

**MINUTES OF THE
JUNE 7, 2022 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF SUGAR GROVE
KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

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

ROLL CALL was taken. Present were: Supervisor Tom Rowe, Assessor Curt Karas, Clerk Phil Silagi, and Road Commissioner Doug Musser. Trustees Jon Bobbe, Marion Bond, Jerry Elliott, and Lewis Medina.

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Nagel, and Judge John Noverini.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Judge John Noverini was invited to address the Board by Trustee Elliott to speak on child abuse and neglect because of what Elliott believes is a cultural breakdown. Judge Noverini stated that he has been on the bench for 14 years and has worked for 5 years on the probate and guardianship courts. Noverini relied heavily on Kane County CASA for support of these children. Noverini stated that the laws that have been passed in Springfield encourage dysfunctional families to some degree. A mother can receive \$725 per child in state aid and use the money for drugs and alcohol. The laws trap people into a system they cannot get out of, it is not their fault they make bad choices, but it has encouraged by laws that pay them to keep having kids. He then commented on generations of people who depend on public aid.

He thanked the Township for their support of Kane County CASA who he relies upon heavily. He stated that as a Judge he felt it was his duty to protect the most vulnerable, the elderly, the kids, and the disabled. The judge went on to recount his background, 35 years in the legal profession and 14 years on the bench with a wide range of experience in number of areas of law including family, and criminal, prior to that he spent 25 years in the private sector. Noverini spent 10 years in banking and 10 years in a private law practice. He describes himself as a non-establishment independent grassroots conservative. He went on to describe how he was inspired by Ronald Reagan's message of limited government, lower taxes, and less regulation and how Illinois has in his opinion ignored his message and is losing population. Noverini summarized his philosophy, the bigger the government the less freedom you will have, the smaller the government, the more freedom you will have. Noverini then spoke about the creation of judicial sub circuits for the purpose of getting Democrats elected to judge positions and the importance of the upcoming election to break the control of the Illinois Supreme Court by Democrats. Noverini concluded by stating his originalist interpretation of the Constitution. He felt that President Trump saved the Supreme Court, and that would be his legacy. He went on to say if Hillary Clinton had appointed those Justices, it would have been over for the Constitution, we just saw what went on the bench with Joe Biden it is a nightmare.

MAY 3, 2022, TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES: Trustee Bond motioned and Trustee Bobbe seconded the motion to Approve the May 3, 2022 Township Public Hearing Minutes. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

MAY 3, 2022, ROAD DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES: Trustee Elliott motioned and Trustee Medina seconded the motion to Approve the May 3, 2022 Road District Public Hearing Meeting Minutes. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

MAY 3, 2022, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Trustee Bobbe motioned, and Trustee Medina seconded the motion to review and approve the May 3, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes. After review, Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

TOWNSHIP: Trustee Elliott motioned, seconded by Trustee Bond to review and approve the May Township accounts payable as presented. Supervisor Rowe pointed out a discrepancy in the opening balance due to a tax payment dispute. The State charged us twice for a tax payment which was disputed, and which was reconciled. 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 May 31, 2022 is \$223,290.98.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Trustee Medina motioned, and Trustee Bobbe seconded the motion to review and approve the May Road and Bridge 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 Road & Bridge checking account as of May 31, 2022 is \$-5,730.72.

PAYROLL REPORT: May 1st through May 31st 2022.

PROFIT & LOSS REPORTS: April through May 2022.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Rowe presented the Board with correspondence from First Secure Community Bank announcing their customer appreciation day June 11th from 11am to 2pm.

REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor Rowe presented a written report of his activities during the last month and highlighted the following: The Senior/Disabled Transportation Program now has 109 registered residents. A total of 113 rides were given in May. We began charging \$5 per one way ride on June 1st with no complaints. The Senior Lawn Mowing Program began the week of May 2nd and is serving 11 households who qualified by the April 15th deadline. Mowing will conclude the week of October 24th for a total of 26 weeks. The Township Annual Newsletter was mailed on May 31st to all 5,097 Township households. Supervisor Rowe mentioned that Township Officials of Illinois Political Action Committee has launched a website that includes various TOIPAC apparel for those members interested. Lastly, Rowe mentioned the first Groovin in the Grove Summer Concert is scheduled for a week from Thursday at the Library.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Karas quizzed the Board on the homestead exemption and senior exemption for Sugar Grove Township and informed the Board that the homestead exemption will be going from \$6,000 to \$8,000 in 2023 and the senior exemption will be going from \$5,000 to \$8,000 in 2023. Karas reported that all changes made to the assessment rolls have been approved. There will be 30 days to appeal June 15th to July 15th.

ROAD & BRIDGE: Road Commission Musser reported that overlays are almost completed, everything has been shouldered, waiting for the striping, waiting on the guardrail for Hanks, and waiting on the bridge deck sealing for Prairie. Completed the first round of mowing and planning to get the second round done before the 4th of July in addition to painting crosswalks. The new truck is coming in on the 15th and the tree contractor is removing 6 trees and doing some trimming.

CLERKS REPORT: Clerk Silagi reported that he filed the budgets with the Kane County Clerk.

TRUSTEES REPORT: Trustee Elliott reported that the Blackberry Creek is running at 25 thousand gallons per minute, which is low. The 5 wells that were tested during April do not have the test results back from the U of I yet. Trustee Bobbe reported that the Village was discussing consulting for the TIF's and solar panels on the fronts of buildings. Bobbe also noted a discussion he had with Village Trustee Herron regarding a homeless person in Sugar Grove. Trustee Bond reported that the Community Building has had a lot of problems with it's front door systems so both companies involved in the operator and access were asked to meet to resolve the issues. The Canopy group continues to use the gym. The fire alarm system went off due to malfunction and was repaired. The boilers are shut down for repair. They approved their budget and had Jim Daw in to do multifactor authentication for Microsoft. They are waiting for quotes for work to the HVAC system. Holiday in the Grove wanted to use the meeting room in the lower level and requested a fire pit in front of the building for a place to have people to warm up since they are planning horse drawn carriage rides. The Community Building Board had no objections to the fire pit but objected to the idea of roasting smores.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Sugar Grove Corn Boil Fireworks Fundraiser June 15th at Open Range Grill: Supervisor Rowe provided the Board with a flyer on this fundraiser and urged members to support this effort if they can.
2. TOI Annual Educational Conference Nov. 13-15, 2022 in Springfield, IL: Supervisor Rowe provided the Board with a registration packet for this conference for any members interested. He noted that this will be the first in person conference in three years.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1 Consideration & Potential Approval of General Assistance Resolution #2022-C: Supervisor Rowe reminded Board members that Conley Outreach has taken over our general assistance administration. Training by Conley indicated the need to declare if we are a flat grant Township program or a needs-based Township program. This resolution will establish us as a flat grant Township program. It also adopts the TOI general assistance handbook, and declares payment levels. After review, Trustee Bond motioned, seconded by Trustee Elliott, to Approve Resolution # 2022-C. Trustees Bobbe, Bond, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

- 2 Consideration & Potential Approval of Updated Emergency Assistance Guidelines: Supervisor Rowe explained that as part of our General Assistance Updates, we need to address Emergency Assistance guidelines and payment levels. Jennifer Long of Conley Outreach is recommending that we increase our maximum assistance from \$500 per household per year to \$700 per household per year due to increases in rent. The other change she is recommending that the Township's payment of EA program grants be based on 250% of Federal and State poverty guidelines instead of the current 200%. After review, Trustee Elliott motioned, seconded by Trustee Medina to Approve Updated Emergency Assistance Guidelines. Trustees Bobbe, Bone, Elliott, and Medina, and Supervisor Rowe voted aye. 0 nays. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Bobbe motioned, Trustee Elliott seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved adjourning the regular meeting at 7:23pm.