

MINUTES OF DOWNERS GROVE TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
November 17, 2016

A meeting of the Town Board of Downers Grove Township was held November 17, 2016 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 Boltz, Trustee Cuthbert, Trustee Grimsby and Supervisor Wurster. Highway Commissioner Anderson and Assessor Cockrell attended. Attorney Alongi was present.
3. *Public Comment:*

- a) Laura Reigle said FOIA requests were made to Downers Grove Township and Sugar Grove Township regarding Clerk Hois who is also Deputy Assessor at Sugar Grove Township. She asked how Hois can be in two places "at one time" and said she had not completed her review of emails.

On December 13, 2016 the Board voted 3-1, with three of the trustees Trustee Boltz, Trustee Cuthbert, and Trustee Grimsby in favor, to amend these Minutes to include the following in this public comment section of the Minutes over the Clerk's objection. The Clerk objects to including verbatim comments made by a member of the public as this goes beyond the scope and traditional custom of the Township's minutes and the Clerk is concerned that the allegations contained therein were made for political purposes and therefore could constitute an unlawful use of public resources:

"During Public Comments Ms. Laura Reigel rose to speak to the Board of Trustees regarding her most recent FOIA findings and said she needed to make the Board of trustees aware of the information.

"Ms. Reigel said she had made FOIA requests of Downers Grove Township to verify IMRF and work information of the Downers Grove Township Clerk Laura Hois, and that she had discovered that Ms. Hois was also the Sugar Grove Township Assessor.

She said she asked both Townships for emails to and from the Downers Grove Township Clerk, and to and from the Sugar Grove Township Deputy Assessor. Ms. Reigel noted color coded tabs showing a number of emails to and from the Sugar Grove Deputy Assessor, all made during hours Ms. Hois claimed in her affidavit that she was working at Downers Grove Township. She asked how a person could be in two places at one time. Ms Reigel said she was being paid for the Clerk job here while

the Clerk was working on Sugar Grove business. She noted Wednesdays in particular.

“Ms Reigel said she had several requests of the Township officials. She asked that the Board file charges with the State’s Attorney for official misconduct of the Clerk. She also asked Trustees to get the same information she had requested so they could read them and the responses. Ms Reigel went on to say the records show the Clerk tried to hire the Township attorney for her filing a lawsuit against the Township. She said the Clerk, as a lawyer, should know that was a clear conflict of interest, and said the Township attorney responded to Ms. Hois that it would be a clear conflict of interest..

“Ms Reigel finished her comment asking the Township to investigate and get to the bottom of this. Supervisor Wurster thanked her for her comment.

b) Karol Sole asked Highway Commissioner Anderson for current number of miles of roadway maintained by the Township, he responded: 70 miles.

4. *Correspondence*: Clerk Hois reported correspondence from the City of Darien concerning a change of address to single family residential property where a new home had been built, and said she would forward to the assessor’s office.
5. *Approval of Prior Meeting’s Minutes, October 20, 2016*: Trustee Boltz made a motion to amend the minutes of October 20, 2016 Board meeting to add the word “and” to paragraph 15 after “rescind, repeal and annul”, and to approve the minutes as amended, motion seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, and all voted aye.
6. *Approval of Invoices*: The Board of Trustees reviewed the invoices prior to the meeting:

General Town Fund	11/16	\$ 36,319.11
General Road Fund	10/19	\$ 77,810.08
General Assistance	10/01to 10/31	\$ 4,292.25

Trustee Cuthbert made the motion to approve the invoices, seconded by Trustee Abbate, all voted aye and the motion carried.

7. *Approve Reappointments of Robert Holub, Renee Joncas, and Jeffrey Schultz as Trustees of the Clarendon Blackhawk Mosquito Abatement District for 4-year terms expiring December 7, 2020*: Robert, Renee and Jeffrey attended the Board Meeting and welcomed any questions. Trustee Abbate made a motion to approve the reappointments, motion seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye.
8. *Approve Reduction of Dial-a-Ride Fee from \$4 to \$3 per 501(c)(3) Friends For Downers Grove Township Seniors’ \$5,000 grant*: Eileen Fitzgerald, President of the six-member board of Friends For Downers Grove Township Seniors

presented a check in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Township Board as a contribution to Dial-a-Ride from funds that had been donated to the 501(c)(3). A picture was taken of Lori Wrzesinski and Eileen Fitzgerald with the Board. Trustee Cuthbert made a motion to approve the reduction of the Dial-a-Ride Fee from \$4 to \$3, which motion was seconded by Trustee Boltz, and all voted aye.

9. *Presentation by Theodore Darden, Professor Criminal Justice College of DuPage on topic of Security for Township Offices:* Supervisor Wurster said Mr. Darden was not present, Trustee Boltz made a motion to table item 9, seconded by Trustee Abbate, all voted aye and the motion carried.
10. *Approve Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance ("BCBS") Contract and Guardian Dental Contract for Township Employees, both to be administered by Township's consultant Stumm Insurance LLC:* David Enk said there is good news: the increase in medical insurance costs for township employees will be only 1.7% and the increase in dental insurance costs will be only 2.5% higher than last years' costs, and the medical plan is getting better. David Enk answered Trustee's questions regarding rates with and without employee contributions, co-pays, deductibles, and annual funding of health savings accounts (HSAs). Trustee Boltz made a motion to approve the BCBS and Guardian Dental contracts, which motion was seconded by Trustee Abbate, and all voted aye.
11. *Passage of Township Levy 2016 Township Budget Year 2017-18:* Board members reviewed and discussed the two alternate proposals for the Township Levy for Budget Year 2017-18. Trustee Boltz said he had had a conversation with Gwen Henry, DuPage County Treasurer, regarding the process for abatement. He said the Township does a great job managing expenses, but we do not know what the future holds, so setting a levy with the 2% increase coupled with abatement would allow no increase to taxpayers if the funds are not used in the Budget Year but are needed in the future, Township would have the ability to use the funds. Trustee Boltz suggested putting abatement resolutions on the agenda for next month's meeting, for 2% levy with abatement, discussion followed including moving the next regular meeting date, December 15, 2016, to Tuesday December 13, 2016. Trustee Cuthbert made a motion to table the Township Levy item 11 on the agenda until the December 13, 2016 regular meeting, motion seconded by Trustee Grimsby, all voted aye and the motion carried.
12. *Passage of Township Highway Road District Levy 2016 for Township Highway Road District Budget 2017-2018:* Commissioner Anderson presented a chart with fiscal year-end balances for the road district. Trustee Boltz made a motion to table the Highway Road District Levy item 12 on the agenda until the December 13, 2016 regular meeting, motion seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, all voted aye.
13. *Approve 3 Resolutions for Participation by Supervisor, Assessor, Highway Commissioner in Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Elected Official positions requiring 1,000+ hours per year:* Supervisor Wurster said he needs time

to obtain more information regarding the IMRF resolutions. Trustee Boltz made a motion to table item 13 on the agenda to a future meeting, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye.

14. *Approve Board Meeting Schedule for Year 2017:* Trustee Cuthbert selected the Board Meeting Schedule with two monthly meetings commencing in June, 2017 and made a motion to approve that schedule with one change, to change December 21 to December 19, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye to approve the 2017 Board Meeting Schedule as amended.

15. *Approve Timesheet Policy for Non-Full time Recipients of IMRF:* Trustee Cuthbert said he is discussing this topic with other membership bodies and will come back to the Board when those conversations end. Trustee Cuthbert made a motion to table item 15 on the agenda, seconded by Trustee Boltz, all voted aye.

16. *Supervisor's Report:* Supervisor Wurster:

(a) said resolution for Jason Shiliga was prepared for the Board's review;

(b) asked Clerk Hois to read his letter dated November 17, 2017 to the Downers Grove Township Board:

"I have decided to take early retirement so effective December 31, 2016 I will be resigning as Supervisor of the Downers Grove Township. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work and my association with the Downers Grove Township employees and constituents. Frank Wurster, Downers Grove Township Supervisor;"

(c) informed the Board that pursuant the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act, Pub. Act 99-6604 the Township must pass an ordinance establishing the reimbursement of all travel, meal, and lodging expenses of officers and employees in the Township of Downers Grove, Illinois by January 1, per memorandum from Bryan Smith, Executive Director, Township Officials of Illinois.

17. *Old Business:* NONE.

18. *New Business:*

(a) Trustee Cuthbert asked to be copied on FOIA requests directed to the Township that were not mentioned from a correspondence standpoint. Trustee Boltz asked that a full set of the FOIA responses mentioned by Laura Reigle in public comment be provided to Attorney Alongi and reviewed by Attorney Alongi.

(b) Supervisor Wurster referenced the new fence at the cemetery, said the contractor did not return his call, that he was supposed to be finished by a September deadline. The landscaper is doing a good job and Highway Commissioner's crew is cleaning up out there.

19. *Executive Session:* NONE. Supervisor Wurster said an executive session should be held in December for the purpose of discussing the person to replace him as Supervisor of Downers Grove Township. Attorney Alongi said the vote will be done in open session after the executive session is completed.

20. *Adjournment:* There being no further business, Trustee Abbate made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Trustee Grimsby, all voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hois
Town Clerk

The next regular Downers Grove Township Board Meeting will be Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Offices, 4340 Prince Street, Downers Grove, IL, pursuant to public notice changing the December 15, 2016 regular meeting date to December 13, 2016 at the request of the Board, with Agenda to be posted and placed on website at least 48 hours in advance of the December 13, 2016 Board meeting.