

Minutes Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
COUNTY OF LAKE
TOWN OF FREMONT

The Fremont Township Board of Trustees met at 22385 W. Illinois Route 60. Mundelein, IL 60060 on July 6, 2016 to conduct a **Regular Meeting.**

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Diana O'Kelly	Supervisor
Christina McCann	Town Clerk
Bill Grinnell	Highway Commissioner
Ed Sullivan, Jr.	Assessor
Trustee Atleson	Town Trustee
Trustee Forman	Town Trustee
Trustee Martin	Town Trustee
Trustee Shanahan	Town Trustee

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE

Supervisor O'Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Supervisor O'Kelly, Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan

Absent: Trustee Martin

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Clerk McCann, Hwy. Commissioner Grinnell, Assessor Ed Sullivan, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Stejskal, Dan Prezell, Beth Herchenbach, Nick Tonkery

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Trustee Forman moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2016 Regular board Meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- Due to the number of applicants, and limited funding, the Fremont Township community garden will not receive grant funds from the ComEd Green Region Program.

6. OLD BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 2017 – 2021 Elected Official Compensation

Supervisor O'Kelly opened the floor for board discussion and public comments regarding Elected Official Compensation for the term 2017 – 2021.

Discussion:

Trustee Shanahan stated he and Trustee Martin discussed the Supervisor, Clerk, Highway Commissioner and Assessor receive an increase of 1.5% for the first year of the new term, and a 1.6% increase the following three years of the term; that Trustee salaries be increased 10%; that health insurance contributions for the Supervisor, Highway Commissioner and Assessor be set at 20% for spouse and family; the Clerk's health insurance contribution be set at 20% for any and all coverage; and the Road District Treasurer's salary be set at \$1,000.00. Shanahan stated minimal salary increases are based on the projected cost of inflation during the next four-year term. The increase from 15% to 20% for health insurance contributions are suggested to offset anticipated increases in health insurance premiums for elected officials.

Assessor Sullivan explained the duties of the Assessor have been restricted by new case law which dictates properties be assessed on a quadrennial basis versus every year. Sullivan believes since the duties of the Assessor have decreased, the salary for the position should be decreased by 20%. He believes the Supervisor's salary is too high compared to other townships, and that other elected official salaries should be frozen at current levels. Sullivan requested the topic be tabled until discussions can be held with sitting officials to evaluate the duties of their positions, and give the public an opportunity to comment.

Clerk McCann stated the quadrennial TOI survey and discussions with other townships indicate Fremont elected official salaries are comparable with surrounding townships. She explained salaries and compensation are typically set in the month of July, prior to the next term, to give potential candidates two months of time to consider compensation levels for elected positions they may want to seek. This year consolidated election nominating petitions can be circulated beginning September 20, 2016. McCann stated in the topic has been on the agenda for two board meetings, and in her opinion if the board or public wanted more information, they would have had time to ask for it.

Trustee Shanahan stated he would prefer Trustee salaries remain at the current levels.

Trustee Atleson stated she would prefer Trustees receive no salary and contribute their time to the Township as volunteers.

Trustee Forman stated she does not want to see the Supervisor's salary cut because the Supervisor should be compensated to continue working to increase visibility for the Township and the services we provide to residents.

Trustee Shanahan suggested the Assessor's salary only be cut by 10% because the position requires specific education and certification. In his opinion, taxpayers are best represented by officials with excellent credentials

Trustee Atleson stated she supports the health insurance contributions at 20% because it's comparable with the private sector.

Supervisor O'Kelly asked if there were any public comments.

Dan Prezell stated elected officials perform essential duties for the Township and should be compensated accordingly.

Beth Herchenbach stated the Township is often the first line of help for local residents and it would be a shame not to reward the people who work here.

- **Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion to set the following elected official salaries and compensation for the 2017 to 2021 terms of office:**

The Supervisor, Highway Commissioner, and Clerk positions will receive a 1.5% salary increase in year 2017-2018 and a 1.6% salary increase in the following three years (2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021) of the term.

The Assessor position will receive a 10% decrease in salary beginning January 1, 2018, and the salary will remain the same during the next three years (2019, 2020, and 2021) of the term.

The Supervisor, Highway Commissioner, and Assessor will receive full health insurance benefits for individual coverage and will contribute 20% toward premium costs for spouse, or family coverage.

The Clerk will receive health insurance benefits, but will contribute 20% toward the premium costs for any and all health insurance coverage.

The Road District Treasurer's salary will be set at \$1,000.00 for each year of the four-year term.

Trustees will receive no increase in salary and are not eligible for health insurance coverage.

Discussion

Trustee Atleson requested the motion be withdrawn so that each position could be voted on separately.

The motion was rescinded with consensus of the board.

- **Trustee Atleson moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion that the Supervisor receive a 1.5% increase in the first year of the new term and a 1.6% increase in the following three years of the term. The Supervisor will receive full health insurance benefits and contribute 20% of premium costs toward spouse and family coverage. Supervisor O'Kelly amended the motion to freeze the Supervisor's salary at 2016 levels. Trustee Forman seconded the amended motion.**

Discussion

Supervisor O'Kelly inquired if she could amend the motion to freeze the Supervisor's salary at 2016 levels. Clerk McCann responded that the Supervisor is a board member and can act on the motion.

Roll Call

**Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin.
Motion carried.**

- **Trustee Shanahan moved the Assessor's salary decrease 10% from 2016 levels beginning January 1, 2018, and frozen at that level the following three years of the Assessor's term. The Assessor will receive full health insurance benefits and contribute 20% of premium costs toward spouse and family health insurance coverage. Trustee Atleson amended the motion to decrease the Assessor's salary 20% the first year of the Assessor's new term. There was no second to the amendment. Trustee Forman seconded the original motion.**

Roll Call

**Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin.
Motion carried.**

- **Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion for the Highway Commissioner's salary to increase 1.5% in year one of the new term and 1.6% in the following three years of the term. The Highway Commissioner will receive full health insurance benefits and contribute 20% of premium costs toward spouse and family health insurance coverage.**

Roll Call

**Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin.
Motion carried.**

- **Trustee Forman moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion for the Clerk's salary to increase 1.5% in the first year of the new term, and 1.6% in the following three years of the term. The Clerk will contribute 20% of premium costs toward any and all health insurance coverage.**

Roll Call

**Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin.
Motion carried.**

- **Trustee Atleson moved Trustees receive no compensation. The motion failed due to lack of a second.**
- **Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion to freeze trustee salaries at 2016 levels for all four years of the new term. Trustees are not eligible for health insurance benefits.**

Roll Call

**Aye: Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan: Nay: Trustee Atleson. Absent: Trustee Martin.
Motion carried.**

- Trustee Forman moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion for the Road District Treasurer’s salary to be set at \$1,000.00 for each year of the new term.

Roll Call

Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin. Motion carried.

- Trustee Forman moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion for the Highway Commissioner to receive use of a Township cell phone, and use of a Township vehicle with a payroll deduction of \$60.00 per month for personal use.

Roll Call

Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Clerk McCann stated she will prepare an official resolution to record the board’s approved salaries and benefits for elected positions during the new term and put it on the agenda for adoption at the August 8, 2016 Regular Meeting.

8. PARKS REPORT

8.1 Behm Park Shade Structure

- Trustee Forman moved and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to go out to bid for two double layer hexagon shade structures for Behm Park. All in favor, motion carried.

9. CERT REPORT

Team Leader Pat Stejskal reported on the following:

- CERT received a thank you letter for their assistance and participation at the Grayslake Health Fair
- The Team assisted and participated in the Mundelein July 4 celebrations
- The Team will have an information booth at the Lake County Fair and “CERT Presents” will broadcast live from the Fair
- The Team will assist with State Representative Sullivan’s shredding event at the township on July 20, 2016

10. COMMUNITY GARDEN REPORT

Trustee Atleson reported on the following:

- Outreach efforts to attract new volunteers have been successful with many new groups contacting Alicia Dodd to coordinate volunteer days.

11. ELECTED OFFICIALS’ REPORT

Assessor - None

Clerk

Clerk McCann had no report.

Highway Commissioner

The Highway Commissioner reported on the following projects:

- Met with homeowners near Circle Dr. and Grove regarding drainage issues
- Ivanhoe Estate's SSA meeting went well with no opposition to the SSA
- The Sullivan Lake/Highland Drive paving project will begin soon
- The Highway Department roofing project is on hold to investigate similar systems in the County

Supervisor

Supervisor O'Kelly reported on the following:

- Attended LCCTSC and Ride Lake County West meetings
- Settled pickle ball court fencing issue with Aaronson fencing for \$3,000.00
- Attended meeting with Highway Commissioner for waterline on Chardon Road
- Attended Ivanhoe Estates SSA meeting
- Met with Round Lake Administrator and Trustee
- Met with Del Webb car show representative about food drive
- Met with Sandy Huttas about coordinating Del Webb school supply drive
- Met with Mundelein police regarding an elder abuse claim and our first referral to the "Way Out Program"
- Attended Lake County TOI board meeting
- St. Mary's religious education program toured the garden
- Archived newsletters on the township website
- Met with MHS superintendent regarding wind and solar at the community garden
- Reached 1900 likes on the township Facebook page
- Aluminum has been ordered for the Highway Department sign
- Scheduled Young at Heart speaking engagement for September 9 at Saddlebrook Farms

Trustees

Trustees had no reports.

GA/EA/FOOD PANTRY REPORT

The following statistics were reported for the month of June 2016:

- Two (2) residents received General Assistance without medical
- One (1) resident received Emergency Assistance
- Ninety-one (91) residents received food pantry assistance
- Fifty (50) taxi coupons were purchased
- Zero (0) residents received assistance with LIHEAP applications
- Fifteen (15) residents submitted applications for RTA passes
- Twenty-three (23) residents participated in the Diaper Bank
- Five (5) residents received assistance with IDHS – Snap & Medicaid
- Township is receiving and distributing left over lunches from the Mundelein Summer Lunch Program to food pantry clients

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nick Tonkery commented that townships receive the least amount of taxpayer revenue, but he feels those funds are well earned for the amount of service townships provide for their residents.

13. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$16,101.00, Permanent Road Fund in the amount of \$31,165.35, and General Town Fund in the amount of \$58,102.83. All in favor, motion carried.

ROLL CALL: Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Forman, Trustee Shanahan. Absent: Trustee Martin. Motion carried.

- Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$3790.22. All in favor, motion carried.

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - None

15. **ADJOURN**

- Trustee Shanahan moved and Trustee Forman seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Christina McCann, Fremont Township Clerk Approved: August 8, 2016