

**The adjourned meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of
Stookey, Saint Clair County, Illinois**

Regular Meeting

November 7th 2022

Meeting held at 313 Eiler Road, Belleville, Illinois 62223

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor M. Bagby. An official roll call was taken by Clerk F. Garner. Assessor S. Sieron was absent. All other elected officials were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor M. Bagby.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from the October 3rd 2022 regular meeting were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay **2nd:** Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Bills

The monthly bills were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay **2nd:** Trustee R. Stookey

Discussion: Trustee D. Weaver questioned a porta potty rental. Trustee J. Lougeay asked questions of Commissioner Reed regarding drug testing and purchases made at Ace Hardware and Switzer's.

Vote: All voted yes

Three Highway Department bills had been sent late.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey **2nd:** Trustee J. Lougeay

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of to move \$2000 from 01-572 to 01-0574.1

Due to a rise in the cost of electricity, the budgeted amount for electric and gas was insufficient. Supervisor M. Bagby proposed moving \$2000 from line item *streetlighting* to *electric and gas*.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay 2nd: Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Public Participation

Mr. Justin Biggs, a candidate for Sheriff in the mid-term election introduced himself to Stookey Residents. Mr. Todd Horn asked the Board of Trustee for permission to take Santa Claus pictures with pets for a cost of \$10. All funds would be donated back to maintain Stookey Park. The Board of Trustees agreed. Trustee J. Lougeay gave praise to current and former Stookey office staff for all their work in regard to sewer payment collection.

Recognition of Stookey Standouts from October

The Board of Trustee recognized Helfrich Family Eye Care Center, Elmwood Golf Course, Dorchester Swim Club and St. Clair Country Club.

Committee Reports

- **Parks & Rec (Supervisor M. Bagby)**

The committee was reviewing the Stookey Athletic Park draft master plan. The formal report was expected to be presented at the coming December meeting.

- **Law Enforcement (Trustee J. Lougeay)**

Both Trustee J. Lougeay and Supervisor M. Bagby had met with candidate for County Sheriff, Justin Biggs. Trustee J. Lougeay stated the meeting was productive and he was impressed with Mr. Biggs. He invited him to speak at the coming board meeting.

- **Lighting & Zoning (Trustee A. Scharf)**

The committee had not met for the month at the time of the meeting. Trustee A. Scharf showed pictures and described multiple properties within Stookey Township the committee has been working to have cleaned and repaired.

Highway Commissioner's Report

Department employees spent most of the month of October prepping roads that had been repaired. Dumping has been a major problem within Stookey and neighboring communities. The County Sheriff had been contacted. The funds from the Highway Department bond had been received. Commissioner B. Reed thanked Mrs. Karen Elkot and Supervisor M. Bagby for all their

help in the process. The department is currently readying for the winter months. Commissioner B. Reed stated he may order more road salt due to a possible shortage.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor M. Bagby thanked those who planted trees and bushes in the parks. Winterizing of Stookey Park would begin soon. He reminded residents to vote during the mid-term election. The office would be closed for Veterans Day and during the parking lot repaving.

Discussion and Approval of amended Highway Budget

The amended Highway Department Budget Hearing had taken place just prior to the regular meeting. The total budgeted amount for the year would be \$3,173,300.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey 2nd: Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of 460 Lift Project

The 460-lift station had been failing. The project had been bid upon. Hank's Excavating & Landscaping Inc had been the only company to submit a qualifying bid in the allotted time for \$811,360. It was stated the project costs could increase due to the inability of obtaining the parts to complete the project.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey (to approve) 2nd: Trustee J. Lougeay

Discussion: Trustee A. Scharf asked where the funds would come from to pay for this project. Supervisor M. Bagby stated the sewer fund had a reserve of \$2,000,000 currently.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Healthcare Renewals

Strategic Risk Management obtained bids for new insurance providers.

- Health

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay (for United Healthcare) 2nd: Trustee D. Weaver

Discussion: Trustee D. Weaver asked if the proposal would cover employees at the Sewer Department, Highway Department and Township offices. Supervisor M. Bagby stated yes. He then inquired about when Mr. Dave Bone would be taken off the health insurance (COBRA) for Stookey.

Vote: All voted yes

- **Dental/Vision**

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey (Humana) **2nd:** Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

- **Life**

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey (UHC) **2nd:** Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Supervisor Bond for Hwy Bond

Due to the passage of the new Highway Department bond, Supervisor M. Bagby needed a new bond to ensure payments. The Highway Department would pay Travelers in the amount of \$1,888.

Motion: Trustee A. Scharf **2nd:** Trustee R. Stookey

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay questioned some of the wording in the proposal

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of ICRMT

The renewal fee for property and auto insurance was quoted at \$128,126.09 which amounted to a 12% increase.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey **2nd:** Trustee J. Lougeay

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay questioned the value of the different sewer lift stations. Mr. Tim Allgire stated different lift stations are different sizes. Supervisor M. Bagby stated the figures were derived from the assessment of an independent auditor. Trustee J. Lougeay stated he believed a new roof should be placed on the building in Stookey Athletic Park.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Audit

The audit was not yet complete. Supervisor M. Bagby stated a special meeting would be held on November 21st to discuss the audit.

Discussion of Tax Levy

No later than December 6th, the levies for both the Town and Highway Department need to be determined and posted. Supervisor M. Bagby stated the amount levied would likely increase by 6%. The board agreed.

Discussion of IL local Debt Recovery Program

Supervisor M. Bagby stated Ms. Crystal Gayer of the Township office discovered a program with the Illinois Comptroller's office that would allow Stookey Township to possibly collect past due sewer payments. The sewer ordinance would need to be amended. The board agreed.

Adjournment

Supervisor M. Bagby requested a motion to adjourn at 7:23 pm.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey **2nd:** Trustee A. Scharf

Vote: All voted yes