

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, April 12th, 2016 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll called:

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Helene Connolly, Mary O'Brien, and Mark Kelty

Absent: Anna Romeo

Also present: Clerk Karen Taubman, Assessor Pamela Kende, Dick Chappell, MHC/GA Coordinator Avis Rudner, Attorney Pat Deady, and Senior Coordinator Cathaleen Roach

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular March 15, 2016 meeting, Trustee Connolly seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation

- None

Assessor

Pamela Kende

- The Cook County Board of Review has closed, those who filed an appeal have received a decision notification. The office is fielding many phone calls in regards to what the decision means to them.
- We are assisting seniors with their senior exemptions, which must be filed every year. The deadline has been extended.

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

Avis Rudner

- The last Sibshop will be held on April 23rd. Additional Sibshops are planned for the fall.
- IMP.A.C.T. had a coalition meeting at the RFCC on Monday, March 21st, which focused on the SAMHSA grant.
- The NAMI PIAT Conference – Fostering Family Resiliency was held on March 19th at Brooks Middle School in Oak Park. About 125 people attended, Supervisor Sloan made the opening remarks.
- Rudner attended the Women Leaders in Philanthropy Mental Wellness Awareness & Suicide Prevention Panel on April 7th.
- The Township currently has one GA client.

Senior Services

Cathaleen Roach

- The 6th Annual Celebrating Seniors week begins May 12th. The RF Township has increased our contribution to the event with additional space and programming.
- 32 seniors attended the Gardens of Holland presentation at the River Forest Library, co-sponsored by the Township. At a recent Coffee Monday, local senior Lila Pagni did a presentation on exercise and aging. This Sunday is Regretting Mr. Wright, a presentation about Frank Lloyd Wright's relationship with Mamah Cheney.
- Collaboration efforts with local organizations continues, such as our participation in a Volunteer Fair tomorrow at the Oak Park Library, sponsored by the OP & RF Community Foundation.
- We continue with the anticipated rollout of the ICE (In Case of Emergency) Packets in May. We hope to distribute during Celebrating Seniors Week. Sloan provided trustees a sample of an ICE Packet.
- The Oak Park & River Forest Townships are now offering a free legal clinic for low income seniors.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- The Youth Interventionist Program (YIP) River Forest boards are meeting this month and next to approve renewing the IGA, including the 1.5% increase for each of the following two years. This increase results in a nominal dollar increase for each taxing body.
- IMP.A.C.T. has a parent café at RMS on April 21st and a town hall meeting on April 27th

Supervisor's Comments

Carla Sloan

- The Senior Committee wants to begin an effort to make local businesses more senior friendly, such as larger type signage, better lighting, etc.
- A contractual snow removal program doesn't appear to be moving forward, since it is challenging to offer more cost effective options than many seniors currently have. With the village, we are still looking at a volunteer-based program, preferably one which relies on neighbors supporting their senior neighbors.
- On March 31st, Sloan attended a meeting with Cook County's coterminous Townships at Evanston Township to hear more about Evanston Township's dissolution. It became clear to everyone at the meeting that Evanston is not a model for consolidation, because they were not providing human services, nor did they have an Assessor at the time of consolidation. According to Sloan, the legislation in Springfield is designed to allow Townships to consolidate if by mutual consent and is not a mandate for consolidation. Any consolidation legislation should require a plan which assures human services are not cut and that funding for human services is preserved.
- Sloan attended Township Topics Day in Springfield on April 6th, and felt it was a valuable day. She was able to meet both Representative Welch and Senator Lightford.
- Sloan has submitted three Requests for Proposal to three website companies for a new Township website.
- The Township will be marching the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 30th at 10am. Sloan asked for the participation from trustees and staff.
- Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) are due by May 1st. Fines are assessed if the form is submitted late.
- The Township hosted the administrators meeting today, note the below meeting highlights:
 - The Village is moving ahead with plans for the Madison Street TIF
 - The RFPD has hired three new officers
 - OPRFHS is doing three community presentations in regards to the pool. Four options are under consideration.
 - The Park District has hired an architect to design a new Paddle Tennis hut.
 - D90 held a "Meet and Greet" to welcome the District's newly selected Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Alison Hawley.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve bills for FY 2016 in the amount of \$73, 898.11. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly, O'Brien, and Kelty
 - Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee O'Brien made a motion to General Assistance in the amount of \$176.92. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly, O'Brien, and Kelty
 - Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve bills for April 2016 in the amount of \$11,000.86. See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly, O'Brien, and Kelty

- Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Carla Sloan

- IMP.A.C.T. has requested a grant for \$5904.00 for contractual services in grant development/grant writing and developing IMP.A.C.T. information technology. Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve the \$5904.00 grant. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly and Kelty

Nays: Trustee O'Brien

- O'Brien noted her reservation on this grant is because the Township is paying start-up costs, paying grant development and website development, and she does not believe it is the role of the Township to fund such costs.

New Business

Carla Sloan

- We have a grant request from the library to support the computer learning labs, as we have done the past two years. The library is asking the Township to support the programming at a 50% share, so the total cost is \$1875.00, as opposed to \$1500.00 we supported in the past. Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve the \$1875.00 grant. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly, Kelty, and O'Brien
 - Nays: none
- Last year the Township increased its share of the cost of the Youth Interventionist IGA to be equal to the village at 5.5%. Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve the \$15,945.00 annual grant for FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.
 - Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Connolly, Kelty, and O'Brien
 - Nays: none
- Alcohol Awareness Month is April. Trustee Connolly made a motion to approve the proclamation that the Township supports the National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence's Alcohol Awareness Month 2016. Trustee Kelty seconded.

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

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Trustee Connolly seconded, the motion was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned immediately.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Taubman, Clerk