

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Batavia Township Board
131 Flinn St., Suite B
Batavia, IL 60510**

Tuesday – February 8, 2022

1. **Call to Order:** The Batavia Township Board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Supervisor Leigh Tracy. The meeting was held both at the township office and remotely via Zoom for those who did not want to be present at the township office. Trustee John West led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Roll Call:** The Clerk called the roll. Attending at the township office were Supervisor Leigh Tracy, Trustees Walt Donat, John West, Troy Tousana, Road Commissioner Chris Long and Clerk Penelope Tracy. Also attending the meeting remotely were Trustee Tom Sharp and Township Attorney Van Larson. The meeting was recorded.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the previous township board meeting were presented for approval. Trustee Donat moved to approve the minutes for the January 11, 2022, Batavia Township Board meeting. Trustee West seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes – 5, Nays – None. The motion passed.
4. **Approval of Bills for February:** Supervisor Tracy reported that the budget reports ending January 31, 2022, are available to review. (Township Assessor Tammy Kavanaugh joined the meeting via telephone at 7:04 p.m.) Supervisor Tracy noted that a few additional bills were added to the list distributed prior to the meeting. Trustee Tousana moved to approve payment of the February General Fund bills in the amount of \$61,152.57. Trustee Donat seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes – 5, Nays – None. The motion passed.

Trustee West moved to approve payment of the February Road Fund bills in the amount of \$50,559.41. Trustee Tousana seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes – 5, Nays – None. The motion passed.

5. **Assessor's Report:** Assessor Kavanaugh reported that she is considering the purchase of a car for field work visits to be used by the new employee she plans to hire. She stated that employees prefer not using their own vehicles for township assignments. (Township Accountant Bob Chalberg joined the meeting via Zoom at 7:06 p.m.). Supervisor Tracy noted that a company vehicle was not included in the new budget. Trustee Donat asked if the township currently pays mileage for township use of personal vehicles and, if so, how much had been paid over the past few years. Tracy replied that the previous vehicle owned by the township was not used very often. He agreed to research the mileage expense for the past few years. Kavanaugh stated that

past history may not apply to the discussion as she plans to have her staff in the field more often in the future. Attorney Van Larson suggested that leasing a vehicle may be an option.

Kavanaugh raised a second issue regarding the township offices. She stated that the current five-year lease expires in one year, and she noted that many townships own their own building. The rent for the current Batavia location is approximately \$24,000 a year. After a brief discussion regarding alternatives to leasing, Tracy stated that the township staff will review current needs prior to lease renewal.

6. **Road Commissioner's Report:** Road Commissioner Long reported his crews spent eleven hours plowing roads during the recent snowstorm.
7. **Public Participation:** None
8. **Old Business - Tentative Township and Road District 2022-2023 Budgets:** Supervisor Tracy stated this meeting provided the last opportunity to discuss the proposed budgets prior to next month's public hearing to be held on March 8. There were no comments made or questions raised by the trustees.
9. **New Business – Waste Haulers in unincorporated areas of the Township:** Trustee West reported that he had been contacted by his neighbors on Woodland Avenue regarding the discrepancies in the amounts paid by the neighbors for their trash collection services. Of the 28 homes located on this street, half of them contract with Waste Management and half with Advanced Disposal. Now that Waste Management has purchased Advanced Disposal, the new company will service all homes. Both Trustee West's neighbors and Trustee Sharp's neighbors on Shagbark Drive have discovered sizable pricing differences for similar services. Trustee West shared a copy of the five-year contract the City of Batavia has with Waste Management that averages the weekly cost to approximately \$6. West said he would like to see pricing for unincorporated areas more stable and consistent.

West suggested that the trustees form a small group to reach out to Waste Management and discuss pricing. He shared a flyer from Waste Management advertising rates for new customers. He would also like to propose one collection day for each area as opposed to the two collection days previously scheduled by each competing waste hauler. A motion was made by Trustee West, seconded by Trustee Tousana, to form a committee of three members (Tracy, West, and Donat) for the purpose of meeting with Waste Management to discuss pricing for weekly trash collection services within the unincorporated areas of Batavia Township. Roll call: Ayes – 5, Nays – None. The motion passed.

Attorney Larson suggested that the City of Batavia might assist by negotiating their new contract to include a price for unincorporated areas. Accountant Chalberg asked if the township would be involved in the billing process. Trustee Sharp suggested that another waste hauler might also be contacted.

10. **Trustee Reports:** Trustee West referred to an article on page 9 of the February 2022 issue of *Township Perspective* discussing changes to the “2022 Statement of Economic Interest” form. The form is required to be filed each year by all elected officials. Supervisor Tracy noted that he had provided a current list of Batavia Township elected officials to the Kane County Clerk’s office. The Economic Interest form will soon be emailed by the county clerk to all officials on the list.
11. **Supervisor’s Report:** Supervisor Tracy reported that the employment issue discussed in the recent township executive session had been resolved. He has signed an agreement to retain services from the law firm of Smith Amundson to draft a township employment policy to be used by the township assessor and supervisor.

The Township of Officials of Illinois are now sponsoring in-person education events:

- March 15 - District Event in Naperville
- April 6 - 40th Annual Lobby Day in Springfield
- November 13 – 15 - Annual Educational Conference in Springfield

Registration is required to participate in the events. Any township official interested in attending should contact Supervisor Tracy. Tracy also mentioned that March 7-11 has been designated as Local Government Week and asked if there was interest in sponsoring an open house event.

The Batavia Township Annual Meeting will take place on April 12, 2022, as part of the regular board meeting.

The next meeting of the Batavia Township Board is scheduled for March 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The annual public hearing for the new township budget is also scheduled for March 8, 2022, beginning at 6:45 p.m.

12. **Adjournment:** Trustee West moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Donat. The motion was passed with a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Penelope L. Tracy

Penelope L. Tracy, Batavia Township Clerk