

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

October 4th 2021

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 and all elected officials were present.

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

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the Regular September 2021 Meeting was made by Trustee R. Stookey and 2nd by Supervisor M. Bagby. A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Discussion and Approval of Bills

Supervisor M. Bagby read off the bills and their amounts for the month. A motion to approve all bills except a bill from Schowalter & Jabouri P.C. (\$7,015 for additional 61 hours of work) was made by Supervisor M. Bagby and 2nd by Trustee J. Lougeay.

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay asked for clarification on the auditing bill. Supervisor M. Bagby described the auditing firm billing and options township legal council had put forth. Commissioner B. Reed requested a further breakdown of the hours spent on the audit pertaining to the Road District. Supervisor M. Bagby mentioned the auditing firm claimed to have spent equal time on each Stookey Township entity. Trustee R. Stookey then gave further clarification on auditing hours and billing as he understood the process. Supervisor M. Bagby agreed to request a further breakdown.

A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Public Participation

Mrs. Barbara Baldrige thanked the entire board for all their work. She then thanked Todd Horn for all his work in the park. She expressed how much she liked the improvements to the township building. Mr. Tim Clark expressed how pleased his neighborhood residents were with the park.

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec.

Mr. Gary Green informed the Trustee Board that the Parks & Rec Committee had voted to approve the Eagle Scout Dog Park Project. A University of Illinois Extension report on the park had been completed. Mr. Green praised the work completed on Volunteer Day. The creation of a park master plan is still under creation.

Law Enforcement

Trustee J. Lougeay informed the board of proposed changes to the current contract between Stookey Township and the Saint Clair County Sherriff's Department. A meeting had been set to meet with Sheriff Watson to discuss the contract. The committee has been able to obtain a monthly report that lists all calls the County Sheriff's Department responds to. From that report, Trustee J. Lougeay is compiling a list of police calls within Stookey Township.

Lighting & Zoning

Trustee A. Scharf informed the board that additional lighting had been installed on Sherwood Forest Drive. The creation of a form to request a streetlight, as well as a form for zoning violations is under development. The committee has plans to create an award for homes and businesses that are examples of exemplary yards. The proposed name of

the award will be, “Stookey Strong.”

Discussion and Approval of Trenton Piker Eagle Scout Project Plan

The Parks and Rec Committee voted to approve the Eagle Scout Dog Park Project. A motion to approve the plan was made by Trustee J. Lougeay and 2nd by Trustee R. Stookey.

Discussion: Trustee R. Stookey questioned where the funds for the proposed dog park would be drawn from. Supervisor M. Bagby informed the board that the funds would come from the park fund. Trustee D. Weaver questioned Park Stewart Todd Horn if he believed the dog park would cause issues of any kind. Mr. Horn did not express any concerns. Trustee R. Stookey questioned if the board had interest in charging for admittance to the dog park. Trustee D. Weaver did not believe there was a way to enforce such a plan.

A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Discussion and Approval of \$2,300 for equipment for Dog Park in support of the Eagle Project

The Parks and Rec Committee approved a payment of \$2,300 for the dog park project that would come from Parks Capital Project Fund. Trustee R. Stookey made a motion to approve. The motion was 2nd by Trustee A. Scharf. A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Highway Commissioner’s Report

The Highway Department is currently doing the last of the grass mowing for the year. The department’s large tractor is still being repaired. Commissioner B. Reed plans to send a letter to American Water for their poor repairs to the streets. If the practice is not corrected, Commissioner B. Reed plans on requesting the assistance of legal council. The department is down to only one dump truck. The bed from an inoperable Highway Department truck is to be used as a replacement for another working truck with a broken bed. Commissioner B. Reed estimated that would save the department \$25,000 for a replacement truck bed. Trustee D. Weaver asked if there was a way to transfer funds in order to repair township roads. Supervisor M. Bagby responded by saying a transfer of funds from the town to the road district would have to be approved at the annual town meeting. Trustee A. Scharf suggested the Highway Department look into possible federal infrastructure funding for township street repair.

Supervisor’s Report

A new fence area had been constructed by Mr. Todd Horn for increased safety in the park. Supervisor M. Bagby congratulated everyone who worked in the park on volunteer day. Updates to the current sewer ordinance are being devised. Once the park master plan is approved, the township plans to apply for further state and federal grants.

Discussion and Approval of Township Terms & Conditions

Resolution 2021-009 outlines procedure for the purchasing of goods, services, and work for bid projects. Trustee R. Stookey made a motion to approve and Trustee A. Scharf 2nd the motion.

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay asked if suggestions he’d previously made had been implemented. Supervisor M. Bagby assured Trustee J. Lougeay of the addition of his suggestions.

A vote was taken. Trustee D. Weaver abstained. All others voted yes.

Discussion and Repeal of Out-of-Date Ordinances

- **Weed Ordinance (1959)**
- **Vehicles (1988)**
- **Junkyard (1989)**
- **Dogs (1975)**

The Stookey Township Board of Trustees sees it fit to repeal and remove any ordinances it finds to be out-of-date. Saint Clair County is in charge of enforcing the issues listed in these ordinances. A motion to repeal was made by Trustee J. Lougeay and 2nd by Trustee R. Stookey.

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay gave an account of an attempt to have Saint Clair County deal with a derelict vehicle near his home. He then expressed reluctance to repealing the vehicle ordinance due to his previous experience. Trustee A. Scharf detailed an instance where the Saint Clair County Code Enforcement Officer was able to deal with a property in disrepair. He then expressed the need to continually pressure county officials to deal with problems within their jurisdiction.

A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Discussion on Centreville Precinct 4 Annexation

In a community poll/vote of the participating residents of Centreville Precinct 4, a majority chose to become part of Stookey Township. There has yet to be any passage of legislation at the state or county level with regards to Centreville Precinct 4. Some residents have expressed plans to use legal remedies to leave Centreville Township and join Stookey Township.

Closed/Executive Session

A motion to leave open session at 7:46 pm was made by Trustee R. Stookey and 2nd by Trustee J. Lougeay. A vote was taken and all voted yes.

A motion to leave Closed/Executive Session was made by Trustee A. Scharf and 2nd by Trustee R. Stookey at 9:16 pm. A vote was taken and all voted yes.

A motion to come back into open session at 9:16 pm was made by Trustee R. Stookey and 2nd by Trustee A. Scharf. A vote was taken and all voted yes.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 9:17 pm was made by Trustee A. Scharf and 2nd by Trustee R. Stookey. A vote was taken and all voted yes.