

**MINUTES OF THE
APRIL 11, 2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER: Clerk Silagi called the meeting to order at 7:02pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHER ELECTORS PRESENT: Laurene Geary, Tom Rowe, Greg Huggins, Jerry Murphy, Clarice Dillard, Shari Baum, Doug Musser, Sean Michels, Curt Karas, Nelda Karas, Bill Wulff, Scott Hester, Kevin Geary, and Rick Johnson.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR: Clerk Silagi read the purpose of the Moderator and called for nominations. Laurene Geary motioned, seconded by Scott Hester that Tom Rowe be nominated moderator. There being no other nominations, or objections, Tom Rowe was elected by voice vote. Motion carried. Moderator Rowe was then sworn in by Clerk Silagi.

COMPENSATION OF MODERATOR: Moderator Rowe requested that the customary \$50 compensation be waived.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING APRIL 12, 2016 MINUTES: Moderator Rowe asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the meeting minutes as presented. Jerry Murphy asked that the minutes be corrected to reflect the correct spelling of elector Cathy Hoyda's name. There being no other questions or comments, Sean Michels motioned, seconded by Kevin Geary to approve the Meeting Minutes of The Annual Town Meeting April 12, 2016 as corrected. The motion was then unanimously approved by voice vote of the electors. Motion carried.

ANNUAL 2015/2016 FINANCIAL REPORTS: Moderator Rowe directed Clerk Silagi to present for approval the following financial reports. NOTE: Beginning balances reflect unaudited amounts:

TOWN FUND: Clerk Silagi read the Annual Financial Report relative to the Town Fund. Clerk Silagi reported a beginning fund balance on April 1, 2016 of \$748,660; Revenue of \$519,015; Expenditures and Compensation of \$410,077, and an ending fund balance on March 31, 2017 of \$857,598. Moderator Rowe asked for a motion to approve. Lorene Geary motioned, seconded by Bill Wulff to Approve the Annual Financial Report Relative to the Town Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Clerk Silagi read the Annual Financial Report relative to the Road & Bridge Fund. Clerk Silagi reported a beginning fund balance on April 1, 2016 of \$1,936,819; Revenue of \$910,811; Expenditures and Compensation of \$847,978, and an ending fund balance on March 31, 2017 of \$1,999,652. Moderator Row asked for a motion to approve. Kevin Geary motioned, seconded by Lori Geary to Approve the Annual Financial Report Relative to the Road & Bridge Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND: Clerk Silagi read the Annual Financial Report relative to the General Assistance Fund. Clerk Silagi reported a beginning fund balance on April 1, 2016 of \$146,430; Revenue of \$12,355, Expenditures of \$635, and an ending fund balance on March 31, 2017 of \$158,150. Moderator Row asked for a motion to approve. Greg Huggins motioned, seconded by Lori Geary to Approve the Annual Financial Report Relative to the General Assistance Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.

COMMUNITY BUILDING FUND: Clerk Silagi read the Annual Financial Report relative to the Community Building Fund. Clerk Silagi reported a beginning fund balance on April 1, 2016 of \$350,057; Revenue of \$176,315; Expenditures of \$115,015, and an ending fund balance on March 31, 2017 of \$411,357. Moderator Rowe asked for a motion to approve. Bill Wulff motioned, seconded by Greg Huggins to Approve the Annual Financial Report Relative to the Community Building Fund. Motion carried by voice vote.

MENTAL HEALTH FUND: Clerk Silagi read the Annual Financial Report relative to the Mental Health Fund. Clerk Silagi reported a beginning fund balance on April 1, 2016 of \$0.00; Revenue of \$108,711; Expenditures of \$108,711, and an ending fund balance on March 31, 2017 of \$0.00. Moderator Rowe asked for a motion to approve. Lori Geary motioned, seconded by Kevin Geary to Approve the Annual Financial Report Relative to the Mental Health Fund. Motion carried by voice vote. Jerry Murphy noted that the INC Board has served 624 Township residents in the past fiscal year and is on track to serve approximately 700 Township residents this year.

REPORTS:

COMMUNITY BUILDING: Jerry Murphy reminded attendees of the policy put in place last year restricting use of the building to Sugar Grove Township residents and businesses and is pleased to report that building usage has not decreased. Murphy reported that landscaping upgrades were completed in the last year as well as window tinting of the lower level windows. The Community Building Board is in the process of finalizing proposals for bathroom remodeling with work scheduled to start in July. Murphy then invited members of the community to participate in the advisory committee which works on recommendations for building improvements and usage policy. Lastly, Mr. Murphy invited members of the community to attend their monthly board meeting which are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Commissioner Huggins reported that due to the mild winter, the salt shed is full and they should not have to purchase much additional road salt for the next winter season. Equipment purchases for this year will be limited to a brush chipper and a replacement $\frac{3}{4}$ ton pick-up truck. Asphalt overlays for this year are Densmore Rd. from Blackberry Creek to Hanks Rd., N. Mighel, Pembroke Ct., and the Creekview Subdivision which includes 5 residential streets. All overlays include culvert replacement which the Highway Dept. handles in house. Huggins also reported that IDOT has promised to resurface the Hanks Rd. bridge this summer. Huggins then noted that the Highway Dept. has, in the past, tried to purchase property from Mr. Carson to ease the curve at Denny and Norris. They will make an effort once again this year and if successful, will proceed with engineering.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Ross was not present. Assessor-Elect Karas commented that he is looking forward to working with everyone once he takes office in January.

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Rowe reported that the Township had another good year and highlighted the following Board accomplishments:

1. Continued sponsorship with the Park District of the senior lunch program which provides a free lunch to Township residents on the last Tuesday of every month at the Community Building.
2. The Senior and Disabled Transportation Program continues to grow with over 150 ride hours to Sugar Grove Township senior and disabled residents through a Ride in Kane agreement with Aurora Township.
3. The Township Board froze the Township and Road District tax levy for the fourth consecutive year.
4. Continued to be a participating sponsor of the Sugar Grove Community Newsletter.
5. Continued to upgrade our website with Face Book link. All meeting minutes and agendas can be found on the website.
6. Adopted a local government travel expense ordinance as required by the State.
7. Approved \$5,000 in local social service funding for AID to assist with additional transportation service to disabled residents of Sugar Grove Township.
8. Approved \$1,500 in various sponsorships to local groups including Park District softball and baseball teams, the Chamber golf outing, Kaneland Fire & Safety, Corn Boil, Holiday in the Grove, and others.

CONSIDERATION & POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF BLISS HOUSE LEASE: Supervisor Rowe explained that the Bliss House has office space behind the Historical Society as well as basement space that is currently being leased out. The Township attorney has informed us that leases of Township property must be approved by the electors at the Annual Town Meeting. The upstairs office space is currently leased by Jada Hudson for a counseling service, rent is \$500 per month. The downstairs proposed lease is to Ellen the sewing lady, who will use the space for sewing instruction. Rent for the downstairs is \$300 per month. Both leases are one year leases beginning June 1, 2017 and ending May 31, 2018. The Township is responsible for all maintenance and repairs and most of the utilities. Tenants are responsible for interior space cleaning and internet service. Supervisor Rowe asked for a motion to review and approve the above referenced leases. Sean Michels motioned, seconded by Bill Wulff to review and Approve Bliss House One Year Leases to Jada Hudson and Ellen Svehla for \$500, and \$300 per Month. After a brief discussion the motion was approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sean Michels asked if the Township could include financial reporting for the Sugar Grove Water Authority. Clerk Silagi responded that since their Board member Jerry Elliott was now also a Township Trustee, it should not be a problem. Bill Wulff wanted to thank Commissioner Huggins and staff for the great job they do with snow removal and other tasks. Sheri Baum also wanted to thank the Road District and asked about bush pick up. Commission Huggins responded by suggesting residents call and they will try to accommodate their request as soon as possible. Baum also asked if there was anything the Township could do in terms of transportation for Charlotte, the elderly lady that walks from Sugar Grove to West Aurora to catch a bus. After an extended discussion Jerry Murphy suggested she talk to Carol at West Towns Senior Services who could direct her to help from churches and other local service providers. Clarice Dillard who owns the home at Norris and Denny Rds. then spoke about the hazard of the 90 degree curve in front of her house. She has lived there for 30 years and witnessed accidents and

had fences and shrubs taken out by cars who missed the curve. She related a recent incident where a school bus full of children was stopped on the curve and broad sided by a car. The driver of the car was not ticketed and the incident was inaccurately reported in the paper. Road Commissioner Huggins reported that he looked into the possibility of easing the curve, however, the cost of property acquisition and building relocation was prohibitive. He then noted that lighting and sign upgrades have been made to improve safety. Ms. Dillard commented that she spoke to the owner today, who will turn 90 this year, and he indicated that he would like the situation resolved. Commissioner Huggins will contact the owner to follow up. Rick Johnson from the Historical Society then thanked the Village for their assistance with the plaque for the school bell and thanked the Township and Township Road District for their work in helping to maintain the property.

2018 TOWN MEETING DATE: Clerk Silagi stated that the 2018 Town Meeting Date per TOI (second Tuesday in April) will be April 10, 2018 at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Lori Geary motioned, Scott Hester seconded, and the electors unanimously approved adjourning the 2017 Sugar Grove Town Meeting at 8:00pm.