

MINUTES OF DOWNERS GROVE TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
October 2, 2014

A meeting of the Town Board of Downers Grove Township was held October 2, 2014 at the Downers Grove Township, 4340 Prince Street, Downers Grove, Illinois.

1. *Call to Order:* Supervisor Wurster called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and everyone present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. *Roll Call:* Town Clerk Hois called the roll. Board members in attendance were Trustee Abbate, Trustee Cuthbert, Trustee Grimsby, Trustee Swanston, and Supervisor Wurster. Attorney Alongi was also present.
3. *Public Comment:* A resident informed the Board that the September 18, 2014 agenda link on website did not open, Town Clerk Hois promised to address it.
4. *Correspondence:* Clerk Hois reviewed Notice of Proposed Annexation regarding 0.6 acre Territory within Township by the Village of Woodridge.
5. *Minutes:* Supervisor Wurster called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Board Meetings held on September 4, 2014 and September 18, 2014. Trustee Grimsby made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, and all voted aye.
6. *Invoices:* The Board of Trustees reviewed the invoices prior to the meeting:

General Town Fund	10/02	\$ 5,105.55
General Town Fund	09/18	\$ 13,788.60
General Town Fund	09/04	\$ 8,855.13
Cemetery	09/17/14	\$ 7,800.00
General Road Fund	10/01	\$ 28,592.81
General Road Fund	09/17	\$ 21,042.72
General Assistance	09/01 to 09/30	\$ 2,329.81

Trustee Abbate made a motion to approve the invoices, which motion was seconded by Trustee Swanston. All voted aye to approve the invoices.

7. *Board Meeting Schedule 2015:* The Downers Grove Township Board Meeting Schedule was discussed with suggestion to move the meetings to the third Thursday in the month. Trustee Abbate made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, all voted aye to consider schedule at November's regular meeting.
8. *Review Electric Aggregation Quotes, Make Decision in 24 hours:* Supervisor Wurster asked Jim Seay from consultant Solo Energy Solutions Corp. to provide information regarding bids received from various electricity aggregation suppliers, including mc2, Eligo, Eynegy, and Constellation, and

ComEd's present rate of 7.042 for September through December, 2014. The Township's contract with supplier mc2 expires on December 14, 2014. Jim Seay said the Township may elect to discontinue aggregation, as some municipalities have done, or select a provider for the next one, two, or three years. Under current rules, individual customers can opt out, but unincorporated area township customers will no longer be able to opt out as a group.

ComEd is expected to raise its rates in June, 2015. After further discussion of options and rates, Trustee Cuthbert made a motion to enter into a contract with Dynegy for a two-year term commencing December 15, 2014, for a rate of 7.593 the first year and 7.125 the second year, for an average of 7.359. Trustee Abbate seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Attorney Alongi will review the contract provided by Dynegy, if O.K. it must be signed within 24 hours, by 10:00 a.m. on October 3, 2014.

9. *Discuss Proposed Levy 2014 for Township Budget Year 2015/2016:* Supervisor asked Deputy Supervisor West to review the proposed levy 2014 as summarized on a worksheet showing proposal levy for the Township Fund 2015/16 at 2% and at 4.9%. Trustee Cuthbert said he desires to keep the levy at its current level. The discussion about the levy amount included things that need to be done, maintenance and repair needs, budget surplus in years past, remaining 7 months of operating expenses and the need to maintain a budget surplus.

According to Township Officials of Illinois, the Township must maintain 6-7 months in reserve for operating purposes. Assessor Cockrell noted the cost of her department's scanning project and said the amount of the levy requires careful consideration, for example, the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) tells the Township the rate it has to pay. Deputy Supervisor West said to consider general assistance needs. Trustee Cuthbert would prefer not to have a road tax levy for the highway department, as there is no indication of what increase they may be asking for.

10. *Discuss Resident Question regarding Natural Gas Prices:* The Trustees asked, on behalf of a resident, whether the Township could look into aggregating gas. There was an attempt to allow this in 2012 but the governor vetoed it. The Township can, however, provide assistance to seniors and to residents in need through the low income housing energy assistance program (LIHEAP). Assessor Cockrell said seniors may apply for the senior assessment freeze at age 65 if the household income is \$55,000 or less.

11. *Discuss Suggestion to have Lobbyist in Springfield work for the interests of Townships in DuPage County:* Supervisor Wurster said at a Supervisor's meeting the idea of having a lobbyist advocate for DuPage County Townships

in Springfield, if all 9 townships participated at cost of \$3,000 per Township. The Trustees questioned what value a lobbyist would provide for that cost.

12. Supervisor's Report:

First, Supervisor Wurster said the Township completed an application found in the Township Perspective Magazine two months ago, and won the contest for the best Township website! Kudos to Amanda Roe and all those who contribute to the website content and updates.

Second, changed assessment information will be published October 15, 16,17, 2014.

Third, as noticed, the special town meeting seeking elector authority to sell a parcel of township-owned real estate will be held at Township Office, 4340 Prince Street, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515 October 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

13. Old Business: none.

14. New Business: Supervisor Wurster said Trustee Cuthbert will chair a committee to study the way the Township Board reviews invoices, and may select person(s) from the staff to work with him on the committee. The goal will be to increase efficiency and streamline the invoice review process, with improved explanations on the vouchers that are submitted for Board review. Bob Grogan is scheduled to look at the Township's accounting software.

15. Adjournment: There being no further business Trustee Grimsby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, all voting aye. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hois
Town Clerk