

Batavia Township
131 Flinn Dr. Suite B
Batavia, IL 60510
630-879-1392

Minutes of the October 13, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Batavia Township.

Ron Gilkerson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order:

Supervisor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Supervisor James Anderson; Trustees Ron Gilkerson, Brian Singer, Leigh Tracy, John West; Road Commissioner Christopher Long; Assessor Tammy Kavanaugh; Clerk Sue Fricano.

Absent: Layla Beth, Township Office Manager.

Others Present: Van Larson, Township Attorney; Bob Chalberg, Township Accountant; Residents: Howard Katz; Judge Wojtecki.

Checking of Bills and Checks: Trustee Tracy went over what exactly the trustees do when they are checking bills and checks. Basically, they are making sure everything balances out and that funds are not being spent that were not budgeted.

Minutes: Trustee Gilkerson moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2009 regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Tracy. Roll-call vote was taken.

Ayes: Gilkerson, Singer, Tracy, West, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Accounts: Trustee Tracy moved to approve the accounts from September; Trustee Singer seconded the motion. Roll-call vote was taken.

Ayes: Gilkerson, Singer, Tracy, West, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Assessor's report: Assessor Kavanaugh reported that 124 appeals were filed and she is busy getting evidence ready for the appeal process. She explained that the appeals are 15 minute sessions where the tax payer can present their evidence, the township presents there evidence and the county makes a decision. Supervisor Anderson asked Assessor Kavanaugh to enlighten everyone on the appeal process. She explained that the last day to file an appeal is September 14th. Prior to that date they encourage tax payers to come into the township office and discuss their situation before filing an appeal. Many times it is simply an error because something was added or taken away (i.e. swimming pool) and the township was not made aware of this information. In this situation the township can issue a certificate of error which can be issued through October 1st but it cannot go back past one year. Once the appeal has been filed the tax payer must provide three comparables to their property to support the appeal. They simply need to fill out a form with the comparables address and assessment or they can simply print the property records. Assessor Kavanaugh gathers evidence to support the decision made by the Township. Trustee Gilkerson wanted to know how many appeals there were last year compared to this year? Assessor Kavanaugh stated there were 120 appeals last year and that it is fairly consistent from one year to another. Trustee Gilkerson also wanted to clarify that the comparable houses for the appeal process need to be a similar house in terms of size, style and overall appearance.

Road Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Long reported that things are winding down, the last brush pick up will be October 14th and the leaf pick up will begin the week of the 18th of October. He also reported that Nelson Lake Road has been completed. It is repaved, shouldered and striped. He noted the speed limit is 40mph and that the sheriff has been out trying to enforce the speed limit. Commissioner Long cautioned that it is a very straight road with a lot of hills and can be very dangerous. He encouraged people to drive safely.

Old Business:

- ◆ **Annual Educational Conference – Springfield.** Just a reminder about the conference and the timelines for registration and hotels.

New Business:

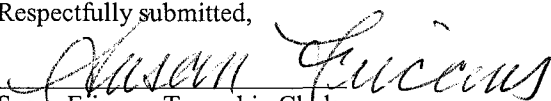
- ◆ **November Meeting Date Change from 10th to 17th** – because of the November conference in Springfield many Township Officials will not be back in time for the meeting and so Trustee Singer moved to have the meeting date changed from the 10th to 17th for the month of November 2009 only. Trustee Gilkerson seconded the motion. Van Larson, Township Attorney noted that this information needed to be published.
- ◆ **Township Officials of Kane County Annual Meeting Wed. October 28th at Mill Race Inn, Geneva** – Supervisor Anderson reminded everyone of meeting and stated if they could let him know by Thursday October 15th he would submit form. Supervisor Anderson stated spouses were welcome to attend.
- ◆ **Door Prizes** – Supervisor Anderson stated this has already been done and there was no further discussion.

Trustee Reports:

- ◆ Trustee Gilkerson reported that he attended the Ink Board Meeting the Gateway Foundation reported at the meeting. They provide alcohol and drug rehabilitation for individuals 18 years of age and older. Trustee Gilkerson thought it was a very interesting presentation. He also stated that the 708 board meets Thursday nights and there is an opening on the Ink Board. If anyone is interested they can contact Supervisor Anderson at 630-879-1392 and he can give them more information. The Ink board in Aurora is the umbrella board for all the 708 boards. It meets six times a year and decides how much funding each township gets through 708 assessments. Judge Wojtecki stated that the Gateway Foundation is very helpful in alcohol and drug rehabilitation. He was a Judge for many years in drug court and stated their job is very noble and helps solve many drug problems in our communities. They help everyone, people you would not think need help, the rich and the poor families. It is not what people expect and is not limited to the poor neighborhoods. Trustee Gilkerson commented that the director read some success stories at the meeting. The stories explained how they adjust back into society and how they give back to the community.
- ◆ Trustee West reported that a citizen called about a street light that was out at a bus stop at Main St. and Roberts. Trustee West submitted a form to have the light fixed and it has not been done to date. Trustee West last called 9/23 and will continue to follow up on this situation until the light is repaired. Trustee West also spoke about grant station, a publication about available grants and funding. He was reading about some possible school grants that looked very promising. He was going to drop off one of the publications to Ron Link at the Batavia School District.

Adjournment: Upon a motion made by Trustee Gilkerson, seconded by Trustee Singer and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Fricano, Township Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees: Date: _____