

MINUTES OF DOWNERS GROVE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
November 19, 2015

A meeting of the Town Board of Downers Grove Township was held November 19, 2015 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. Assessor Cockrell and Highway Commissioner Anderson were present. Attorney Alongi was not present, but was available by phone.
3. *Public Comment:* Assessor Cockrell said the new hires in her office are working out beautifully; they and her staff have been handling a substantially increased workload, preparing for hearings; it has been a busy year, but a good year.
4. *Correspondence:* Clerk Hois referenced the notice of proposed annexation to the Village of Burr Ridge property known as Lots 66 and 67 at southeast corner of 91<sup>st</sup> Street and Kingery Highway (Route 83). Highway Commissioner Anderson provided information about the subject property in unincorporated Burr Ridge.
5. *Minutes:* Trustee Grimsby made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Township Board meeting held on October 15, 2015 and the Minutes of the special Township Board meeting held on November 3, 2015, which motion was seconded by Trustee Cuthbert, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

6. *Invoices:* The Board of Trustees reviewed the invoices prior to the meeting:

General Town Fund	11/05	\$ 6,279.54
General Town Fund	11/19	\$ 25,730.33
General Road Fund	11/04	\$ 55,537.99
General Road Fund	11/18	\$ 69,491.08
Cemetery	11/05	\$ 1,200.00
Cemetery	11/18	\$ 960.00

Trustee Abbate made a motion to approve the invoices, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7. *Approve Board Room Equipment Improvements:* Supervisor Wurster said the Township has requested but has not yet received estimates for the proposed upgrades suggested to be made to the Township Board Room including installing a ceiling mounted projector, screen and new podium with microphone, and videotaping capability. Trustee Boltz made a motion to table this topic, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye.

8. *Approve Answers to Written Questions submitted by potential bidders regarding Request for Proposal (RFP) Bid Package:* Trustee Grimsby and Attorney Alongi prepared answers to the questions submitted by potential bidders for review and comment by the Board of Trustees. Clerk Hois said she had suggested revisions for the Trustees to review. Discussion followed. Trustee Cuthbert made a motion to approve the Answers as revised subject to Attorney Alongi's final approval after considering all Trustee's input, which motion was seconded by Trustee Abbate. All Trustees voted 'aye' to approve the Answers, to be finalized and posted on the dgtownship.com website on Monday, November 23, 2015.
9. *Approve Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Contract:* Supervisor Wurster said that Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) health insurance coverage costs will increase by five percent (5%) according to 2016 plans and rates. Christina West reviewed three options for the Board of Trustees to consider, Option 1, which would lower the impact cost to the Township, Option 2, 80%, and Option 3, 75%. Discussion followed regarding the three scenarios provided and the separate issue related to funding of employee HSA accounts. Trustee Cuthbert, Trustee Boltz and Trustee Grimsby had questions about how the Township's medical coverage offerings compare to other townships and municipalities to ensure Township employees are treated in a fair and equitable fashion. After a discussion the Board instructed Staff to submit FOIA requests to DuPage County, the other Townships in the County and the municipalities within the Township requesting premium amounts and employer contribution rates for medical benefits. This information is to be submitted to the Board within the next two weeks to allow review prior to the next Board meeting. Trustee Abbate made a motion to approve the dental plan as proposed, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye. Trustee Abbate made a separate motion to table the BCBS health insurance decision until the next regular meeting in December pending receipt of further information, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, and all voted aye.
10. *Discuss Adjustment of Due Dates, Monthly Approval of Invoices by the Board of Trustees:* Supervisor Wurster asked Christina West to provide an update. Deputy Supervisor West said she had arranged for extended due dates for all utility bills payable by the Township except for one: the Village of Downers Grove was unable to extend the due date for payment of water bills every other month. In addition, Township employees have agreed to receive reimbursement of expenses they pay out of pocket only once per month. The Trustees thanked Deputy West for her work in this regard and for providing the requested update.
11. *Approve Board Hearing and Holiday Schedules for Year 2016:* The Board of Trustees reviewed the proposed schedules. Trustee Abbate made a motion to approve the Board Hearing 2016 and Holiday Schedule 2016 as proposed, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby, all voted aye and the motion carried.

12. *Passage of Township Levy 2015 for Township Budget Year 2016 and Passage of Township Levy 2015 for Highway Budget Year 2016:* The Board of Trustees discussed the proposed Township Levy for year 2016. Supervisor Wurster reviewed three alternative levy proposals, (i) the Township would keep the levy request the same as last year (no increase), (ii) the Township would request a 0.8 increase, and (iii) the Township would request a 2.0% increase. The Supervisor said there are two things we'd like to do next year, (a) decrease the dial-a-ride cost per ride, and (b) extend the Township parking lot at an estimated cost of \$200,000+. Also, allocate more money in the Township budget for cemetery improvements. Other Townships in DuPage County are asking for a 4.9% increase in the levy, and Supervisor Wurster said he'd like to see an increase of at least 0.8%. Discussion followed regarding the need for a cushion of more than 6-7 months operating expenses, as recommended by Robert Porter at Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) educational training seminars. Trustee Cuthbert said he is biased toward a zero levy, but recognizes the Township will need capital outlays. Trustee Boltz and Trustee Grimsby added comments in favor of a zero levy, and Trustee Abbate spoke in favor of an increase in the levy. Supervisor Wurster said he is adamantly opposed to a zero increase, because it just does not make any sense, and puts the Township further behind each succeeding year whereas other Townships have the ability to move forward with increased services and improvements for the betterment of the community.

Trustee Abbate made a motion for a 0.8% levy increase for the Township, which motion was seconded by Supervisor Wurster. Clerk Hois took a roll call vote: Trustee Abbate- aye, Trustee Boltz- nay, Trustee Cuthbert- nay, Trustee Grimsby- nay, Supervisor Wurster- aye. 3-2 opposed. Trustee Cuthbert then made a motion for a zero levy, with no increase, which motion was seconded by Trustee Grimsby. Clerk Hois took the roll call vote: Trustee Abbate- nay, Trustee Boltz- aye, Trustee Cuthbert- aye, Trustee Grimsby- aye, Supervisor Wurster nay. The motion carried 3-2 in favor of a zero levy for the Township with no increase.

Next, the Downers Grove Township Road District Levy submitted by Highway Commissioner Anderson called for a three percent (3%) increase. The Trustees had no questions. Trustee Boltz made a motion that the Board accept the Road District levy as determined by the Highway Commissioner, which motion was seconded by Trustee Cuthbert. Clerk Hois took the roll call vote: Trustee Abbate- aye, Trustee Boltz- aye, Trustee Cuthbert- aye, Trustee Grimsby- aye, Supervisor Wurster- aye. The motion carried 5-0 in favor of the 3% increase for Highway.

### 13. *Supervisor's Report:*

Supervisor Wurster said he and Lori Wrzesinski of the Downers Grove Township gave its first power point presentation to the Village of Westmont on Thursday night, November 12, 2015, and it was well received. The next presentation will be at the Village of Willowbrook on December 14, 2015. Supervisor Wurster said he would like to arrange similar presentations for seniors at local park districts.

14. *Old Business:* Trustee Cuthbert asked about the Township's progress in putting the checkbook online. Trustee Boltz said he has not been able to come in to the Township to take a look at it. Supervisor Wurster and Christina West said progress was being made and provided a sample checkbook to the Trustees for their review and approval.
15. *New Business:* Supervisor Wurster said the employee appreciation luncheon will be held on December 15, 2015, as an opportunity to give thanks and recognition. Trustee Abbate said she had attended a meeting for the I-55 project to expand the middle lane to provide a 4<sup>th</sup> lane. The interior lane on I-55 is now used by Pace Bus. The 4<sup>th</sup> lane may be converted into a toll lane to keep traffic moving.
16. *Executive Session:* NONE.
17. *Adjournment:* Trustee Grimsby made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Trustee Abbate, and all voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hois  
Town Clerk