

**Sangamon Township
Regular Meeting Minutes**

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

August 12, 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 Bill Olson, Mile Nolan and Bill Blickhan.

Also present were Thomas Scott, Jr., Diana Oberson, Victor Orberson, Highway Commissioner Larry Sebens, and Clerk Duff.

Absent: Trustee John Foley

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: Mr. Orberson who lives next to the ball diamond and whose driveway is off the private lane past the ball diamond, brought to the attention of the Board that during games this year, his driveway is being used as a turnaround and parking area. One evening, he counted 17 cars turning around. Trash has also been a problem. Supervisor Piatt will ask Aaron Brown of the Rec League to direct parents to use the on site parking and to not turn around or park in the Oberson's driveway and will also contact the athletic director for the middle school. Supervisor Piatt will also contact the sheriff for assistance, possible a deputy on site once a week and a barricade placed on half of the private road. The Board thanked the Obersons and asks them to please keep in touch.

Minutes: Trustee Nolan made a motion seconded by Trustee Olson to approve the July minutes. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Invoices: A motion was made by Trustee Olson and seconded by Trustee Blickhan to approve the invoices. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Trustee Nolan to approve the invoices where checks still need to be written. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Communications: Supervisor Piatt reported that she has completed the IMRF paperwork for Linc McCullum for the time he was on medical leave.

Supervisor Piatt also reported that the payroll audit has been completed.

Joe Plunk has donated the labor to grade the drive to the on site parking area and an area about 150 feet 60 feet of the new parking area. Commissioner Sebens placed base rock on the drive and parking area. Mr. Plunk will grade the rock if necessary. The Board intends to add to the parking area every year as the budget permits to achieve the total number of desired spaces.

A bill for Go Daddy will be submitted to the Board next month for the upgrade to the Township's website.

Old Business: The Rec League has signed the ball diamond lease. The lease will automatically be renewed in November unless otherwise directed by the Board. The Board will consider in October modifying the lease to include the requirement for the Rec League to direct parking on site. A grant application for the new ball diamond is due to the State on September 1, 2021.

Supervisor Piatt and Trustee Nolan are developing a rough site plan based on conversation with the grant administrator and include the development of the parking area, the diamond, and other park components such as a pickle ball court, a sand volleyball area, playground equipment, a pavilion, a trail, a horse shoe pit, and ADA components. Trustee Nolan presented a draft plan to the Board. Consideration will also be made to seek a grant to develop a park study/plan like the study for the Monticello Community Building. The largest State grant possible is \$400k and will be a multi step process. If awarded, the grant will reimburse the Township after the money is spent. The Township will have to secure a interim loan to cover the expenses. Multiple grant applications can be submitted. Improvements made with grant money must be permanent. A development plan should be an agenda item for a Township Town Meeting to gain public input. The Board asked that the plan not lose focus on the priority of developing the on site parking and the additional ball diamond. As the Monticello fields are funded and built, demand for the additional White Heath ball diamond might change. The Board can decide later not to proceed with development if that is the case. A motion was made by Trustee Nolan and seconded by Trustee Blickhan to proceed with the grant application with no money to be spent at this time. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board commented that Kelly's accounting reports are great. The point was made that tax revenues have been received earlier this year than last. An agenda item for next month will be considered for the Township to go to on line banking to allow Kelly view only access to bank transactions instead of Supervisor Piatt e mailing that information every month.

A draft of the audit was forwarded to the Board for review. The question was asked if the audit could compare the IMRF information on page 21 to that same information last year. Other comments should be emailed to Supervisor Piatt.

Supervisor Piatt and Trustee Blickhan will meet with the recycling contractor to discuss options for a larger dumpster or only recycling items that are profitable to alleviate current over use of the dumpster. Appropriate signage for use by Township residents only will also be discussed.

An agenda item to discuss abandoned properties will be on the agenda next month.

Supervisor Piatt will let the cemetery committee know that the Board will discuss at next month's meeting the possibility of dissolving the committee. The committee is to meet prior to next month's regular Township meeting. Clerk Duff will send a reminder the committee members. (Note: the cemetery committee meeting will be postponed to October because of scheduling conflicts.)

New Business: No update is available yet on finding a replacement for Assessor Denise Dees for next year.

Trustee Blickhan will check on the cost of purchasing an engraved vase to recognize a Township resident for outstanding volunteer efforts.

A motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Trustee Olson to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Clerk Duff