

Historic

Riverside Township

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Vera A. Wilt, Supervisor
Jay Reyes, Clerk
Frances Sitkiewicz, Assessor

Trustees
Mary Rob Clarke
Timothy Heilenbach
John P. Carroll, Jr.
Matthew J. Decosola

MINUTES OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE

RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024

AT THE RIVERSIDE TOWNSHIP HALL, 27 RIVERSIDE ROAD, RIVERSIDE

CALL TO ORDER

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of the Riverside Township Board of Trustees, held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the Riverside Township Hall located at 27 Riverside Road; Riverside, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Wilt at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Supervisor Vera Wilt, Clerk Jay Reyes, Trustee Mary Rob Clarke, Trustee Matt Decosola, Trustee Tim Heilenbach.

ABSENT: Trustee John Carroll

ALSO PRESENT: Michael J. Hayes, Legal Counsel
Mitch Zilinger, Riverside Brookfield High School
Township Assessor Fran Sitkiewicz

Therefore, Supervisor Wilt declared a quorum and opened the Scheduled Meeting for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the November 19, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Heilenbach

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Wilt presented her report to the Board.

1) Gift Cards

Supervisor Wilt reported to the Board that gift cards for Food Pantry clients have been much appreciated by all recipients. She noted that the Township had distributed 60 cards, 26 to Aldi and 34 to Riverside Foods, and have 5 on hand, and have this board's approval to buy 5 more. She urged the Board to allow her to use her judgement to purchase more if needed, with ratification later. Supervisor Wilt noted that such an action would be within her spending authority anyway. The Riverside residents have been receiving Riverside Foods and all other locations in the township have received Aldi. She noted that they have been averaging 10 per week in the 6 weeks they have been available.

2) Holiday Stroll

Supervisor Wilt reported that the Holiday Stroll was very busy, and even with a smaller choir, the auditorium was filled well beyond capacity. Unfortunately, the bank across the street was giving out bags of popcorn, so the Hall looked like there had been a food fight at the end of the night. She encouraged people to see the art exhibit in the 1st floor lobby as well as the student snow-globes on the second floor, and if they were coming in late for the choir, they promoted staying for the magic show. The magician reported that he had the best size audience for the 2 shows he ever had. There were some concerns with exiting the building after the music show as there was a real log jam by the front door.

3) Swinging Bridge Bond

Supervisor Wilt noted that she made the first principal repayment on the bridge bond at the end of November and was pleased that there were enough taxes collected not to put a strain on the Township's cashflow. Supervisor Wilt explained that it was a pleasant change over concerns of recent years. She summarized our activity on that loan:

The Township was approved for \$500,000, drew only \$450,000 total in 2 withdrawals; made interest payments of \$9,314.58 December 1, 2023, \$9,562.50 on May 30, 2024, \$9,562.50 on November 27, 2024 and now a principal repayment of \$60,000 on November 27, 2024. The current balance is \$390,000.

4) Township Levy

Supervisor Wilt informed the Board that the levy presented for approval tonight is the same as was presented at the last meeting. Supervisor Wilt intended to adjust some line items to better reflect where it was needed, but on further review, it was pretty much all where it needed to be. The Mental Health Board was given the figures you saw in their part of the levy and approved that at their meeting on November 20th.

5) Township Building Improvements

Supervisor Wilt noted that she was working on getting estimates for work in the building and would have more to report later.

6) Emergency Assistance Application

Supervisor Wilt reported to the Board that she had one pending Emergency Assistance application and had an inquiry about what was available today.

7) Passing of Patricia Heilenbach.

Supervisor Wilt expressed her condolences over the passing of Patricia Heilenbach, mother of Trustee Tim Heilenbach. She noted that they had communicated the loss to the Township Board, Mental Health Board, and their partners. She sent a memorial plant on behalf of the Township.

8) Holiday Season

Supervisor Wilt hoped everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. She reminded the Board that Township offices, as well as the Village offices were closed on both Thursday and Friday. She wished all present at the meeting and the whole community a warm and peaceful holiday season.

9) Stage Curtain

Supervisor Wilt noted that a company that previously examined the stage curtain that was repaired indicated that it would cost \$17,000 to replace.

10) Sound System

Supervisor Wilt reported that the audio work previously contracted had now been completed. The audio upgrades would allow for the Township sound system to remain within ADA compliance.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Sitkiewicz indicated that all deadlines had expired and the office was now working on transitioning their system to cooperate with a new County data transfer system and expected that it would go smoothly.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Trustee Decosola thanked the Board for opening the Township building and expressed enjoyment at the Holiday Stroll.

Trustee Clarke reported that the exercise classes were going well, with over 240 attendees. She also indicated that she attended the TOI BOD meeting in Springfield.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD'S REPORT

Trustee Heilenbach reported that the Mental Health Board had no meeting, and therefore had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) Community Partnership – Riverside Brookfield High School

Supervisor Wilt introduced Mitch Zilinger, of Riverside Brookfield High School, explained that Riverside Brookfield High School had submitted a request for the purchase of 3 iPads, pens, and in store purchases to assist students in emotional crisis. Mr. Zilinger sought \$2,000 for the purchase of all items.

Trustee Heilenbach sought an explanation for the breakdown of the items to be purchased and asked about the amount of emotional crisis situations that arise at RB. Mr. Zilinger spoke to the matter explaining that often there were occasional emotional panic attacks and the iPads would serve to sooth them.

Trustee Decosola wondered about the apps to be used for the iPads. Mr. Zilinger explained that they would often use Paint By Numbers or other proven methods they would use to reduce their anxiety. Trustee Decosola also inquired about their security and storage. Trustee Decosola also asked if another entity had been asked to support the request, and Mr. Zilinger indicated that he had not.

Trustee Clarke inquired about the number of staff members as part of their team. Mr. Zilinger indicated that there were 6 staff members. He explained that existing personnel and resources would often take them from their serving students to attend staff meetings or IEP meetings, which would draw away a minimum of 2 staffers.

A Motion was made by Trustee Heilenbach to approve the request for \$2,000 for the requested purchases. Supervisor Wilt explained that the purchase would be made through the Township.

MOTION: Trustee Heilenbach

SECOND: Trustee Clarke

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt – Yes;

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

B) Adopt 2024 Township Levy

Supervisor Wilt explained that the Township would seek a levy in the amount of \$1,590,013.85.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the levy as presented.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt – Yes;

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

A) Approve Resolution for Mental Health Board Reappointments

a. Timoth Heilenbach

b. Kara Kalnitz

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the appointment of Timothy Heilenbach.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Abstain; Supervisor Wilt – Yes;

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 3 No - 0 Abstention - 1 MOTION CARRIED

A Motion was made by Trustee Heilenbach to approve the appointment of Kara Kalnitz.

MOTION: Trustee Heilenbach

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt – Yes;

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

B) Special Event Request – Keith Liesse

Supervisor Wilt explained that this item was withdrawn.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

Trustee Heilenbach moved to authorize and ratify payment of the bills identified on the General Warrant for December 2024 in the amount of \$82,929.86.

MOTION: Trustee Heilenbach

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Heilenbach moved to authorize and ratify payment of the Utility Warrant in the amount of \$1,331.54; Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$19,659.23; Health Warrant in the amount of \$3,176.48; Community Partnerships Warrant in the amount of \$7,475.00; General Assistance Warrant in the amount of \$4,229.89; Township Radio Players in the amount of \$240.00; and the Food Pantry Warrant in the amount of \$2,489.60.

MOTION: Trustee Heilenbach

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact, Trustee Clarke moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Heilenbach

ROLL CALL: Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Heilenbach - Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes

VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention - 0 MOTION CARRIED

Vera A. Wilt, Township Supervisor

Jay Reyes, Township Clerk

12-10-2024