topic to push for a penalty fee to be implemented. Properties are not always being assessed properly when no permit is required. Bill inquired as to how often the Township Assessor is required to personally visit each property for an assessment. Brent reported that he is required to do so at each quadrennial year. Aerial photos are required every four years as well.

Old business consisted of a motion to install a tornado/disaster alert siren. Ray explained that one is already in existence at the White Heath fire station. It has been inspected by Global Technology Systems of Decatur for possible activation, and they suggested a new siren be purchased. However, when Global Technology was asked again if the existing siren could be used and interfaced with the Piatt County Sheriff's Department, they said yes, for the cost of approximately \$3000.00. The Sheriff's Department would be the ones activating the siren. Bill added that he thinks the siren is still at the Firehouse because of the school's nearby location. John asked about the cost to maintain the siren. Ray didn't think that there would be any further cost after initial hook-up.

He has already spoken to White Heath Fire Department and Jim Donaldson from EMA, and they are in favor of activating the siren.

Ray Spencer made a motion to activate the current tornado alert siren and interface it with the Piatt County Sheriff's Department for the quote of approximately \$3000.00 through Global Technology Systems from Decatur, IL. Steve Harper seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued. There was concern for siren coverage of other populated areas in the Township. Ray reiterated that this siren already exists. This motion is just to activate and interface the siren we have. Maybe in the future, we could add more sirens.

After a roll call vote of 5 ayes---0 nays. The motion passed unanimously.

John Foley made a motion to amend the prior motion with a change that caps the amount spent on activation of the siren not to exceed \$3500.00. Bill Olson seconded the motion.

With a roll call vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays, the motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

With the presentation of new business, Ray read a letter from Frannie Dick-Cemetery Sexton- explaining the need to improve the entrance drive to Mackey Cemetery. Ray will ask Larry Sebens to deliver rock to the cemetery to supplement the drive. John inquired if this would be an expense to the Cemetery Fund? Ray said then the Cemetery Board can review the request further and the make a recommendation to our Township Board.

John reported that at the next Monticello School Board meeting, the results of public surveys regarding the future of schools will be revealed. After that, the School Board will discuss options and also decide on implementing a 1% sales tax. That sales tax would raise approximately \$400,000 for Monticello School District.

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Harper and seconded by Elsie Robinson. All agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Marshall

Sangamon Township Clerk