

**MINUTES OF THE
OCTOBER 2, 2018 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Rowe called the meeting to order at 6:00pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL was taken. Present were: Trustees Jim Baker, Lee Drendel, Jerry Elliott, and Alison Squires, Supervisor Tom Rowe, Assessor Curt Karas, and Clerk Phil Silagi.

ALSO PRESENT: John Perryman M.D., Ron Hain.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dr. John Perryman with Physicians for National Healthcare Program, a group that advocates for single payer healthcare, addressed the Board on the subject of Medicare for All. He informed the Board that he would be presenting a brief outline and would welcome feedback and input. He began by describing the current state of US Healthcare in terms of cost with the US spending on average \$10,000 per person compared to the rest of the developed world at \$5,000 to \$8,000 per person. In terms of GDP, healthcare is about 18% of GDP in the US as compared to 11 or 12% in the rest of the world. If we reduced costs to 12%, that would represent a trillion dollar savings. Our increased cost places a huge burden on individuals and businesses or other organizations that purchase insurance for their employees. Costs to these organizations average \$13,000 to \$15,000 per employee. These costs have increased an average of 7% per year and have tripled since 1999. Dr. Perryman then explained some of the reasons for our much higher costs. One of the factors identified was our Multiple Payer System which creates much higher administrative costs. In Canada, administrative costs average \$750 per person as compared to the US cost of \$3,000 per person. Other countries administrative costs average 2 to 3% of total cost compared to 8% here. Another factor contributing to higher costs in the US is drug prices. Merger and consolidation in the pharmaceutical industry has caused the price of some drugs to increase over 1,000%. Prices for some drugs are 2 to 4 times more in the US as compared to Canada. One of the biggest reasons for the difference is that the US does not negotiate prices with the drug companies, in fact under the Medicare law passed during the Bush Administration, it is illegal for the government to negotiate drug prices. The third factor driving our higher costs is the cost of services, procedures, MRI's, and most other services cost more here than in other countries and we have a much larger range of prices for specific services. Dr. Perryman then commented that maybe the higher cost would be worth it if we had the best healthcare system in the world, statistics on life expectancy, infant mortality, and maternal mortality, indicate that dozens of countries have better outcomes than the US. In deaths that could be avoided by access to care, the US ranks 35th in the world. Assessor Karas questioned if the statistics included the immigrant population and Dr. Perryman responded that the statistics included only legal residents, however since most immigrants pay into the system, they end up being net contributors. Dr. Perryman then concluded that with the US being the only industrialized country not to guarantee healthcare to its citizens, our poor outcomes, and our much higher costs, there must be something seriously wrong. He then went back to the three factors previously cited that create costs that don't contribute to care. Perryman then stated that the pharmaceutical industry is the most profitable component of healthcare. They have two lobbyist per member of Congress and spend about a half a million

dollars per member. One of the reasons we perform so poorly is that people can't afford to access the system, over 60 million people report that they can't afford some aspect of care and that includes the 28 million with no insurance at all. Many people on Medicare cannot afford the care they need because of high out of pocket costs or the cost of drugs. Dr. Perryman then went on to describe what a Medicare for All national healthcare would look like as proposed in HB 676 which is similar to bills that have been proposed in the last 5 Congresses. HB 676 would be a national health insurance system that would provide broad coverage for medical, dental, vision, drug, and long term care with no out of pocket costs. The providers of healthcare would still remain private and would not be nationalized like the system in the UK. An important aspect of this is there is no out of pocket costs. Studies have found that if people have out of pocket costs that they in many cases can't afford, they simply don't get the care. Out of pocket costs are a way for insurers to recover costs, but lead to overall increased costs because they contribute to neglected care that leads to more serious and costly health problems. While Americans would have to pay more taxes under this system, they would no longer have to pay for health insurance. Twenty-seven studies have concluded that the cost for this system would be the same or less with much better coverage and everyone would be covered. The financial impact on citizens would be less and even the most conservative estimates predicted cost savings over 10 years. Dr. Perryman then explained the impact this would have on businesses and government entities that provide health insurance to employees. He stated that the Medicare for All proposals would increase payroll taxes from 3 to 7% based on income which would amount to a 5 or 6 thousand dollar savings per employee compared to the 12 to 14 thousand dollars per employee that health insurance currently costs employers. Administrative costs would also be eliminated since you would no longer be dealing with insurance companies. The reason our group would like to present this to local governments is to build political support beyond our usual constituencies based on the facts that this system is simpler, costs much less, and saves a lot of time for local governments. It makes financial sense for your unit of local government and it takes better care of your constituents and employees. Dr. Perryman then asked that Sugar Grove Township publicly come out in support of this proposal for the reasons cited and also because the resources currently wasted on unnecessary costs for healthcare could be utilized for infrastructure, transportation, social services, or other neglected government services. Dr. Perryman concluded by thanking the Board for the opportunity to discuss healthcare which he believes is a huge issue for the country, he also thanked the Board for their input and feedback, and offered to come back and address these issues in more detail.

Ron Hain, candidate for Kane County Sheriff addressed the Board next. He stated that he has 24 years of experience in law enforcement and is frustrated at the lack of law enforcement leadership in Kane County. The Kane County Sheriff's Dept. is the largest department in County government with an annual budget of \$28,000,000. Hain stated that every year they throw millions of dollars into failed law enforcement tactics and expect different results. Hain then pointed to the increase in opioid deaths that occurred since he left drug enforcement and the current leadership adopted different methods. He then pointed out the loss of 2.5 million dollars in revenue when the current sheriff cancelled the federal jail contract 10 days after taking office. Hain then described initiatives he hopes to implement if elected including bringing back bulk drug detection. Hain also wants to institute programs in our jail to provide people with an alternative and an opportunity including a jobs program that connects employers with people who have a felony criminal record. The program would include drug treatment, employment and forced savings so they will have about \$1,500 when they are released allowing them access to transportation and housing. The program is

designed to decrease the number of repeat offenders by giving them opportunities to succeed when they are released. Lastly Hain addressed the current patrol system which was developed in the 1960's and that he believes leads to longer response times and inefficient use of resources. If elected he would redeploy deputies into North and South divisions and would keep the same deputies assigned to an area so that they become more familiar with the community and can better understand their issues and respond.

SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Trustee Elliott motioned, and Trustee Baker seconded the motion to review and approve the September 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes. Trustee Baker pointed out that in the Supervisor's Report, the date for the Kane County TOI Dinner was recorded as Oct. 27th and should be corrected to Oct. 24th. Supervisor Rowe will make that change before posting to the web site and the minutes will be corrected for the record. After review, Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott, and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

TOWNSHIP: Trustee Squires made a motion, seconded by Trustee Drendel to review and approve September Township Accounts Payable. After review and discussion, Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott, and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried. The balance in the Town Fund checking accounts as of September 27, 2018 is \$477,140.86.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Trustee Drendel made a motion, seconded by Trustee Squires to review and approve the September Road and Bridge Accounts Payable. After review, Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott, and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nay. Motion carried. The balance in the Road & Bridge checking account as of September 27, 2018 is \$982,710.40.

PAYROLL REPORT: For the period 8/27/2018 thru 9/23/2018.

PROFIT & LOSS REPORTS: For the period April thru Sept. 2018.

QUARTERLY TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Elliott motioned, seconded by Trustee Squires to review and approve the Quarterly Treasurer's Report for the period ending Sept. 30, 2018. After review, Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Rowe presented the Board with correspondence from TOI informing Townships on SB 2923 which was signed by the Governor and is effective Jan. 1, 2019. The new law requires clerks to witness or attest by signature the authenticity of the authorized signature on all checks or other financial documents which reflect a payout from Township or Road District Funds. The Board then discussed how this would be accomplished and Supervisor Rowe commented that further details would probably be coming from TOI.

REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Written report filed with the meeting minutes.

ASSESSOR: No Report.

ROAD & BRIDGE: No report.

CLERKS REPORT: No report.

TRUSTEES REPORT: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Hanks Road Bridge Update: Supervisor Rowe informed the Board that IDOT will not move forward without the Letter of Understanding being executed by the Village for their portion of the bridge even though the Road District has agreed to perform maintenance on this portion as well as the Township portion of the structure. Our attorney is suggesting we call a meeting with all affected parties as well as Senator Oberweis to attempt to resolve this issue so that the project can move forward.
2. Sugar Grove Community Building Board Vacancy Update: Trustee Drendel informed the Board that this item was tabled until the next meeting. Currently there is one applicant and one person who has expressed interest and not yet applied.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Township Officials of Illinois Annual Dinner Banquet Registration – 10/24 @ Lincoln Inn: Supervisor Rowe asked which Board members were planning to attend the annual dinner. After confirmation of 5 members, Trustee Baker motioned, seconded by Trustee Squires to Authorize Registration of up to 6 member to attend the TOI Annual Dinner. Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott, and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.
2. Consideration & Potential Approval of IMRF Authorized Agent for Sugar Grove Township Community Building: Supervisor Rowe explained that with the resignation of Jerry Murphy from the Community Building Board, a new IMRF Authorized Agent would have to be appointed and Mr. Murphy recommended that Supervisor Rowe fill that position. Trustee Squires motioned, seconded by Trustee Baker to Approve Appointment of Supervisor Tom Rowe as IMRF Authorized Agent for Sugar Grove Township Community Building. Trustees Baker, Drendel, Elliott, and Squires, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Drendel moved, Trustee Baker seconded, and the Board unanimously approved adjourning the regular meeting at 7:35pm.