



**MINUTES TOWNSHIP BOARD
DEKALB, ILLINOIS
August 11, 2021**

Call To Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Approval of Agenda:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hess at 6:00pm in the DeKalb Township Board Room. Roll call was taken by Clerk Tillotson: Supervisor Hess: Present; Trustee King: Present; Trustee Bradlo: Absent; and Trustee McNett: Present. Trustee Thurman arrived at 6:05pm.

Also present was DeKalb Township Attorney Brad Stewart.

Supervisor Hess led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Hess presented the agenda. Trustee King seconded Trustee McNett's motion to approve the agenda. A voice vote was then taken. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The motion passed.

Town Hall (Public Comments)

Mark Charvat thanked the Township for posting finances publicly on the Township website but requested that the meeting packet be posted publicly, as well. Mr. Charvat mentioned that the last meeting's zoom call did not allow him to join and hoped that it would work this time. Mr. Charvat expressed his desire for video-calling in Township meetings to stay, as he brought up that COVID is still an issue.

Presentations

Supervisor Hess introduced representatives from DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC), president Frank Roberts and director Paul Borek for their presentation: A Resolution Amending the Property Tax Abatement Qualifying Criteria and Definitions in the DeKalb County Enterprise Zone.

The DCEDC representatives explained what the resolution entails and how it would spur further economic growth. The representatives presented what DCEDC has done in the past to spur economic growth in DeKalb County.

The DCEDC representatives answered the Township trustees' questions regarding DCEDC's diversity of their board, the environmental impact of their business growth, and the demographics of those working in some of the new developments in DeKalb.

Reports:

Supervisor Hess:

1. Social Service Grants

- a. Deadline for submitting grants was Friday, July 30. We received 15 applications. Trustee Thurman and I will begin reviewing and scoring

each grant application and bring our recommendations to the board for a vote at the October meeting.

2. General Assistance and Emergency Assistance

- a. Requests for applications are on the rise.
- b. Increased Emergency Assistance payment levels are in effect as of 8/1/21. New payment levels are as follows:

FY 2021-22 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES AND PAYMENT LEVELS

Household Members	Yearly Income Max Standard	Payment Level (up to amount)
1	\$19,320	\$995.00
2	\$26,130	\$1095.00
3	\$32,940	\$1245.00
4	\$39,750	\$1445.00
5	\$46,560	\$1495.00
6	\$53,370	\$1545.00
7	\$60,180	\$1595.00
8	\$66,990	\$1645.00
9	\$73,800	\$1695.00
10	\$80,610	\$1745.00
11	\$87,420	\$1795.00
12	\$94,230	\$1845.00

- c. DeKalb Township processes General and Emergency Assistance applications for 17 other townships. On an annual basis we send an IGA to each township to renew this agreement. All 17 townships have elected to continue this working relationship with DeKalb Township and will accordingly increase their EA levels.
- d. Eviction moratorium that was due to expire on August 31 has been extended. The CDC re-instated the national eviction ban on August 3rd, 2021 for areas with "high" or "substantial" Covid-19 transmission. Ban is now in effect through October 3rd, 2021.
- e. Due to high numbers of applicants being ineligible for GA/EA due to missed (no show/no call) appointments, we recently implemented a text notification system for appointment reminders. As a result, we have been receiving calls from applicants regarding their appointments. Will continue to monitor.

- f. I concluded my training with Wheeling Township Director of General Assistance and have **subsequently** revamped and streamlined the Emergency Assistance process.
 - g. Erika and I are going to Rockford Township on Friday to learn more about their GA & EA systems.
- 3. Township Services**
- a. Website has been updated to reflect on-going and new services offered to DeKalb Township residents. See under "our services" tab, then "residential services". We will continue to update the website as new services and/or programs are developed.
- 4. Paper Shredding and Recycling (eyeglasses & hearing aids) Event**
- a. Scheduled for Saturday, September 18 from 9 to 11.
 - b. Township residents can bring a maximum of 3 boxes and unlimited eyeglasses and hearing aids. We will check ID's to confirm residency in DeKalb Township.
 - c. DeKalb High School National Honor Society students have agreed to volunteer for this event. All board members are encouraged to attend to greet residents and lend a hand.
 - d. We will begin promoting this event later this month.
- 5. Cemetery Updates**
- a. On 7/19, Craig and I met with Stonehugger's Restoration Company at Oakwood Cemetery to identify headstone's in need of restoration work. This work is scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.
 - b. On 7/28, Craig and I met with Montovon Tree Service at Oakwood Cemetery to examine the health of trees and identify those that need to be removed and/or trimmed. This work will take place next month.
 - c. The gravel entrance of Oakwood Cemetery will be paved this or next month. This work will stabilize that ground area and prevent the washouts that have been regularly occurring with each rainfall. The Township Road District crew will prep the site and Curran will do the paving.
 - d. A section of the sidewalk in front of Evergreen Cemetery was replaced last month.
 - e. On 7/30, Craig and I attended the Alliance of Illinois Cemeterians Summer Workshop in Freeport.
 - f. Another Boy Scout will be completing an Eagle Scout Project at Oakwood Cemetery this fall.
- 6. Other**
- a. On 7/16 I attended the TOI Supervisor's zone meeting in Rockford.

- b. I will be doing a site visit to Cunningham Township (Urbana) later this month to learn about their various programs and observe their GA/EA systems.
- c. I will be participating in a LIHEAP training next week and will evaluate if/how we can incorporate LIHEAP into the GA office/services.
- d. Reminder! Upcoming TOI Newly Elected Officials Virtual Training Course is taking place on Thursday, August 12 and again on Thursday, August 24th. If you haven't received login instructions by email, please contact Kayla Jeffers at TOI.
- e. Summary of FOIA requests listed on the following page.

Clerk Tillotson: The Township note-taking laptop broke causing a delay in creating the minutes from the July 14th township minutes. These minutes will be brought to the floor for a vote at the September Township meeting.

As the clerk, he urged the board to have greater transparency when it comes to meeting note packets and video recordings of meetings.

Highway Commissioner Smith: Highway Commissioner Smith was absent.

Assessor Dyer: Assessor Dyer was absent.

Trustee McNett: No report.

Trustee Bradlo: Trustee Bradlo was absent.

Trustee Thurman: No report.

Trustee King: Trustee King spoke on the students returning to NIU and emphasized the importance of the NIU Onebook as a great way for students, and especially minority students, to get acquainted with the DeKalb community. Trustee King talked of her work on the City of DeKalb's Human Rights Commission where they discussed police reform in the city.

Bill Paying:

A motion to approve the July audit report in the amount of \$178,765.93 and August bills to pay in the amount of \$92,272.08 was made by Trustee McNett and seconded by Trustee Thurman. Clerk Tillotson took a roll call vote: Supervisor Hess: aye; Trustee McNett: aye; Trustee Thurman: aye; Trustee King: aye; and Trustee Bradlo was absent. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The motion passed.

A motion to receive, file, and approve Treasurer's July budget report was made by Trustee McNett and seconded by Trustee Thurman. Clerk Tillotson took a roll call vote: Supervisor Hess: aye; Trustee McNett: aye; Trustee Thurman: aye; Trustee King: aye; and Trustee Bradlo was absent. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The motion passed.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- A. The Township officials discussed paying for Library Card Services for DeKalb Township residents.
- B. The Township officials considered the Committee on Youth's Grant Request for DeKalb County Youth Service Bureau, Inc. To pass this grant in the amount of \$750.00, a motion was made by Trustee King and seconded by Trustee Thurman. Clerk Tillotson took a roll call vote: Supervisor Hess: aye; Trustee McNett: aye; Trustee Thurman: aye; Trustee King: aye and Trustee Bradlo was absent. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The motion passed.

Old Business:

An amendment for A Resolution Approving Policy for Recording and Viewing Board Meetings was proposed: livestreaming, without the ability for livestream viewers to interact, was to be added to this resolution. Trustee King made a motion for this amendment and Trustee Thurman seconded it. Clerk Tillotson took a roll call vote: Supervisor Hess: aye; Trustee McNett: aye; Trustee Thurman: aye; and Trustee King: aye; and Trustee Bradlo was absent. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The amendment passed.

A motion for A Resolution Approving Policy for Recording and Viewing Board Meetings with this amendment was made by Trustee Thurman and seconded by Trustee King. Clerk Tillotson took a roll call vote: Supervisor Hess: aye; Trustee McNett: aye; Trustee Thurman: aye; Trustee King: aye; and Trustee Bradlo was absent. Ayes: 4; Nays: 0. The motion passed.

Executive Session: None.

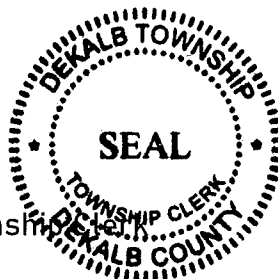
Other Business: The next Township Meeting will be September 8, 2021, 6:00pm at the DeKalb Township Board Room.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee King and seconded by Trustee Thurman. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote and the meeting ended at 7:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew "Ondrew" Tillotson, Township Clerk



Mary Hess, Township Supervisor