

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE RICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
November 2, 2020

*Remote meeting held via video/teleconference (as permitted by Governor Pritzker's
Public Act 101-0640)*

Call to Order: Supervisor Al Riley called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Supervisor Al Riley; Trustees Nick Bobis, Therese Goodrich, Elliott Johnson and Jackie Small (a quorum)

Officials Present: Clerk Bobbie King, Assessor Sam Brown, Highway Commissioner Calvin Jordan

Others Present: Neal Smith, Attorney; Mark Mason, Interim Township Administrator/General Assistance Director; Alana Thompson, Finance Director; Debbie Pascarella, Deputy Clerk; Laura Simmons, Road District Administrative Assistant

Approval of Bills: Upon a motion made by Trustee Bobis, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board approved Town Fund checks #38236--38335 in the amount of \$228,988.95; General Assistance Fund checks #29645--29682, in the amount of \$35,823.65; Road District Fund checks #7942--7960, in the amount of \$46,283.70; Donations Fund checks--none; for the period of 10/01/20 thru 10/29/20.

Approval of Minutes: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Bobis, unanimously passed by roll call vote the Board approved the minutes of the October 5, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting as presented.

PUBLIC PETITIONS

None

Executive Session: At 5:48, upon a motion made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Bobis, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Board approved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the

public body; and/or for any other lawful exception set forth in Section 2(c). Executive session pursuant to Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act to review Executive session minutes. Executive session pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss pending litigation.

Supervisor Riley excused everyone except for Attorney Neal Smith and Trustees Bobis, Goodrich, Johnson and Small.

REGULAR SESSION

At 6:25 p.m. the Board reconvened to the Regular Session.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Jackie Small reported on the VFW Post 311's "Plant a Flag" campaign, noting that a veterans name was on each American flag "planted" at both Post 311 locations. She added that she would email Supervisor Riley more information on the campaign. Trustee Nick Bobis suggested that the township make a \$100 donation to Post 311 for a flag in commemoration of Veterans Day.

Motion to Approve Rich Township's Participation in VFW Post 311's "Plant a Flag" Campaign With a \$100 Donation: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and passed by a roll call vote of four ayes (Supervisor Riley, Trustees Bobis, Goodrich and Johnson) and one abstain (Trustee Small), the Board approved the township's participating in VFW Post 311's "Plant a Flag" campaign with a \$100 donation.

Resolution 20-06 Resolution Recognizing Veterans Day, November 11, 2020, and to Express Gratitude to Present and Former Members of the Armed Forces of the United States For Their Service: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees approved Resolution 20-06.

Resolution 20-07 Resolution Mourning The Death And Recognizing The Life Of Montford Point Marine And Recipient Of The Congressional Gold Medal, Edwin "Ed" Joseph Fizer of Park Forest: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees approved Resolution 20-07. Trustee Goodrich noted that Ed Fizer had been inducted into Park Forest's 2020 Hall of Fame, but the ceremony had been postponed due to the pandemic.

Motion to Approve 2021 Holiday Schedule: Upon a motion made by Trustee Small, seconded by Trustee Bobis, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees approved the 2021 holiday schedule as presented on the November 2, 2020 memo.

Motion to Approve 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates: Upon a motion made by Trustee Small, seconded by Trustee Bobis, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees approved the schedule for the 2021 Board of Trustees Meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement with BME Electric, Inc. in the Amount of \$4,000 to Settle Case Number 2020 CH 5524: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees approved the settlement agreement with BME Electric, Inc.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Supervisor: Supervisor Al Riley reported that the Corona Virus 'Relief Fund application requesting \$20,000 was submitted to Cook County. He updated the board regarding Robinson Engineering, and noted an upcoming meeting. He added that Reid Pedersen is conducting a survey of the township's sewer system. Supervisor Riley noted a letter he received from the Steger Police Department commending EMA Director Jeff Schoeling and his staff for their recent assistance. Supervisor Riley reported on his decision to close the township on Election Day, for the safety of employees as the township office is a polling place.

Clerk: Clerk Bobbie King reported that her office has been answering numerous questions regarding mail-in ballots and voting. She noted that the polls are open tomorrow from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., for those people that had not yet voted in the Presidential Election.

Assessor: Assessor Sam Brown reported that the township's tax appeals period went smoothly, adding that they assisted with over 900 appeals. Assessor Brown attended the Assessors Association's previously postponed "Spring Conference", obtaining additional certification classes. He also attended an outreach event on filing tax appeals. He commended Supervisor Riley for the township receiving the CAFR Award.

Highway Commissioner: Highway Commissioner Calvin Jordan reported that his staff has been finishing up culverts and asphaltting. He noted that his department is ready for winter, and looking forward to the arrival of their new snow plow truck.

Trustee Goodrich: Noted an IPO "You Tube" video featuring a Pulitzer Prize, American composed winning piece.

Trustee Johnson: No report

Trustee Bobis: Noted his recent visit to the Holocaust Museum.

Trustee Small: Commented on how professional, competent and helpful Assessor Brown's staff was when she visited the office recently regarding her property taxes.

Attorney: No report

ADJOURNMENT: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Supervisor

Clerk

Approval by the Board of Trustees

Date: _____

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