

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE RICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 1, 2021

*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 5:34 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; Alana Thompson, Finance Director; Debbie Pascarella, Deputy Clerk; Laura Simmons, Road District Administrative Assistant; Pat Peters, Transportation Director; JoJo Martin, Senior Services Director; Bob Richardson, Maintenance Superintendent; Odette Gueringer, Food Pantry Director; Art Byrd, Olympia Fields

Approval of Bills: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board approved Town Fund checks #38543--38637 in the amount of \$285,358.85; General Assistance Fund checks #29806--29831, in the amount of \$37,710.35; Road District Fund checks #8026--8052, in the amount of \$61,520.43; Donations Fund checks--none; for the period of 12/30/20 thru 01/27/21.

Approval of Minutes: Upon a motion made by Trustee Bobis, seconded by Trustee Small, unanimously passed by roll call vote the Board approved the minutes of the January 4, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting as amended.

PUBLIC PETITIONS

District #159 School Board President Carolyn Palmer noted that no one had been approached about filling a vacant board member seat.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Jackie Small requested an Executive Session regarding a sensitive personnel issue. Supervisor Riley voiced his reluctance to conduct an Executive Session virtually for security reasons, and to protect the propriety of the privileged information. He suggested that it be called at a meeting where trustees are physically present, and Trustee Small concurred.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget proposals were presented by the Transportation Department, the Senior Services Department, the Maintenance Department and the Pantry of Rich Township, Inc.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Supervisor: Supervisor Al Riley reported that the township newspaper has been sent to the printer. He noted that he planned on meeting with constitutional officers regarding their budgets, and that they likely would be presented at the second meeting in February. Supervisor Riley discussed the CARES Act and reimbursement for the safety mitigations put in place.

Clerk: Clerk Bobbie King reported that her office has been busy as the Local Election Official (LEO) for the township race in the April 6th Consolidated Election. She noted that the names required to file a Statement of Economic Interest have been submitted, and email notices should be sent out by Cook County Ethics Department in March.

Assessor: Assessor Sam Brown reported that his staff assisted 110 residents with filing their tax appeal with the Cook County Board of Review. He noted that his staff is preparing for the exemption filing period: senior, senior freeze, disabled and disabled vet exemptions. Assessor Brown added that this year due to the pandemic, some exemptions may be automatically renewed. He reported that an employee had tested positive for Covid-19, and that his staff worked remotely while quarantining, and a deep cleaning was completed.

Highway Commissioner: Highway Commissioner Calvin Jordan noted that his staff has been on top of any inclement weather that affected the roads, and are pleased with the new plow and salt spreader truck as it saves money and time. He suggested that the township put something together for Black History Month.

Trustee Goodrich: Reported that the "Diversity Dinners" were now virtual, and called "Diversity Discussions". Trustee Goodrich added that participants are currently reading a book, and then there will be small discussion groups conducted remotely.

Trustee Johnson: No report.

Trustee Bobis: Reported that TOCC would be holding its first virtual education session of 2021, regarding how townships communicate to their residents.

Trustee Small: Noted that she would like to work on the township's recognition of Black History Month.

Attorney: Attorney Neal Smith reported on a House Bill that concerns unincorporated zoning issues.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon a motion made by Trustee Bobis, seconded by Trustee Johnson, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Supervisor

Clerk

Approval by the Board of Trustees

Date: _____

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