

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

Regular Meeting

October 7, 2024

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. Trustee D. Weaver was absent. All other elected officials were present.

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

A moment of silence was observed due to the death of sitting Assessor Stan Sieron.

Discussion and approval of Minutes

The September 3, 2024, regular meeting, September 23, 2024 special meeting, and September 6, 2024 bid opening meeting minutes were all reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and approval of Closed/Executive Session Minutes from 9/5/23, 10/2/2023, 12/4/2023, 2/5/2024, 3/4/2024, 4/9/2024, 5/6/2024, 6/3/2024 & 7/3/2024

The previous year's executive session meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board of Trustees at the September 3, 2024, regular meeting.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and approval of Bills

The Board of Trustees reviewed the monthly billing statements.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay questioned various bills regarding Highway Department purchases.

Vote: All voted yes

Late Bills

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Recognition of September Stookey Standouts

Susan Lovinggood & David Duncan, Lee Kellum, Janice Donaldson, Rodney & Tribian Jones, Donald Zanders, Garry & Mary Kempf, James Richardson, Villa Hills Baptist Church and the Debbie Fults Family were all recognized.

Public Participation

Ms. Evelyn Belman asked for clarification regarding the allocation of funds when donations are made to Stookey Parks.

Mr. Mark Schafer mentioned his disapproval of the Stookey Township trash collection mandate. He then suggested residents should be able to opt-out or have a single dumpster for those residents located on private roads.

Mr. John Cahnovsky asked that signs be posted stating a \$500 fine could be assessed for illegal dumping.

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec (Mr. Brad Dearborn)

- The committee did meet on September 26th. Several upcoming events were discussed. Grant opportunities and additions to Heroes Plaza in Stookey Park were also discussed. Schools have recently reached out to the Parks Committee regarding future use of the baseball fields in Stookey Athletic Park.

Law Enforcement (Trustee J. Lougeay)

- The committee did not meet for the month. Committee members have been in contact with Saint Clair County Sheriff's Department Officials regarding deputy reporting.

Lighting & Zoning (Trustee A. Scharf)

- The committee did meet. A list of 10 properties scheduled for demolition were discussed. Committee members are set to meet with Ameren IP officials regarding a recent streetlight request. Trustee A. Scharf expressed gratitude for the assistance of Sgt. James Hendrix of the Saint Clair County Sheriff's Department.

Highway Commissioner's Report

One of the department's mowers has been repaired and the last round of grass cutting is underway. The Cheshire Drive drainage project is in its final stages. The Lakeview Drive pipeline replacement project is also being completed. Smaller road projects in the outer portions of the Township are planned for the month.

Supervisor's Report

The family of Assessor Stan Sieron sent a card thanking Stookey Township residents and the Board of Trustees for their condolences. Supervisor M. Bagby then thanked Commissioner B. Reed and the Highway Department for their work in cleaning the remnants of the Khoury League building in Stookey Athletic Park. The building had been used for a controlled burn training by area fire departments. Electrical issues are being repaired at the Sewer Department. The yearly tax levy is scheduled for discussion at the November meeting.

Discussion and Approval of Resurfacing bids (Park & Sewer)

Of the three contractors that bid on the project, Sonnenberg presented the lowest responsible bid at \$25,692. A motion was made to accept the Sonnenberg bid.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay stated that he wished to amend his motion to allow Big City Asphalt to complete the Sewer Department portion of the work. His amended motion failed for lack of a 2nd.

Vote: Trustee J. Lougeay voted no. All others voted yes. The motion carried.

Resolution for MEPRD Grant

Resolution 2024-008 was passed to apply for the Metro-East Parks and Recreation Department Grant.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay pointed out a wording mistake within the resolution.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Resolution for 2025-2029 Salaries and Benefits

The Board of Trustees is required to set the salaries of Township officials for the election cycle of 2025-2029. A motion to keep the salaries at their current levels was made.

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

Discussion: Trustee A. Scharf stated he believed the position of Assessor should be set at \$1.00 per year.

A counter motion was made to set the Assessor salary at \$1.00 per year and all other elected officials receive a 5% raise.

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

Discussion: The Board of Trustees rejected the option to add a life insurance policy option for the Clerk, Assessor and Trustees. Trustee J. Lougeay rescinded his original motion.

Vote: Trustee R. Stookey voted no. All others voted yes. The motion carried.

Discussion and Approval of Annual Audit

The annual audit had been completed by Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson CPAs.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay 2nd: Supervisor M. Bagby

Discussion: Supervisor M. Bagby stated the audit showed Stookey Township finance standards met all requirements. Trustee A. Scharf stated how unhappy he was with the time it took FEW to complete the audit.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Assessor

An intergovernmental agreement was passed by the Board of Trustees to allow the Saint Clair County Assessor to assess all properties within Stookey Township.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion of Sewer Ordinance Modification

It was proposed that the sewer ordinance allow for the requirement of a one-way valve to be added to new construction within the Stookey Sewer service area. The consensus of the Board of Trustees was to suggest, but not require builders of new properties to install the addition of a backup valve.

Closed/Executive Session

The Board of Trustees voted to leave regular session at 7:41 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

The Board of Trustees voted to reenter regular session at 8:50 pm.

Motion: Trustee J. Lougeay **2nd:** Supervisor M. Bagby

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Adjournment

The Board of Trustees voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes