

Minutes Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
 COUNTY OF LAKE,
 TOWN OF FREMONT

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Fremont Township Board of Trustees met on January 11, 2021 to conduct a virtual meeting. Public access was available via Zoom with link published on the township website.

<u>Diana O’Kelly</u>	Supervisor
<u>Christina McCann</u>	Town Clerk
<u>Alicia Dodd</u>	Highway Commissioner
<u>Joe Herchenbach</u>	Assessor
<u>Jeri Atleson</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Nick Dollenmaier</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Connie Shanahan</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Keith Voss</u>	Town Trustee

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE

Supervisor O’Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustee Atleson, Trustee Dollenmaier, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Voss, Supervisor O’Kelly

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT

Clerk McCann, Highway Commissioner Dodd, Assessor Herchenbach

OTHERS PRESENT

Herb Riedel, Chris Seidner, Countryside Fire Protection District

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Trustee Shanahan moved, and Trustee Voss seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Roll Call

Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Dollenmaier, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Voss

All in favor, motion carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Received numerous thank you cards from residents for holiday programs aiding those in need.

5. OLD BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

None

7. PARKS REPORT

Parks Manager Herb Riedel submitted the Following Report:

- Parks Committee and I met with Dan Strahan from Gewalt Hamilton on December 18th to look over the pickle ball renovation project. Gewalt Hamilton putting together specifications for us to review and will then proceed with a bid package.
- Electronic Entry Systems replaced a broken sensor on the Ivanhoe ballfield gate. There are still some remaining issues with the gate. Replacement parts are currently available but will diminish as

the system continues to age. I am working with EES to put together some cost scenarios for the Parks Committee to consider.

- Behm Park Gate also broke down on Mon. January 4th. EES will try and repair on Jan. 7th.
- Parks Committee met on Jan. 4th and discussed 2021 projects and some possible 2022 projects.
- Three user group agreements are due for next season. Working to execute those agreements and will have ready for board approval at the March 2021 meeting.

8. CERT REPORT

Interim team leader Chris Seidner submitted the following Report:

- As we continue to help the Lake County Health Department (LCHD) with drive thru COVID-19 testing sites, we have also begun helping with the long-awaited Coronavirus vaccine at drive-thru sites.
- Team quarterly meeting will be held via Zoom on January 18. Emailing team to encourage a good turnout because there is a lot of information to relay and some decisions that need to be made.
- Still using Lou's keys and will require an additional set for myself.
- Requesting Highway Department clear in front of the CERT barn door for us to avoid accidents in the winter months.
- WRLR radio station has reopened after disinfecting and sanitizing for Coronavirus exposure and CERT members are back in the studio producing content.
- Congratulations to Jill Hanes and her husband who have been sworn in as new U.S. citizens.

9. COMMUNITY GARDEN REPORT

No Report

10. ELECTED OFFICIAL REPORTS

Assessor

- Continue to do off season record keeping and general file maintenance for 2021 valuations.
- Final plans are in place for renovations to the Assessor's office waiting area to make a safer access point, and a more neutral zone for the Covid-19 prevention (as well as any future viral outbreaks).
- Assessor Herchenbach presented two specification sheets with diagrams for the renovation project.
- Currently gathering quotes for the renovation work and will provide an update by the time of the next board meeting, however Herchenbach estimates work including doors, frames, electrical, glass and demolition will be around \$7500.00. Modifications to improve the HVAC system, including duct work, will be an additional expense.
- Supervisor O'Kelly stated there are funds available for the project in the current fiscal year budget.
- The time frame to begin renovation will hopefully begin in the last weeks of February and should take two to three weeks to complete.

Clerk

Clerk McCann submitted the following report:

- Diana O'Kelly filed petitions for Working for Fremont 2021 on December 14, 2020 for the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election. There were no objections to the petitions. No other petitions were filed.
- Prepared and sent ballot certification and phonetic spelling of names to County Clerk's office for the April 6, 2021 Consolidated election ballots.
- Prepared and sent updated elected official list to County Clerk's office for 2021 Statements of Economic Interest (SEI). Officials will receive SEI form via email in February 2021, including a link to complete the form. SEI's must be submitted by May 1st.
- Filed 2020 Town & Road District Levy's with County Clerk's office.
- Updated website for 2021 meeting dates/minutes/agendas/etc.
- Attended MCLC webinar about file management and software options.

- Spent quite a bit of time running virus/malware scans on Clerk related electronic files. Detected suspicious malware on older files dating back to 2011. Scanned desktop, laptop and external drives – all clean now.
- On a technical support call with Avast, I was informed RDP virus attacks against government units have increased greatly since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic. RDP's are attacks by outside sources trying to gain access to our network. It is VERY important that all computers connecting to our network via ethernet or wireless connection are secured with strong passwords, are protected by reputable anti-virus software with a remote access shield and are scanned at least weekly for malware removal. Avast emphasized that no login information should be shared with anyone outside the office, especially for our private Microsoft Exchange Network (Outlook, Word, Excel) because hackers are now targeting Microsoft exchanges.

Highway Commissioner

Highway Commissioner Dodd submitted the following Report:

- Roadside clearing along Chevy Chase
- Tree trimming in Sylvan Lake for low branches and dead trees along roadside.
- Vactored Meadow Lane, Chardon Lane, Ivanhoe, and Crescent Dr in Sylvan Lake
- Test drove Peterbilt and Kenworth trucks for a replacement for a 1997 International.
- In the process of cleaning and re-painting our mechanic shop.
- Plow/salting events on Dec 28, 29-30, and January 1-2, 3
- Attended SMC meeting for SIRF funding request related to West Shore Park. State of Illinois has promised funding for local projects but has not yet given word who will receive what. If money becomes available, we have applications submitted to SMC and WMB.
- Applications turned in for DCEO funding for Sylvan Lake Dam and West Shore Park Drainage Improvements—approximately \$2 million requested for those projects.
- Spoke with Road District attorney about CLA parking issue on Maple Rd. Her legal finding is that CLA has no authority to post tow zone signs at that location because it is a public road. The parking spots can remain, but the Association does not have the authority to tow vehicles or dictate who can park there.
- Spoke with attorney about updating our intergovernmental agreements with other municipalities and townships as well as between the Road District and Township.

Supervisor

Supervisor O'Kelly submitted the following Report:

- We processed 16 Covid-19 grant applications from September through December of 2020. Residents received \$28,820.00 towards rent and \$3999.82 towards utilities. The program closed December 30, 2020, however there is another grant available for Covid-19 impacted residents to refer our clients to. Only 3 agencies may process those applications but with this grant, mortgage, rent and utilities are eligible.
- We provided 152 holiday dinners through our partnership with Jewel and community donations. Thank you to Trustee Shanahan for his assistance distributing the meals.
- 203 residents received gifts from the holiday Adopt-a-Family program.
- 125 seniors received gift bags from the holiday Adopt-a-Senior program.
- Both the Adopt-a-Family and Adopt-a-Senior programs are only successful due to tremendous support and contributions from our community
- Residents in our community remain concerned about those in need and donations to date have been plentiful.

Trustees

No Reports

11. GA/EA/FOOD PANTRY REPORT

- Effective January 2021, the new General Assistance amount that residents are eligible for is \$319.00. The following statistics were reported for December 2020:
- No EA/GA clients
- 85 residents received food pantry assistance.
- 17 LIHEAP applications processed.
- 14 Diaper Bank donations/distributions.
- 4 residents received assistance from Covid-19 grant.
- 12 residents used taxi coupons.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following comments were submitted to the Clerk via email:

- Melody Devine stated that instead of LCHD holding a town hall on the vaccine, she would like the township to push the governor to work faster to administer the vaccine. Devine is a 66-year-old essential grocery store worker concerned about contracting the virus.
- Kathy Kinecny requested the township do everything within its power to cut costs at the township and to cut taxes overall.
- James Melledy inquired about holding a backyard wedding next summer under the current Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Melledy was provided links for the State of Illinois Coronavirus Mitigation and Recovery Plan.

13. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- Trustee Dollenmaier moved, and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$13,157.87
Permanent Road Fund in the amount of \$54,222.59
and General Town Fund in the amount of \$70,005.09
ROLL CALL: Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Dollenmaier, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Voss
All in favor, motion carried.
- Trustee Voss moved, and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to audit and approve for payment of the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$14,249.96.
ROLL CALL:
Aye: Trustee Atleson, Trustee Dollenmaier, Trustee Shanahan, Trustee Voss
All in favor, motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

15. ADJOURN

- Trustee Voss moved, and Trustee Shanahan seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.
All in favor, motion carried.