

**RUTLAND TOWNSHIP
OCTOBER 10, 2006
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

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The Rutland Township Board held its regular monthly meeting in the town hall. Supervisor Bulmahn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and then asked Trustee Schuldt to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call showed the following members present: Supervisor Bulmahn, Clerk Carlsen, Trustees Tessendorf, Stelford, Brown and Schuldt. Also present were Assessor Siers and Road Commissioner Schultz. The Supervisor noted that there was a full agenda for tonight's meeting so he would try to keep things moving along. **A motion was then made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Tessendorf to modify tonight's agenda by inserting the Northern Illinois Food Bank contribution and the seal coating bids for the parking lot to the agenda following the bills.** Vote: Voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-01 Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the September 12th board meeting so, **a motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Tessendorf to approve the minutes as presented of the Regular Board Meeting of September 12, 2006.** Vote: voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-02 Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial reports for the five months ending August 31, 2006 were distributed last month so the board has already reviewed them and there being no questions, **a motion was made by Trustee Tessendorf and seconded by Trustee Brown to approve the financial reports for the five months ending August 31, 2006.** Vote: voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-03 Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Bulmahn then led a lengthy discussion on the financial statements for the town for the first six months of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. He noted that these statements are especially important with regard to the upcoming tax levy and next fiscal budget determinations. The levy discussion will be on next month's agenda and is to be determined by the end of December. The Balance Sheet was the first to be discussed and it was noted that all the bank accounts have been closed out at Mid West Bank but one. There are a couple of checks that

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have yet to clear so that account will remain open a while longer. The last Mid West Bank item is a certificate of deposit and is not maturing till October of 2007 so that

will remain there till then. Our total liabilities are modest so we are pretty much current with our bills. 90% of our income is in while only half of our expenses are in for the year. The Profit & Loss statements with the previous years comparison and the budget comparisons were the last to be discussed. We've budgeted, on purpose, a loss of \$21,300 in order to spend down our reserves.

The Road District financial reports for the first six months of the fiscal year were then discussed. \$68,497 remains in IDOT grant money, which will be utilized for upcoming road repairs. All the road district bills are current with no long-term debt. While personnel costs are running ahead of last year they are still below this years budget. We've budgeted a bottom line loss of \$78,850 for the year in order to utilize the existing reserves. It was noted that the Treasurer's report has been published and final audit report is in and is clean.

BILLS AND SALARIES

Town bills for the month of September 2006 were next discussed. Salaries totaled \$12,351.04, prepaid bills of \$109.70, unpaid bills of \$3,450.64 with claims totaling \$15,911.38. There were no questions or comments on the bills so **a motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Stelford to approve the bills for September 2006 in the amount of \$15,911.38.** Vote: Roll call vote.

2006-10-04 Tessendorf yes
 Stelford yes
 Brown yes
 Schuldt yes
 Bulmahn yes Motion carried unanimously

The Supervisor then went over the bills for the Road District for the month of September 2006. Salaries for the month were \$7,534.75, prepaid bills of \$472.76, unpaid bills were \$6,764.67, the total invoice amount was \$7,237.43 with claims totaling \$14,772.18. There being no questions, **a motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Tessendorf to approve the bills for the Road District in the amount of \$14,772.18 for September 2006.**

Vote: Roll call vote.

2006-10-05Brown yes
 Schuldt yes
 Bulmahn yes

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Tessendorf yes
Stelford yes Motion carried unanimously

Supervisor Bulmahn then requested the Board's authorization to purchase 20 holiday food baskets for \$200.00 from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. He noted that this is an annual event usually supported by the Township. **A motion was made**

by Trustee Tessendorf and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to authorize the purchase of 20 food baskets for the Northern Illinois Food Bank in the amount of \$200.00.

Vote: Voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-06 Motion carried.

Two proposals have been submitted for sealcoating the township parking lot. One is from Midwest Services for \$3,675.00 and the second is from Fowler Construction for \$2,950.00. Midwest will crack fill as well as seal coat while the Fowler proposal does not. Midwest says they will also match any price. Road Commissioner Schultz will talk to Fowler regarding the depth of the crack filling.

BUENA VISTA CEMETERY

Discussion on the proposals for the two plaques at the cemetery followed with the Supervisor going over the different sizes and costs. The Building and Grounds account has sufficient money in it to cover the costs of the plaques and it was noted that at the Annual Meeting the residents voted to have the Township pay for the plaques. Supervisor Bulmahn will also consult with the Historical Society regarding the date the cemetery was established.

INSURANCE BENEFITS-ROAD DISTRICT

Road Commissioner Schultz addressed the issue of obtaining medical insurance for his full time employee. He noted that he would not be able to keep this employee without getting him coverage. The Equipment Fund income could be utilized for the payment of the premiums and he is requesting that this expense be included in next years budget. After further discussion **a motion was made by Trustee Tessendorf and seconded by Trustee Schuldt that the Board will address funding for an employee health plan for the Road District in next years budget.** Vote: Voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-07 Motion carried.

CONSOLIDATION OF ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

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Supervisor Bulmahn then addressed the Board regarding the elimination or consolidation of the road and bridge fund. Continuing to keep the two funds causes a lot of extra bookkeeping. By eliminating these two funds and retaining the permanent road fund the auditors feel it wouldn't be a problem except that we need to make sure it doesn't affect the Levy. The Supervisor doesn't feel that it does. Trustee Tessendorf stated that if the Township doesn't lose any revenue he doesn't have a problem with doing this. The Supervisor will check to see if the replacement tax income could instead be paid by the state to the permanent road fund. Any decisions on this can be done next month when the Levy and Budget are discussed. The Board will also need to consider whether or not to stay within the cap or do a truth

in taxation hearing. The Levy needs to be finalized in December. We will need to post a fourteen day notice prior if we want to have a Truth in Taxation Hearing before the Levy Hearing. Trustee Brown questioned whether or not we would want to continue spending down our reserves next year? The Supervisor said that it was a possibility, as we didn't use as much of the reserves as we'd planned this year. The Road Commissioner stated that equipment, salaries, and paving are the biggest issues for the Road District budget while staffing is the biggest issue for the Assessor.

REPORTS BY OFFICIALS

Road Commissioner Schultz complimented Supervisor Bulmahn on his professionalism when running the Township meetings. He then submitted his man-hours report to the Board and also noted his pending intergovernmental agreement with Pingree Grove for Thurnow Rd. Thurnow Rd. has recently been annexed by Pingree Grove and our Road District will be doing the plowing, mowing and grading of the road at a soon to be determined cost to Pingree Grove. Square Barn Rd. is now closed for much needed repairs and a turn lane. Curran has started our road repairs, as they were the low bidders, and we will be utilizing our IDOT money for the cost.

Assessor Siers noted that the amount of construction is overwhelming her office. She's having consistent problems getting information from Pingree Grove with regard to building and occupancy permits.

Clerk Carlsen reminded everyone that Early Voting at the Township offices will be from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Oct. 24th and from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Oct. 25th. She also noted that all absentee balloting is being handled totally by the county.

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Trustee Schuldt also echoed the compliments by the Road Commissioner for the Supervisor and thanked him for all his efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Sheriffs Deputy warned everyone about recent home repair scams now occurring throughout the county.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business **a motion was made by Trustee Tessendorf and seconded by Trustee Schuldt to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.** Vote: Voice vote, all ayes.

2006-10-08 Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charleen Carlsen, Rutland Township Clerk

Fred Bulmahn, Supervisor

Ron Tessendorf, Trustee

Steve Schuldt, Trustee

Robin Brown, Trustee

Roscoe Stelford, Trustee