

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

Regular Meeting

December 2nd 2024

Meeting held at 313 Eiler Road, Belleville, Illinois 62223

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. An official roll call was taken. Trustee D. Weaver was absent. All other officials were present.

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

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

The Board of Trustees reviewed the November 4, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

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

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay requested more information be listed regarding which bills were questioned and for what reason.

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 multiple billing statement:

- Sewer Fund – R.E. Pedroth \$552 for programming
- Sewer Fund – Ameren for accounting
- Road Bond Fund – Rooters \$145,373
- Volkert - \$2,385 engineering for which job
- Road Fund – Woody's \$1,626
- General Road Fund – Linde \$91
- General Road Fund – Quality Rental 6x12 covered trailer
- General Road Fund – Chris Davis \$282.20 what job
- Park Maintenance Fund – Utility Bill \$21 with no company names, payable to Stookey Township

Vote: All voted yes

Late bills

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Public Participation

Herman Koester wished everyone happy holidays and told a funny story which brought light to the meeting.

Discussion and Approval of Sewer Tap-on Fee for 7645 Magna Dr.

The CAVE is currently building an addition to the existing structure and is needing to tap into the Stookey Sewer System. A variance for the project was issued with the stipulation of passage by the Board of Trustees. Trustee R. Stookey made a motion to allow the tap-on for a fee of \$1.

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

Discussion: Trustee R. Stookey questioned if the CAVE should be charged. Trustee A. Scharf suggested the CAVE should be charged as little as possible. Trustee J. Lougeay questioned what the cost would be. Supervisor M. Bagby stated the initial cost is \$3,000 with additions costing a maximum of \$7,500. Trustee A. Scharf stated the Stookey Township Board of Trustees should show support for the CAVE addition and only charge a fee of \$1.

Vote: Supervisor M. Bagby voted no. All others voted yes. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec (Mr. Brad Dearborn)

The annual Santa Paws event would be Saturday the 7th at Stookey Park. Preparations for a grant opportunity through Metro East Parks and Recreation are underway. The goal is to be able to install pickleball courts at Stookey Athletic Park.

Law Enforcement (Trustee J. Lougeay)

The committee did not meet for the month. Sheriff's officials were investigating event which took place in Stookey Park.

Lighting & Zoning (Trustee A. Scharf)

The committee did not meet for the month.

Highway Commissioner's Report

All mowing has been completed for the year. The Highway Department has prepared for the winter months. The backhoe is beyond being repaired and will need to be replaced in the near future. Commissioner B. Reed is currently searching for a replacement. The Highway Department pretreated area roads before the recent snowstorm. Commissioner B. Reed is in contact with residents near the Villa Hills Bridge in order to obtain easements. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor M. Bagby thanked the Highway Department for their work during the recent snowstorms. A home on Bernard Drive has been slated for demolition. The sewer lining project was recently completed and is being tested. Township Attorney, Otto Faulbaum was recently awarded during the Township Officials of Illinois annual conference. A new severe weather siren was recently approved and will serve a portion of Stookey Township.

Discussion and Approval of Town Levy

The Board of Trustees were tasked with passage of the annual tax Levy for the purposes of assessing property taxes. The proposed Levy amounted to a 3.3% increase from the prior year.

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

Discussion: Supervisor M. Bagby stated investment income made it possible to minimize tax increases.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Highway Levy

The Board of Trustees were tasked with passage of the annual tax Levy for the purposes of assessing property taxes. The proposed Levy amounted to a 4.59% increase from the prior year.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of 2025 Stookey Holiday Schedule

The Board of Trustees reviewed the proposed holidays scheduled for the year 2025.

Motion: Supervisor M. Bagby 2nd: Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: Trustee J. Lougeay stated he believed that holidays should be limited to a maximum of 12 days for the calendar year.

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

Discussion and Approval of 2025 Stookey Board Meeting Schedule

The Board of Trustees reviewed the proposed meeting dates scheduled for the year 2025.

Motion: Supervisor M. Bagby 2nd: Trustee A. Scharf

Discussion: Trustee R. Stookey questioned if the April meeting should be moved to Tuesday the 8th to take place before the Annual Town Meeting. Trustee J. Lougeay questioned the February meeting being held on the 10th rather than the 3rd. Supervisor M. Bagby gave reasons for both.

Vote: All voted yes

Discussion and Approval of Sewer Permit & Sewer Ordinance Changes

In a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees requested Stookey Township legal counsel draft changes to the existing sewer ordinance to require residents to submit a permit in order to make repairs to sewer lines. The cost of the permit is \$25.

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

Discussion: Supervisor M. Bagby stated this policy would protect the streets and sewer lines. Trustee J. Lougeay questioned if Belleville residents who use Stookey sewer lines would need to request a permit.

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

Closed/Executive Session

The Board of Trustees voted to leave regular session at 7:12 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 7:31 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes

Adjournment

The Board of Trustees voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 pm.

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

Discussion: None

Vote: All voted yes