

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 16, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll called:

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Anna Romeo and Mary O'Brien. Veronica Belmonte arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Absent: Mark Kelty

Also present: RFCCA Facilities Administrator Dick Chappell, Cathaleen Roach, Jane Schlichting, Mental Health/GA Administrator Avis Rudner, and Clerk Karen Taubman

Trustee O'Brien made two changes to the proposed minutes of the regular Tuesday, May 19, 2015 meeting.

Public Participation

- Supervisor Sloan presented trustees with the proposed FY16 budget.
 - The budget is basically flat to last year, and compared to our estimated revenue the Township will be spending about \$30,000 out of fund balance.
 - The budget was further divided into sub categories as recommended by Trustees. The cost of delivering services has now been linked to the services.
 - Trustee Romeo requested Sloan update "Compensation" to "Compensation and Benefits".
 - In Youth Services, a line item detailed \$5,000 for IMP.A.C.T. administrative expenses. IMP.A.C.T. has applied for a federal grant to fund an administrative position and has applied for a 501(c)(3), but has yet to receive either. A lengthy discussion ensued about the role of IMP.A.C.T. within our community, but trustees determined the mission of Township funds is to support programming expenses, not administrative expenses. Trustees stated it was necessary for IMP.A.C.T. to become a 501(c)(3) and afterwards provide the Township with a specific programming proposal. It was decided to put the \$5,000 of funds into a miscellaneous line item under Youth Services.

Assessor

Pamela Kende

- 2014 Exemptions are closed, so now a Certificate of Error will be required. CoE applications will not be processed without proof of residency and age.
- The IL Dept. of Revenue issued the final 2014 equalization factor for Cook County, which is 2.7253
- Second installment tax bills should mail around July 1st, with a due date of approximately August 1st.
- The Board of Review is developing an on-line complaint filing system which they plan to unveil in the next appeal period. The new system might allow property owners to file their documentation for over assessment complaints from their computers.

Mental Health Committee (MHC)/General Assistance (GA)

Avis Rudner

- The MHC Committee had its annual dinner and final spring meeting at Helene Connolly's home. The committee is adjourned until September.
- The final Sibshop was June 6th, with 5 youth in attendance. Supervisor Sloan commented that it was important to find another partner to assist with the program to ensure continued success. Sloan believed it was valuable for the families who participated.

- As a result of the White Paper, stakeholders will continue to meet every few weeks to develop a strategy for reducing youth substance abuse.
- We have one current GA recipient. We continue to have a lot of inquiries, but not applicants, for GA.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- The YSC meets tomorrow night. The YSC has been working with IMP.A.C.T. to assist them in getting set up as a 501(c)(3) so their work can be accelerated.

Senior Services

Carla Sloan

- The Senior Services Committee also meets tomorrow night.
- Sloan distributed the new “Let’s Celebrate Seniors All Year Long” programming.
- Sloan met with Eric Palm in regards to the proposed Snow Removal services. They are working on a survey to send to residents to gage the interest in a program. If a program did begin, it would be a discounted program paid by residents, with residents contracting directly with the service companies.
- Senior Services has taken on the role of adult protective services, so Sloan distributed a flyer on two upcoming information sessions in our local area.

Supervisor’s Comments

Carla Sloan

- Sloan thanked those who participated with the Township in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday!
- Sloan thanked those who attended the May 27th COG meeting, and expressed the value of the evening.
- Opportunity Knocks has requested usage of the Township conference room once per week for a work space, which Sloan agreed to as available.
- The Township has been working recently with residents, Senior Services, the RFCC, and local agencies to assist two River Forest families who are in emergency need.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve bills for June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$28,404.52. See enclosure. Trustee O’Brien seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O’Brien, and Belmonte
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to General Assistance for May and June 2015 in the amount of \$304.10 See enclosure. Trustee Belmonte seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O’Brien, and Belmonte
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Carla Sloan

- Supervisor Sloan interviewed 5 excellent candidates for the Senior Outreach Coordinator Position, all were very well qualified with unique talents and experiences and decided to hire Cathaleen Roach. Ms. Roach’s experience includes: an education background includes a master’s degree in gerontology and a law degree; work experience as an instructor at the John Marshall Law School; and volunteer work in our local schools, in senior services (specifically in senior services doing pro bono work for advanced directives) and youth services by assisting students in college essay writing.
- As a result of their proposal and strong references, the Township has signed an engagement letter with Knutte and Associates for our auditing services. Our audit is scheduled for July 9-10.
- As the result of the White Paper, conversations have focused among the stakeholders on prioritizing policy recommendations – especially those which are most cost effective. Sloan gave an example of the Illinois Youth Survey data, and how improvements could be made in the administration of the survey (not in a large group setting in the gym, immediately after spring break, etc.).

New Business

Carla Sloan

- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve ordinance 2015-01 (Fiscal Year 2016 budget) with line item change of moving \$5,000 out of the IMP.A.C.T. administrative support to miscellaneous youth services. See enclosure. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O'Brien, and Belmonte
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Romeo made a motion to approve ordinance 2015-02 (Prevailing Wage Ordinance). See enclosure. Trustee Belmonte seconded. Roll called.
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Romeo, O'Brien, and Belmonte
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- The July meeting was changed to July 13 @ 6 p.m.

Trustee Belmonte made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular May 19, 2015 meeting, with corrections noted. Trustee O'Brien seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

No executive session was held, minutes will be held for a future meeting.

Trustee Romeo made a motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. Trustee Belmonte seconded, the motion was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned immediately.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Monday, July 13th at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Taubman, Clerk