

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, FEBRUARY 11, 2025**

**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, February 11, 2025, 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 John Carroll, Trustee Mary Rob Clarke, Trustee Matt Decosola.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Tim Heilenbach

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michael J. Hayes, Legal Counsel

Kimberly Mertz, Access to Care, 2225 Enterprise Drive, Westchester, IL

Colleen Pelikant, Aging Care Connections, 111 W. Harris, LaGrange, IL

Charlotte Zia, 276 Addison Rd., Riverside, IL

Ann Filmer, Riverside Arts Center, 32 Quincy St., Riverside, IL

Kendra Curry-Khanna, Riverside Arts Center, 32 Quincy St., Riverside, IL

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 Carroll to approve the January 14, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Carroll  
SECOND: Trustee Decosola  
ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes  
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4      No - 0      Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

A Motion was made by Trustee Carroll to approve the February 4, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Trustee Carroll  
SECOND: Trustee Decosola  
ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes  
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4      No - 0      Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A) Community Partnerships**

###### **a. Access to Care**

Supervisor Wilt introduced Kimberly Mertz, COO of Access to Care. Ms. Mertz discussed the services offered by Access to Care, 1. The ability to see a doctor for \$5, 2. Radiological services for \$5, and 3. Prescription care for additional costs. The clients are not eligible for Medicare or Medicaid. Most patients are suffering from chronic illness. Ms. Mertz sought \$5,000 to service 7-8 Riverside residents in her program.

Trustee Clarke asked whether there was additional need from Riverside Township. Ms. Mertz indicated that there was additional support from the State.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the \$5,000 request.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

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

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

**b. Aging Care Connections**

Supervisor Wilt introduced Aging Care Connections. Ms. Colleen Pelikant, Director of Social Services at Aging Care Connections. Ms. Pelikant explained the services Aging Care Connections offered, particularly helping seniors stay in their communities.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the \$5,000 request.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Carroll

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

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

**c. Best Buddies International**

Supervisor Wilt introduced the grant request from Best Buddies and explained that their representative was unavailable to attend tonight. The Board, having seen the presentation material and having had the opportunity to review the request moved to a vote.

A Motion was made by Trustee Clarke to approve the grant request for \$5,000.

MOTION: Trustee Clarke

SECOND: Trustee Carroll

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

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

**d. Riverside Arts Weekend**

Charlotte Zia spoke on behalf of Riverside Arts Weekend. She explained that the program had been around since 2008 and described the program offerings and reminded the Board that it would again be free to all attendees. RAW weekend would be on June 7-8, 2025. She sought \$1,500 in grant support from the Township.

Trustee Clarke asked about the advertising logistics for RAW, and whether it would be in line with last year's benefits. Ms. Zia explained that the Township would be supporting a gold sponsorship and was invited to provide materials for distribution on their information table and would be listed on the website.

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the grant request for \$1,500.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola  
SECOND: Trustee Carroll  
ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes  
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

**e. Riverside Arts Center**

Ms. Ann Filmer, the new Executive Director of the Riverside Arts Center, spoke on behalf of the group. Ms. Filmer sought \$10,000 to support various Art Center projects, including youth employment programs, community engagement such as One Book at Central School, participation at RAW, Creativity Fest, and other programs.

Kendra Curry-Khanna further described the programs and the Art Center's efforts, particularly their cooperation with local schools and their One Book program, a book offering from Christina Applegate discussing economic hardship and homelessness.

Trustee Clarke asked for an explanation of various programs.

Trustee Decosola sought additional information on student employment in the program, particularly whether they were from the Township.

A Motion was made by Trustee Carroll to approve the grant request in the amount of \$10,000.

MOTION: Trustee Carroll  
SECOND: Trustee Decosola  
ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes  
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

**B) Special Event Requests**

**a. Graduation Party – Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

Supervisor Wilt explained that the grant request would include serving alcohol and food and therefore needed a special approval.

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the request with the usual requirements of insurance and related.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola  
SECOND: Trustee Clarke  
ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – Yes; Supervisor Wilt - Yes  
VOICE VOTE: Yes – 4 No - 0 Abstention – 0 MOTION CARRIED

**b. Saint Elmo Commandery 64 – Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Supervisor Wilt explained that the request from the Masonic Lodge to host their event, with alcohol. They sought a waiver of fees as well.

Trustee Clarke expressed an interest in approving the request because of the ongoing support from the Masonic Lodge, particularly their support of the Township's Shred Event.

A Motion was made by Trustee Decosola to approve the special use request and waiver of fees.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Carroll

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

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

**C) Approval to Pay Certain Township Bills Electronically**

Supervisor Wilt reminded the Board that the Township often pays most statements via check and would like to move to a more modern system and pay some bills electronically.

The Board discussed the various scenarios in which the Township pays some bills including credit cards, utilities, and other expenses.

A Motion was made by Trustee Carroll to approve the Township's ability to pay credit card bills electronically.

MOTION: Trustee Carroll

SECOND: Trustee Decosola

ROLL CALL: Carroll – Yes; Clarke – Yes; Decosola – 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) Routine Matters**

Supervisor Wilt reported that there was nothing out of the routine this month. She continued reviewing and adjusting proposed budget data as more information is available, and in

accordance with the discussion had during the Committee of the Whole meeting. Supervisor Wilt reiterated her and the Board's commitment to focus on the needs of the town hall repairs and upgrades in the coming budget, over other expenditures.

2) **Status of Revenue**

Supervisor Wilt reported that in spite of property tax bills being released by the county, the Township had not yet seen any fund transfers.

3) **Emergency Assistance**

Supervisor Wilt informed the Board that she had one Emergency Assistance award, and one new GA client approved. She also had several inquiries, and one new application came in today.

**ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

**TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

Trustee Clarke reported that she had 230 people attend exercise classes in January. She also held a pizza lunch, which was much appreciated. She informed the Board that there were various bills making their way through the Illinois legislature and she would keep the Board informed on their status. She also reminded the Board that Lobby Day is Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and the Treasurer is hosting a party on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Decosola asked whether there were seniors in the Township that would like to attend Township programs but had transportation access concerns. Trustee Clarke reported that she had not yet heard that there were transportation access issues, some coming via bicycle.

**MENTAL HEALTH BOARD'S REPORT**

Supervisor Wilt reported that the Mental Health Board meeting for tomorrow is cancelled because of the snow alert.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A) Discussion of 2025-2026 Township Budget**

Supervisor Wilt explained that she would continue to review the budget data and guide the process according to previously discussed goals, namely the repairs of the Township building.

**FYI**

SUPERVISOR WILT ALSO REMINDED THE BOARD OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A) DEADLINE TO REQUEST AGENDA ITEM(S) FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING-MARCH 1ST**
- B) TOI LOBBY DAY - TUESDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:**

Trustee Decosola moved to authorize and ratify payment of the bills identified on the General Warrant for February 2025 in the amount of \$22,353.53.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Clarke

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

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

Trustee Decosola moved to authorize and ratify payment of the Utility Warrant in the amount of \$1,984.00; Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$20,839.58; Health Warrant in the amount of \$3,436.10; Petty Cash in the amount of \$138.89; General Assistance Warrant in the amount of \$6,829.89; Township Radio Players Warrant in the amount of \$180.00; and the Food Pantry Warrant in the amount of \$690.78.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Carroll

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Trustee Clarke took the opportunity to express her condolences on behalf of the Township for the family of Joe Doria, of Riverside TV, who recently passed.

There were no other public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to transact, Trustee Decosola moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

MOTION: Trustee Decosola

SECOND: Trustee Clarke

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

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

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Vera A. Wilt, Township Supervisor

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Jay Reyes, Township Clerk

2-11-2025