

RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – November 18, 2008

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Supervisor Veronica Krawczyk. The meeting took place Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at the River Forest Civic Center. Roll called

Present: Trustee R. Davis, M. Kelty, M. O'Brien, A. Romeo, Supervisor V. Krawczyk

Also present: Assessor Pam Kende, Attorney Greg Melnyk and 2 residents and one non resident. Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular, October 21, 2008 meeting. Trustee Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation

Assessor - Assessor Pam Kende reported that the Out Reach program she hosted last evening with the Board of Review was well attended by about 80 residents. Dec 2nd is the deadline for handing in appeals to the RF Assessor's office, Dec 5th is the deadline for filing appeals downtown. Permits are due Dec 1st. Assessor Kende is joining with several other townships on a proposed revision of the Homestead Act.

Assessor Kende introduced her part-time assistant, Debbie DeChinistse to the Board.

Mental Health Committee (MHC) – The OP Mental Health Board is sending out a needs assessment to all OP households. RF was asked if the township would like to participate in a needs assessment for RF households. The cost to do the assessment would be 18%, not to go over \$4,000. Trustee O'Brien stated that it would be a good idea for RF to participate as long as the questions were specific to RF needs, and had good objectives. She added that an assessment has not been done since she has been on the township board and it would help balance the cost of programs and services for this sector.

Supervisor Krawczyk and OP Mental Health Executive Director DeVivo agreed to a one time change to reduce the administrations costs to RF Township from 18% to 15 % for the months that the Mental Health Board had an interim director.

Youth Committee (YC) – See Supervisor's report.

Senior Committee (SC) – See Supervisor's report.

Supervisor's Comments – Supervisor Krawczyk reported that she had attended the annual TIF meeting at RF Village Hall. A Mexican restaurant is taking over the old Talbot's space in the Town Center. There is no new tenant for the Linen and Things space yet. The RF Park District reported that they had presented to the RF Village Board a \$1.3 million proposal for redevelopment and renovation of park land.

The Illinois Report Card for the Township was passed around for the Trustees to review.

Supervisor Krawczyk responded to RF Park District Commissioner Molly Hague's inquiry by furnishing the documents requested and answers to questions submitted. Trustee Romeo asked if the Township had to accommodate these requests. Attorney Melnyk replied that under the Freedom of Information Act, these documents are a matter of public record. If there is an expense involved we can pass on the cost to the requester. The Township does not have to justify or explain decisions made; the answers should be in the minutes. Personnel matters on specific individuals, salaries and benefits do not have to be provided.

Bills – Supervisor Krawczyk presented the bills for November. She stated that the register reflects the last quarter bills from Mental Health and other agencies. See Enclosure 1. Trustee Davis made a motion to approve the bills for the General Fund totaling \$96,828.88. Trustee Romeo seconded. Roll called.

Ayes: Trustees Davis, Kelty, O'Brien, A. Romeo, Supervisor Krawczyk

Nays: None The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business – Elected Township Officials Salaries - Trustee Romeo made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Trustee Davis seconded. At this time the public audience was asked to leave. The RF Township Board meeting recessed at 7:30 PM.

The meeting of the RF Township Board was reconvened at 7:55 PM.

Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve the salaries for RF elected Township Officials. See Enclosure 2. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.

Ayes: Trustees Davis, Kelty, O'Brien, A. Romeo, Supervisor Krawczyk

Nays: None The motion passed unanimously.

The RF Community Center Lease and the Employment Contract with Mr. Chappell still need to be finalized and signed at the next meeting so they can go into effect for next year.

New Business – A former RF resident who has relocated to Hawaii has asked if they could acquire a township flag to fly at their new home. The trustees agreed to sell a flag for the cost to the township.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the River Forest Civic Center. Mr. Chappell will be out of town. Trustee Davis made a motion to adjourn. Trustee O'Brien seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Martin, Clerk