

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

Regular Meeting

March 4th 2024

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 and Trustee D. Weaver were absent. Assessor S. Sieron's absence was excused. All other officials were present.

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

Moment of Silence for Past Supervisor Jim Ellison Jr.

A moment of silence was observed for former Stookey Township Supervisor Jim Ellison who had recently passed away.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

The Board of Trustees reviewed the regular meeting minutes from the February 5, 2024 meeting.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Amended Sewer Budget

The Board of Trustees reviewed amendments to the Sewer Department budget.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Amended Town Budget

The Board of Trustees reviewed amendments to the Town budget.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Bills

The monthly bill had been reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay asked if Gates Construction had filed a lien waiver. Supervisor M. Bagby stated the waiver had been received.

Vote: All voted yes

Late Bills

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Public Participation

Vance Vyers requested from Commissioner B. Reed to look at the recent road work near his home.

Jim Gunter requested the podium be placed where others could hear.

An emailed statement from Mr. Paul Schmidt was read verbatim by Supervisor M. Bagby.

An emailed statement from Mr. George Vineyard was read verbatim by Supervisor M. Bagby.

Committee Reports

- **Parks & Rec (Vance Vyers)**

A meeting has been planned by the committee for the month of March. What activities will be available in Stookey Athletic Park will be on the meeting agenda. There are a number of grants the committee plans to applying for. The new park maintenance shed is currently under construction.

- **Law Enforcement (Jim Lougeay)**

The committee has yet to receive a waiver to place a radar speed sign in resident's yards. The committee has decided to make use of the radar sign without the use of a waiver. An application to have the sign placed on specific streets will be uploaded to the Stookey Township Website.

- **Lighting & Zoning (Al Scharf)**

The committee did meet in February. The committee has created four documents to list properties needing to be demolished, having severe code violations, unlicensed vehicles and steel shipping container within Stookey Township. The Saint Clair County Sheriff's Department has been aiding in code enforcement.

Highway Commissioner's Report

During the month of February, fair-weather days allowed the Highway Department to complete much of their normal tasks. The snow storm during the month was the worst of the season. Commissioner B. Reed went on to explain all the work the Highway Department had to complete during the recent snow storm. He expressed frustration with having to deny requests to clear snow and ice covered that are not maintained by the Township. His main priority during a storm is to clean the streets on school bus routes. The Lakeview Drive and Cheshire Drive projects will be bid upon later in the month.

Supervisor's Report

There are a number of proposed bills in the Illinois State General Assembly which could dissolve all or part of townships in the State. Stookey Township had recently gone through an IMRF audit which went well. Minor changes will need to be made at the Township. New carpet will be installed in the Town Hall. An event named Barkfest will take place April 13th 2024 from 10 pm-3 pm in Stookey Park. Solar panels have been installed at the Stookey Sewer Plant. The 460 Lift-station was completed recently. A sewer plant master plan is being created by the Supervisor and Sewer Plant officials. Supervisor M. Bagby reminded Stookey Township officials to file their yearly statements of economic interest.

Discussion and Approval of IMRF Resolution 2024-01

IMRF requires the filing of a 125-plan passed by resolution to comply with the recent audit.

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

Discussion: Trustee Lougeay asked if any current employees were putting extra funds into their retirement plans. Supervisor M. Bagby stated three employees were making use of the option.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of March Stookey Standouts

Roy-El Catering (Nungesser Family), Steve & Melissa White, West End Redevelopment Corp. and Amy & Nadder El Hamarnah were all nominated for the Stookey Standout Award.

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

Discussion: Trustee A. Scharf gave a brief story of his meeting with Mr. El Hamarnah and the work he completed in the community.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Change Order (Parks)

A change order in the amount of \$1,940 was requested by Stookey Township officials for materials and labor to insulate the Stookey Athletic Park maintenance shed. A motion was made to include an order, not to exceed \$9,500 for the addition of drywall, insulation and sheathing.

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

Discussion: The Board of Trustees, Park Stewards and Mr. Mark Gates of Gates Construction debated whether to insulate the roof, ceiling or walls of the structure.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval to Declare Surplus Property

- Tables & chairs

New chairs had been donated to Stookey Township by the Our Lady of the Snows Shrine. The old tables and chairs used in the Town Hall would be sold and or donated.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Annual Town Meeting Agenda

Supervisor M. Bagby presented a proposed agenda for the April 9, 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

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

Discussion: Trustee A. Scharf proposed inviting Saint Clair County officials to the meeting to take questions from the public.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion on Memorials/Monuments on Township Property

Township Officials have been asked to approve the erecting of memorials to loved ones on public property. Multiple residents gave suggestions. It was stated a legal opinion may be needed to move forward. It was the consensus of the board to allow the Parks Committee to draft a criteria for memorials.

Closed/Executive Session

The Board of Trustees voted to leave regular session at 7:26 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

The Board of Trustees voted to reenter regular session at 8:11 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Employee Compensation

The Stookey Township Office Staff evaluations and possible raises were discussed by the Board of Trustees. It was the decision of the Board to include the Park Stewards for raises.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay (5% raises for all employees) **2nd:** Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Adjournment

The Board of Trustees voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Motion: Trustee R. Stookey **2nd:** Supervisor M. Bagby

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes