

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the
Downers Grove Township Board
4340 Prince St., Downers Grove, IL 60515
February 25, 2021

1. Call to Order:

Supervisor Thoman called the meeting to order at 8:20 PM.

Supervisor Thoman noted the requirements of tonight's meeting, that he was physically present at the normal meeting location as required, that he would make all the Motions as allowed by Township statute, and that all votes would be Roll Call votes.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Supervisor Thoman invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call:

Clerk Grimsby called the roll. Present via Zoom were Trustee Karen Kelly, Trustee Van Der Laan and Trustee Ferguson. Supervisor Mark Thoman, Clerk Lorraine Grimsby, Trustee Art Donner were present in person.

Elected and Appointed Officials present: Clerk Lorraine Grimsby, Assessor Greg Boltz and Trustee Art Donner. Via Zoom: Attorney Allan Alongi.

Staff and other present: 1 staff member. Others present via Zoom: Mr. Coultrap, Ms. Winingham, Ms. Stoll, Ms. Vazquez, Mr. Ockrim, Mr. Kirschbaum, Ms. Sole, Mr. Ricordati, and Ms. Lemanski, Mr. Chystak, Ms. Dodd, Ms. Dow, Mr. Leopold and Ms. Johnson.

4. Motion to Conduct the February Board of Trustee Meeting Electronically.

A Motion was made by Supervisor Thoman to Conduct the February Board of Trustee Meeting electronically. Trustee Donner seconded the Motion. There was no Trustee discussion. Roll Call vote: Trustee Kelly – aye, Trustee Donner – aye, Trustee Ferguson - aye, Trustee Van Der Laan - aye, and Supervisor Thoman – aye. Ayes – 5; Nays – 0; Absent – 0.

5. Public Comment:

Supervisor Thoman asked if there was anyone who had comments to make.

Notice: Because of the very lengthy discussions and contentious meeting, it is advised to watch the full meeting on our website to hear all comments and concerns as each individual comment will not be included.

At this time, Supervisor Thoman asked attendees for their comments. (see video online)

6. Motion to Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 21, 2021 As Presented.

A motion was made by Supervisor Thoman to Approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2021, with a second by Trustee Donner. There were no Trustee comments.

Roll Call vote: Trustee Ferguson – aye, Trustee Kelly – aye, Trustee Donner – aye, Trustee Van Der Laan and Supervisor Thoman – aye. Ayes – 5; Nays – 0.

7. Trustee Audit and Approval of Bills and Claims.

General Town Fund	2/17 to 2/17/2021	\$ 20,702.40
General Town Fund	2/24 to 22/26/21	\$ 70,788.25
General Road Fund	2/17 to 2/17/2021	\$ 11,326.34
General Road Fund	2/22 to 2/22/2021	\$ 84,758.84
General Assistance	1/1 to 1/31/2020	\$ 4,192.73

Supervisor Thoman stated there are two packets for both the General Fund and Road Fund because the February meeting date was pushed back by one week..

A motion was made by Supervisor Thoman to Approve the Trustee Audit and Approval of Bills and Claims. Trustee Donner seconded the motion. No Trustee comments.

Roll Call vote: Trustee Kelly – aye, Trustee Donner – aye, Trustee Ferguson – abstain; Trustee Van Der Laan – aye, and Supervisor Thoman – aye. Ayes – 4; Nays – 0; Abstain - 1.

8. Motion to Approve General Budget as Presented. (Roll Call Vote)

A motion was made by Supervisor Thoman to Approve Budget as Presented. Trustee Donner seconded the motion.

Trustee Ferguson amended the motion and asked to table the General Fund vote for 30 days. Motion was seconded by Trustee Van Der Laan.

Trustee Kelly asked if we posted a new budget, how would the public review the budget vs the budget we have now. Supervisor Thoman replied that they would have to look at it in the same way. Trustee Kelly asked if that would be more confusing for the public since we already hung the budget? Trustee Kelly asked if any public comments were received from the budget that was posted. Supervisor Thoman stated that no citizens have called or provided any feedback. A review of dates was discussed if the agenda item was tabled for 30 days.

Roll Call vote on Motion to Table for 30 days: Trustee Ferguson – aye, Trustee Kelly – nay, Trustee Donner – nay, Trustee Van Der Laan – aye, and Supervisor Thoman – nay. Ayes – 2; Nays – 3. Motion Failed.

Trustee discussion on Motion to Approve Budget as presented.

Trustee Donner – No comment.

Trustee Van Der Laan – At this I am uncomfortable voting for the budget due to the Open Meetings and wish to push it back to the motion to table.

Trustee Kelly – No further comments.

Supervisor Thoman – I have nothing further to say and will call for a vote.

Roll Call vote on Motion to Approved Budget as Presented: Trustee Ferguson – nay, Trustee Kelly – aye, Trustee Donner – aye, Trustee Van Der Laan – nay , and Supervisor Thoman – aye. Ayes – 3; Nays – 2. Motion Passed.

9. Motion to Approve 2021-2022 Township Employee Policy Handbook for Supervisors Office.
(Roll call vote)

This agenda item was overlooked.

10. Supervisor's Report.

Supervisor Thoman stated the Township was contacted by the Village of Woodridge and the Village of Downers Grove when they were having their vaccination events. They had extra dosages and offered to have the Township fill the slots for Seniors. We provided 17 names of Woodridge seniors and 269 of Downers Grove seniors.

The Township took possession of the Township Senior Center on February 10. The project finished on budget. The FISH Food Pantry is in the process of moving in. The Township Center is being outfitted with furniture and supplies. Meals on Wheels is looking forward to providing services at our facility when they are allowed. Kudos to Lisa Raisin and John Aguizimo and their group of volunteers for making the FISH Food Pantry one of Illinois Food Bank's favorite facilities.

Since it has been a very hectic evening, I will defer for now any other announcements. If anything arises, it will be posted on our website.

11. Old Business.

Supervisor Thoman asked if anyone had any Old Business.

No Old Business was brought forward.

12. New Business.

Supervisor Thoman stated the Audit process was moved up so it would be completed before I leave office.

The CARES funding helped over a dozen non-profits stay in business.

Trustee Kelly asked when the Township Center could fully open for business since the COVID stats are down and the County is open. Supervisor Thoman stated that residents can make appointments for passports and other business. Everyone just masks up. Supervisor Thoman will check with the other Township Supervisors to see what they are doing.

13. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before this Board, Supervisor Thoman made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 PM and it was seconded by Trustee Van Der Laan.

Roll Call vote: Trustee Ferguson-aye, Trustee Kelly – aye, Trustee Donner – aye, Trustee Van Der Laan and Supervisor Thoman-aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Next regular Township meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorraine Grimsby, Clerk