

**Sangamon Township
Regular Meeting Minutes**

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

December 14, 2023

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

Also present were White Heath Rec League Chair Aaron Brown and Clerk Kevin Duff.

Absent: Trustee Bill Olson

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: none

Old Business: Mr. Brown led a discussion about the status of issues at the ball diamond. He has received an updated quote for LED lights to replace the existing lights at the existing ball diamond and is waiting for an installation cost estimate from Davis Electric. The load weight of the new LED lights is a concern since they are heavier than the existing fixtures. He is working on having the existing poles inspected to see if they can be used. Davis Electric is also giving a quote to repair the existing scoreboard and updating the existing electrical service. The existing septic field and lines were noted and the possible conflict with new lighting service. Part of the lighting update is to record the service lines for future reference. The timeline for updating the lights depends on the evaluation of the poles. The Rec league has the funds for the light fixtures. Ideas to generate additional funds were discussed including a raffle, a home run derby and selling T shirts. Donations from the community are encouraged. The Robert Millikin Trust has committed to a \$50,000 donation for tiling and earthwork at the new ball diamond. The idea to name the Park after Robert Millikin was mentioned. The new ball diamond has been staked and mowed and is easily visible now. A discussion about the composition of the new ball diamond took place. Most ball diamonds around here are lime and top dressed with a Turface product to minimize cost. Since the fields are not irrigated, the fields can be very hard. Mr. Brown mentioned that two solar parking lot lights have been ordered to be mounted on the existing poles. The solar lights dim when there is no motion minimizing light intrusion to the neighbors. The goal is to have the new ball diamond ready for play by 2025. Ameren needs to be contacted about planning for providing electrical service to the new ball diamond. Mr. Brown will take the lead concerning replacement lights and upgrading electrical service and will keep Trustee Blickhan and Supervisor Nolan informed. To assist the rec league, the Township will follow up with possible earthwork and tiling and fencing at the new ball diamond and will keep Mr. Brown informed. Mr. Brown also mentioned that the rec league is repairing the existing batting cage and might look into moving the shed to provide better access past it. He will plan to come back to the January or February Regular Township meeting.

Communications: Supervisor Nolan reported that he will be attending a mandatory training webinar for IMRF.

At a recent County Board meeting the County's States Attorney reported movement on two Township derelict properties. Trustee Piatt will ask if the attorney would like to attend the Township's January meeting.

Income from the Township's Clean Up Days was \$314.25 and the cost for the dumpster was \$1420.

Supervisor Nolan reported that the Township's website had over 1200 hits over the last 30 days and over 1995 hits for the year to date.

Trustee King distributed an informative spreadsheet showing townships 2022 EAV and tax rates for reference.

New Business: Updating cemetery fees was deferred until the January meeting.

Trustee Piatt made a motion seconded by Trustee Blickhan to renew Assessor Scott Whitehouse's contract with no changes to the existing contract. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The building permit data provided by Assessor Whitehouse was provided to the Board. Assessor Whitehouse will be asked if solar installation are able to be taxed as it appeared to be on the permits. Supervisor Nolan will invite the chair of the County Zoning Board, Lloyd Wax, to a Township meeting to discuss possible guidelines for ground mounted solar panels in subdivisions.

A motion was made by Trustee Blickhan and seconded by Trustee Piatt to keep the closed meeting minutes closed. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Piatt and seconded by Trustee King to approve the meeting dates for 2024. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A Civility Resolution was read, adopted, signed and will be filed.

A new state Personnel Leave Law requires one hour of comp time be given for every forty hours worked by Township. The Township will track these hours and maintain records for three years..

A motion was made by Supervisor Nolan and seconded by Trustee King to allow Clerk Duff to purchase sturdy shelving units for storing past Township records. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Nolan contacted Ameren who came and replaced light bulbs in the existing parking lot lights around the Township Office Building.

Highway Commissioner Larry Sebens sent a letter to IMRF in response to their audit of his work experience. Supervisor Nolan drafted a response on behalf of the Township to the IMRF audit that is being reviewed by legal counsel. The Board was reminded that one of the audit findings was that part time employee Doug Whitehouse had not worked enough hours to contribute to IMRF and was due a refund. Clerk Duff is waiting for a return call from Mr. Whitehouse for a current address to send his refund checks.

The Township's audit findings included a requirement for two signatures on checks. Clerk Duff is now initialing the checks below Supervisor Nolan's signature. The finding IMRF corrections has been given to Kelly's Accounting. The State has told Supervisor Nolan that the Township is required to do annual audits because because the Township has income above \$800k. The revenue is largely due to the motor vehicle tax given to the Road and Bridge accounts. Supervisor Nolan provided a copy of the statute.

Clerk Duff reported that the Town Levy and the Road and Bridge Levy have been given to legal counsel to be certified.

Part time employee Tori Taylor has completed inputing data from the Ingram Cemetery and will review with Cemetery Sexton Frannie Dick. Supervisor Nolan reported that Ms. Taylor will work up to 80 hours over her Christmas break from school on copying the hard data from the cemeteries and separating the data by each cemetery. She will also assist with some filing work. Supervisor Nolan is still waiting for the executed paperwork from the additional land at the Camp Creek Cemetery.

Supervisor Nolan will contact Kelly's Accounting about a possible issue with tax revenue recorded on the profit and loss statement provided this month.

Old Business: Transactions in the Illinois Fund were distributed. Supervisor Nolan is setting an account for the Park Fund. Supervisor Nolan will check to where the interest for the Road and Bridge funds needs to be given.

A positive cash flow projection was distributed.

Copies of last year's Township budget were given to the Trustees for review. Suggestions for next year's budgets are to be brought to next month's meeting. The budget needs to include the donation made to the Park. Highway Commissioner Sebens is to be given a copy of last year's Road and Bridge budget for review.

Minutes: A motion was made by Trustee Piatt and seconded by Supervisor Nolan to approve the minutes as amended. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Invoices: A motion was made by Trustee Piatt and seconded by Trustee King to approve the invoices. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Piatt and seconded by Supervisor Nolan to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Clerk Duff