Rutland Township
16N491 Powers Road, Gilberts, IL 60136
Budget Hearings and Regular Board Meeting May 12, 2015

The meeting was opened at 7:01 P.M., with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Roll Call showed the following members present: Supervisor Sanders, Clerk Iverson, Trustees Bulmahn, Carlsen, Payson and Schuldt. Also present was Road Commissioner Schultz, Assessor Siers and our Township Attorney Ron Roeser.

Trustee Schuldt made a motion to **Approve the Agenda** with a second by Trustee Bulmahn. Voice Vote - All Yes. Motion Carried.

The Supervisor opened the **Budget Hearing for the Township Fund.** Trustee Bulmahn asked if the Supervisor worked with the Road Commissioner and the Assessor on their budgets. He explained that the deficit of $111,575 reflects a dramatic loss, and wondered if the Supervisor agreed when going over these figures. The Trustee said he was not at all comfortable with these figures and other board member concurred, and decided to go through each category. Most line items were discussed and adjusted. When adjusting the Travel and Auto Reimbursements, the Supervisor stated that last year it was lower because she wasn't paid for some of her expenses because she had refused to use the Mileage Tracker. The Board and our Township Attorney agreed in the previous April to pay to date as of April, and then go forward with either the IRS form or a tracking device, so all were paid for submitted expenses. After looking at all possible categories to adjust the Board was able to lower the Township Fund a total of $6,856. This brought the total from $173,665 to $166,809. The Board then moved to the **Assessor's Budget.** The Assessor brought a figure higher than that submitted to the Board by the Supevisor. The Assessor said the figure should be $186,350 not $183,250 as was submitted to the Board. The Board sought the Township Attorney's counsel regarding what could be done to adjust the Assessor's Budget. Attorney Roeser said the Board could go line by line, but suggested the Board reduce the budget total, and let the Assessor go about reducing the line items to meet the total. He said they were responsible to give her what was reasonable to run her office. Trustee Bulmahn remarked that in giving perspective, the Assessor's Budget last year was 38% over the previous year and now was asking for an additional 27%. There was much discussion deciding how much of an adjustment would be reasonable. Trustee Schuldt asked about some type of intergovernmental agreement with Elgin Township since the Elgin Assessor was being paid by us to perform appraisals and help with the Board of Review. The Budget shows $12,000 for this service. Trustee Bulmahn requested to see the paycards for the Assessor's employees in March, 2015. The Board agreed to give an additional 10% over the previous year's actual figures. The Board adjusted the Assessor's Budget to $161,700 plus the $750 loan to be paid back to the Township for the loan to pay the overages in her salaries. The $750 was not listed in the Budget which was presented. This brought the Assessor's Budget to a total of $162,450. Trustee Carlsen made a motion to accept the $162,450 with a second by Trustee Payson. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Carlsen, Payson, Schuldt, Bulmahn and Supervisor Sanders – ALL YES. Motion Carried. Supervisor Sanders made a motion to adopt the Township Fund Budget reducing it from $360,015 to $326,309 with a second by Trustee Bulmahn to **Adopt Township Budget FYE March 31, 2016, and Approve Ordinance RU2015-04.** Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Sanders, Trustees Bulmahn, Schuldt, Payson and Carlsen – ALL YES. Motion Carried. **The Budget Hearing for the Road District Fund was opened.** The Trustees discussed the Budget which was presented in the amount of $534,650, and asked questions of the Road Commissioner and made a few observations. One item was the budgeted amount of $4,100 for Audit Services. The Trustees agreed that the amount for auditing

should not be split between the Town and Road, evenly, but that the Road should be paying more because the auditors have to spend more time on their audit. This line item was raised to $5,300 and the $1,200 difference to be taken out of Heating Fuel, Electricity and Other Expenses. A motion was made by Supervisor Sanders and seconded by Trustee Bulmahn to **Adopt Road District Budget in the amount of $534,650 FYE March 31, 2016, and Approve Ordinance RU2015-05.** Trustee Schuldt made a motion to close the Budget Hearings with a second by Trustee Payson. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Schuldt, Payson, Bulmahn, Carlsen and Supervisor Sanders – ALL YES. Motion Carried.

The Regular Board Meeting was opened at 8:57 P.M.

Trustee Payson made a motion to **Approve the Minutes of the April 14, 2015 Regular Meeting**, with a second by Trustee Schuldt. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Payson, Schuldt, Bulmahn, Carlsen and Supervisor Sanders – ALL YES. Motion Carried.

Public Comment – None

Supervisor's Comments - Supervisor Sanders reported that she went to a Kane County meeting and brought back a recording of same. The Trustees will listen to it.

Approval of Township and Road District Financial Reports for 12-months ending March 31, 2015. The Trustees determined that the **Town Reports could not be approved** as there were multiple problems with them last month. They will wait to see what the Auditors have to say. Trustee Bulmahn made a motion to **Approve the Road District Reports** with a second by Trustee Payson. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Bulmahn, Payson, Schuldt and Supervisor Sanders – YES. Trustee Carlsen – NO. Motion Carried. The Township and Road District Financial Reports for 1-month ending April 30, 2015 were presented. Trustee Carlsen asked questions regarding entries on the balance sheets. **The April Salaries and Bills for the Township were reviewed and discussed.** Trustee Schuldt brought up the point that the Assessor's office wasn't being charged Quickbooks fees and they had more check charges that should go to them. The Trustees agreed that this should happen, and Supervisor Sanders said she would find a line item where this could be chargefd. The Trustees questioned why there was an Ancel Glink bill for $250. The Supervisor said the Assessor consulted with them. A Trustee asked if the Assessor had consulted with the Township Attorney before doing so. The Supervisor said the Assessor had first consulted with the Township Attorney, and that there was a conflict. The Clerk requested to speak and told the Board that she had talked to the Township Attorney and he told her he was not consulted by the Assessor, and therefore there was no conflict. The Trustees said they would not approve this bill, as previously directed by the Attorney regarding such bills. A motion was made by Trustee Bulmahn and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to approve the salaries and bills, after removing the Ancel Glink bill. **The total amount approved, after adjustment, is $33,420.51**. The total reflects Salaries in the amount of $21,218.53, Bills in the amount of $8,464.72, Auto-pays in the amount of $1,596.61, Quickbook charges in the amount of $125.65, and General Assistance in the amount of $2,015.00. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Bulmahn, Schuldt, Payson, Carlsen and Supervisor Sanders – ALL YES. Motion Carried. **The April Salaries and Bills for the Road District were reviewed and discussed.** They were presented in the total amount of $37,931.10. Trustee Carlsen asked why there is income on an expense report. The Supervisor said she doesn't have a choice, that the program automatically puts the items on the report. Trustee Schuldt said he wished that the Assessor hadn't left the meeting. He expressed concern that she said he was lying when he talked about her office being closed. The Trustee brought with him multiple newspaper articles where the Assessor and Supervisor

were quoted as saying that the Assessor's office was closed because the Trustees wouldn't pay her employees salaries, and they hoped this wouldn't be too much of an inconvenience. Trustee Schuldt went to the office, during this period, and the Assessor said he could come in but that her office was closed. The Supervisor said the Assessor's employees were not working but that the office was open to any resident who needed them. Trustee Schuldt read some of the articles where the Supervisor was quoted as saying the office was closed. The Supervisor said she never talked to anyone from the newspapers. Trustee Carlsen said she had been called by the Clerk of the Village of Gilberts. The Gilberts Clerk said a resident was trying to reach the Assessor's office but that no one was working or answering the phone, and she couldn't leave a message. Trustee Schuldt further stated that the newspapers then reported that the office had now reopened, once the new budget year started. Trustee Schuldt again said he truly resents being called a liar when the residents and the newspapers tell a different story. Clerk Iverson then spoke up and said how horrible it is to listen when the Assessor is calling people names, swearing, yelling, being rude and demeaning to the Trustees in meeting after meeting. The Supervisor said the Assessor is almost as bad as the Clerk. A resident then spoke and said she feels badly that there is so much dissension, but that it seemed to her that this is mostly cause by the Assessor. The Supervisor said it's not just Jan, she said Trustee Schuldt talks about having audits and checking on things to make sure everything is done properly. The Trustee said that he made those remarks because auditors have given the Supervisor a list of seven significant deficencies that she has refused to correct. The Supervisor said she follows the law. Two of the Trustees took issue with what she was implying when she said the law stated that she shouldn't have two signatures on checks. Another resident said the Supevisor never owns even one mistake. The resident further said she attends many meetings and the Supervisor always has a reason to deflect it somewhere else. The Trustees stated that they are here to oversee and be responsible for the way the money is being spent. Trustee Schuldt asked why we would hire auditors if we are not going to follow their strongly worded suggestions regarding weaknesses we have in internal controls. The Supervisor said she is following state law which says that the Supervisor is to be the only signer on checks. Trustees Schuldt and Bulmahn clarified it by saying that the law does not say that. It is clear that she can opt to be the only signer. Trustee Bulmahn said she is dismissing the importance of internal controls and no wonder people are suspicious, when she insists that she be the only signer. Trustee Bulmahn said the Board has suggested that she hire a bookkeeper because there are and have been many errors. He said it would express good faith on her part to the Board of Trustees.
Trustee Payson made a motion with a second by Trustee Bulmahn to Authorize Road District bills for payment in the total amount of $37,931.10. The total reflects Salaries in the amount of $18,272.90, Bills in the amount of $13,834.94, Auto-pays in the amount of $178.56, Quickbook charges in the amount of $19.70, TOIRMA Dividend in the amount of $2.625.00, and Employee Health in the amount of $3,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Payson, Bulmahn, Schuldt – YES. Trustee Carlsen and Supervisor Sanders – NO. Motion Carried.

Reports by Officials – The Clerk said she believes there was no need to pay more money for a different version of Quickbooks. Trustee Schuldt asked about some type of inter-governmental agreement with Elgin Township since the Elgin Assessor was being paid by us to perform appraisals and help with the Board of Review. The Budget shows $12,000 for this service, and the Trustee is questioning whether or not it is right to do this, this way.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,