

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

Regular Meeting

September 5th 2023

313 Eiler Road, Belleville, Illinois 62223

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor M. Bagby.

Present at the meeting were Assessor S. Sieron, Commissioner B. Reed, Supervisor M. Bagby, Trustee A. Scharf, Trustee J. Lougeay, Trustee R. Stookey and Clerk F. Garner. Trustee D. Weaver was absent.

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

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

Minutes were prepared from the August regular meeting and two public bid openings. The motion was for passage of all minutes from the month of August 2023.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay mentioned a correction to Mr. Rick Poole's name being misspelled

Vote: all voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Bills

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay questioned the status of an insurance claim following a break-in at Stookey Park and if COBRA payments for former Supervisor Dave Bone had been reimbursed. The final bill was sent to the claims adjuster. Stookey Township was working to add Mr. Bone to the I-drop system for reimbursement. Trustee J. Lougeay questioned an Illinois American Water bill amount. Commissioner B. Reed stated the Highway Department had a water leak which increased the bill.

Vote: all voted yes

Late Bills

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Public Participation

Mr. Todd Horn gave thanks for the work by the Sierra Club in Stookey Park.

Mr. Brad Kruger asked a question regarding the new trash ordinance.

A statement received from the Sierra Club Kaskaskia Group was read verbatim.

A statement from Belleville Parks and Recreation was read verbatim.

The Sandra M Bereitschaft Foundation sent a statement that was read verbatim.

Mr. Ken Bassler Jr sent a statement which was read verbatim.

Mr. Rick Poole mentioned the upcoming Ogles Neighborhood yard sale.

Mr. Dave Abernathy asked a question pertaining to trash services.

Recognition of Stookey Standouts

Lighting & Zoning committee members nominated and the Board of Trustees approved the award of Stookey Standout to residents Herman Koester, Andy Leach, Corey Davis, Dawn McPherson, Linda Jones, and Harry Green during the August Regular Meeting. All approved residents were recognized for their deeds.

The awarding of Stookey Standout was set to pause for the autumn and winter months. Nominations would begin in the spring of 2024.

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec (Supervisor Bagby)

Work on Hero's Plaza at Stookey Park will begin Saturday, September 9th. A grant application was submitted to the Metro East Park and Recreation District for construction of two pavilions in Stookey Park. Up to 40% of the cost could be covered by the grant if approved. A grant opportunity to replace the maintenance shed in Stookey Athletic Park was being considered.

Law Enforcement (Trustee Lougeay)

The committee met August 24th. Lt. Fults and Sgt. Hendricks of the Saint Clair County Sheriff's Department were invited to attend. The committee suggested employing citizen patrols to aid the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff's Department officials stated a citizen patrol could lead to possible legal issues involving crimes. Monthly reports from the Sheriff's Department were discussed. The committee discussed the use of a liability waiver for the yards where the radar speed sign would be placed. Committee members decided against using a liability waiver.

Lighting & Zoning (Trustee Scharf)

Committee members recently met. State Senator Belt and Representative Hoffman were able to award funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 for property demolition in Saint Clair County. The committee has not received any new street light requests.

Highway Commissioner's Report

Commissioner B. Reed gave a statement regarding comments made by Trustee D. Weaver at the previous meeting. He stated the Highway Department does not condone any hate speech or discrimination of any kind. A road oiling project was scheduled to begin Monday, September 11th. A storm sewer removal project on Southgate Drive had also been scheduled. A similar project was set to begin on Sheffield Drive. Two bid openings for repairing portions of Smalling Court, Powder Mill Woods and the Ogles neighborhood had taken place in August. A Pebble Hill Drive drainage project is almost complete.

Supervisor's Report

The Sierra Club recently held a pollinator party in Stookey Park. The Stookey office staff has been able to collect \$190,000 in past due sewer bill payments. Sewer line clearing for nearly the entire Township had been completed for the year. The 460-lift station project was nearing completion.

Discussion and Approval of September Stookey Standouts

Nominees for Stookey Standout recognition were Eckert Family Farm, Kurt Springer, SFR3 project manager, and Tory and Anna Tributout.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Security Enhancements

The item was tabled at the August 7, 2023 regular meeting. Pricing and possible redundancies in product offerings were discussed. The motion was to accept the Barcom Security proposal with the addition of smoke detectors at the Stookey Township office and Town Hall. Proposed security upgrades for the park were rejected by the Board of Trustees.

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

Discussion: Trustee A. Scharf asked if there was a security system at the Highway Department. Commissioner B. Reed stated they have a security system through Barcom. Trustee J. Lougeay stated he believed smoke detectors should be added.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Website Provider

Stookey Township has previously utilized the website services of the organization, Townships of Illinois. That service will soon no longer be offered. Companies found offering similar services were Totally Townships and Munibit. Totally Townships requires a \$499 setup fee with a monthly fee of \$99.99. They are willing to give a \$175 discount. Munibit does not charge a setup fee. The monthly fee is \$250. If paid annually the fee is \$2,390.40.

The motion was to contract with Totally Townships and split the cost equally between the Township, Sewer and Highway Department.

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

Discussion: Supervisor M. Bagby stated it was likely the Stookey Township web address would change.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Office Copier Replacement

A copy machine replacement is needed at the Township office. Quotes for the copy machine were Computype at \$899, Watts at \$1,149 and JTF at \$748.99.

The motion was to contract with JTF stipulating the price could not exceed \$899.00

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Closed/Executive Session

The Board of Trustees voted to leave open session at 7:14 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: all voted yes

The Board of Trustees voted to reenter open session at 7:54 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Keeping Closed Session Minutes Confidential through the Aug 5, 2023 Minutes

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes