

**MINUTES OF THE  
JULY 6, 2021 REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR GROVE  
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**CHANGE OF MEETING LOCATION:** This meeting was held at the Road District Office and Maintenance Facilities to update Board members on Road District operations.

**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 Jon Bobbe, Marion Bond, Jerry Elliott, and Lewis Medina, Supervisor Tom Rowe, Road District Foreman Bill Collins, Assessor Curt Karas, and Clerk Phil Silagi.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jennifer Paganessi-Fisher, Stephanie Marlatt, and Amy Daeschler.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Supervisor Rowe explained that the Board received a request from CASA Kane County for funding assistance that was discussed at last month's meeting. The Board requested additional information so Supervisor Rowe invited representatives from this group to make a short presentation and answer questions. Jennifer Paganessi-Fisher began her presentation by explaining that CASA is a volunteer organization that has been in existence since 1988 serving children who end up in juvenile court through no fault of their own either through abuse or neglect. Since the pandemic, their cases have more than doubled and they are having trouble recruiting volunteers. Additionally they have recently lost a half million dollar federal grant money and are reaching out to other agencies and units of government to replace some of that lost revenue. She explained that it costs \$5,000 to recruit, train, supervise, and manage a CASA volunteer for one child and to provide incidentals for that child. She further explained that they currently have 3 CASA child clients in Sugar Grove Township and are requesting funding in the amount of \$15,000 to support these children. Supervisor Rowe then explained that their request would be discussed later in this meeting and that should the Board decide to provide funding it would be in the form of a social service contract that could possibly be approved at next month's meeting pending attorney and CASA review.

**JUNE 1, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:** Trustee Elliott motioned, and Trustee Bobbe seconded the motion, to review and approve the June 1, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. After review, Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

**TOWNSHIP:** Trustee Bobbe motioned and Trustee Bond seconded the motion to review and approve the June Town accounts payable as presented. After review, Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried. The balance in the Township checking account as of June 30, 2021 is \$428,617.89.

**ROAD & BRIDGE:** Trustee Bond motioned and Trustee Elliott seconded the motion to review and approve the June Road and Bridge accounts payable as presented. After review and discussion, Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye 0 nays. Motion carried. The balance in the Road & Bridge checking account as of June 30, 2021 is \$523,679.96.

**PAYROLL REPORT:** June 1st through June 30th 2021.

**PROFIT & LOSS:** April through June 2021.

**QUARTERLY TREASURER'S REPORT 6/30/21:**

Trustee Elliott motioned and Trustee Bond seconded the motion to approve the Quarterly Treasurer's Report as of 6/30/21. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nay. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Rowe presented the Board with a copy of an email form the Village informing the Township that the grant for Phase II of the bike bridge project has been awarded and the next step is Phase II Engineering. The Village will be preparing a new IGA to address cost share for this next phase.

**REPORTS:**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** Supervisor Rowe presented a written report of his activities during the last month. He also wanted to highlight the following items: Supervisor Rowe reported that Gov. Pritzker declared that Illinois has moved into Phase 5 of Covid-19 recovery on June 19<sup>th</sup>. As a result for businesses and venues where everyone is fully vaccinated, the state does not require face coverings and social distancing in both indoor and outdoor settings. Unvaccinated, or not fully vaccinated persons should still wear a face covering and maintain six feet social distance in indoor businesses and venues as well as public meetings. As a result of the Community Newsletter, we have reached our maximum of 10 applications for the senior lawn mowing program with 3 on the waiting list as well as interest in the snow removal program. There are 78 residents registered for the senior/disabled transportation program and a total of 43 rides were given in June. The Senior Lunch Program resumed indoor lunches on June 29<sup>th</sup> at the Community Building with 70 lunches catered by Open Range to seniors and volunteers. The SG Community Newsletters were received by all township residents on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The first Groovin' in the Grove outdoor concert was held on June 17<sup>th</sup> in the Library Parking Lot with over 400 in attendance. Supervisor Rowe has attended 3 meetings of the new SG Township Kiwanis Club. Their first fundraiser Kiwanis KornFest will be held on Saturday August 7<sup>th</sup> at Calamity Jane's. TOI Virtual Boot Camp registration is available for Newly Elected Officials. Training is on August 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and available online in September if you cannot attend the live event. Lastly, the FY21 Audit Draft was not available for this meeting but may be available before the August meeting and will be emailed to Board members for review before the presentation by auditors at our August meeting.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Karas thanked Julie Walker for the help she provided in hosting the Assessor's open house at the Community Building on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. He also thanked State Senator Corina Villa for attending. He noted that while attendance was not that great, there were a lot of good questions that were answered and he felt he was able to help some people. He is hoping to boost attendance should they decide to hold another event next year. Karas also reported that the median sales price in SG Township in 2018 was \$240,000, so far this year it is \$290,000 indicating home prices are going up which may not change the tax if the levy stays the same. Lastly Karas noted that the County is behind in publishing changes so that will delay the start of appeal process to his office at the local level.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Foreman Collins reported that repairs have been made to the salt shed. He also reported that the storm that resulted in a tornado in Naperville and Woodridge created significant tree damage in the Densmore/Wildwood area with 5 large trees down. Road Commission Musser hired Martinez Landscaping to remove the 5 trees along with 10 others he identified as dangerous. This unanticipated expenditure for tree removal will double the budgeted amount for this line item from 6 to 12 thousand dollars. Collins reported that there has been no communication from the BNSF on the Barnes Rd culvert replacement project. They had a Zoom meeting with IDOT on the Hanks Rd bridge over IL 56. IDOT informed them that they will be replacing the current bridge and raising it up higher. There will be no access to or from either highway with construction estimated to begin in 2026 or 2027. IDOT also noted that when completed, the bridge would be the responsibility of the Village not the Township. They have a pre-con meeting scheduled with Geneva Construction for the overlay projects and the installation of the security camera system is complete which includes remote monitoring.

CLERKS REPORT: Clerk Silagi reported on the 708 Mental Health Board Meeting. He reported that West Towns has 20 new clients and has had 63 new contacts year to date. INC Board financials appear to be on target with legal and HVAC maintenance items over budget and many items under budget due to the pandemic. The INC Board is finalizing the sale of the Thompson and Keeler Centers to AID who has been renting these facilities from the INC Board for over 30 years. This will allow the INC Board to eliminate the costly maintenance of these buildings and AID, who is able to do fundraising can perform the necessary upgrades to suit their needs. The 708 Board, as in the past will be requesting a levy increase equal to the CPI of 1.4% plus new construction which will equate to an increase from \$126,163 to \$127,929.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Trustee Bobbe reported on the Village Board meeting which lasted over three hours. He reported that the focus was on economic development which includes rezoning for the property across the street from Walgreen's. The Village has plans for a Village Center on that property which would include a Village Hall. The plan envisioned would involve no additional tax burden. Bobbe also reported that the Village is also considering a water study estimated to cost \$219,000. Bobbe thought that they should consult with the Water Authority before proceeding, Trustee Elliott agreed and will be in contact with Village Public Works to discuss. Trustee Bond reported on the Community Building Board Meeting and reported that the senior lunch and bingo are now being hosted in the building for the first time since the Covid outbreak. She also reported that the gym is going to be closed until September due to lack of air conditioning. They have been getting calls for use of the dining room and will allow that use but without use of the kitchen. Use of the dining room will require users to follow Covid guidelines which include social distancing

regardless of vaccination status. Trustee Elliott reported that homeowners who participated in well sampling have received the results of the testing. He also reported that the recent rains have brought well levels up about 6 inches, however, they are not back up to normal levels yet. Elliott also commented on the Village's water study and made the observation that the current water supply is probably sufficient for the current population and that growth projections for Sugar Grove and many other Northern Illinois communities have been proven to be too optimistic. Elliott also attended a recent Kaneland School Board meeting where he made a public comment. Supervisor Rowe commented that he has been in contact with someone from the City of Aurora and that they have suspended meetings of the Airport Advisory Board until further notice. They will contact Supervisor Rowe when they plan to resume those meetings.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Aurora Airport Advisory Board Update: This item was discussed by Supervisor Rowe in the Trustees Report.
2. Consideration & Potential Approval of Jada Hudson Bliss House Lease Modification: Supervisor Rowe at the request of Jada Hudson, has modified the lease to reduce the lease term from one year to 6 months. Trustee Bobbe motioned, seconded by Trustee Medina to Approve the Jada Hudson Bliss House Lease Modification. Trustees, Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Consideration & Potential Approval of Kane County CASA Social Service Funding: Supervisor Rowe presented the Board with a draft of a Social Service Funding Contract for Kane County CASA. He remarked that this contract is modeled after one we use for AID and that there is currently \$7,500 budgeted for social service funding, \$5,000 of which is usually earmarked for AID. He then asked the Board to comment on this request. After an extended discussion, the Board agreed to fund this request in the amount of \$5,000. Trustee Bobbe motioned, seconded by Trustee Elliott to Approve Kane County CASA Social Service Funding Contract in the Amount of \$5,000 pending attorney review. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.
2. Consideration & Potential Approval of Tina Wilson to the Mental Health 708 Board: Supervisor Rowe explained that the Township Board is responsible for filling vacancies on the 708 Board. Former Trustee and 708 Board liaison Alison Squires had asked Wilson to apply for this position and is recommending her appointment. Trustee Bond motioned, seconded by Trustee Medina to appoint Tina Willson to the Mental Health 708 Board. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Trustee Elliott motioned, Trustee Bond seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved adjourning the regular meeting at 7:52pm.