



## ANTIOCH TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

December 14, 2022

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Supervisor Shaughnessy.
- II. **The Pledge of Allegiance:** Supervisor Shaughnessy led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Shepard, Turner, Davis, and Smouse. Also present were Supervisor Shaughnessy, Assessor Perry, Clerk Dyer Dawe, and Attorney James Hartman.
- IV. **Citizen Comments:** None.
- V. **Minutes:**
  1. The minutes of the November 9, 2022 Antioch Township Board Meeting were presented. Motion to approve the amended minutes as presented was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Smouse, Davis, Shaughnessy, Shepard, Turner, No: 0.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report:**
  1. Township bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$74,133.10, including \$4,628.20 in General Assistance. Motion for payment as presented was made by Trustee Davis, seconded by Trustee Turner. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Shepard, Smouse, Shaughnessy, Turner, Davis, No: 0. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared it's a busy time for general assistance and LIHEAP, and Merry Ladewig is doing a great job. A nice note was received from a resident that she provides support to. The Smouse Hall rental is free, but through asking for donations Merry Ladewig has received \$445 in gift cards that are being used to provide assistance rather than giving cash.
  2. Road District bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$940,756.87. Motion for payment as presented was made by Trustee Smouse, seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 –Turner, Shaughnessy, Davis, Shepard, Smouse, No: 0.
- VII. **Township Officials Report:**
  1. **Supervisor:**
    1. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared Christmas gift boxes will be put together Friday, December 16, 2022 from 4 P.M. to 5:15 P.M. and they will be distributed on Saturday December 17, 2022 from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
    2. Supervisor Shaughnessy reported 4 other Supervisors are using Greg Kuhn from Northern Illinois University for strategic planning. He is going to put together a proposal for the Township. This can assist with the Decennial Local Government Efficiency Act that requires 3 meetings and a plan by June 2023. The Village strategic plan has been provided for reference. The Village and Township need to be on the same page moving forward together without conflicting events. For Strategic Quarterly Township meetings or extra meetings outside monthly board meetings, Supervisor Shaughnessy is

requesting Trustee commitment and for Trustees to be paid for Special Board Meetings or strategic meetings. Supervisor Shaughnessy believes the Township should have a 3, 5, and 10 year strategic plan. The cost is \$10,000-\$15,000. Trustee Turner questioned if more bids were needed and Attorney Hartman clarified no since it is for professional services. A motion was made by Trustee Shepard for the board to be paid for strategic or other meetings when a quorum is present and at the same rate as monthly board meetings, seconded by Trustee Turner. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Smouse, Turner, Shepard, Shaughnessy, Davis, No: 0.

3. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared the certified referendum results were 3,776 votes for and 6,726 votes against. To put another referendum question on the April ballot, everything needs to be submitted by the end of December 2022 and wouldn't leave time for planning. Official support is needed from the Village and Township Trustees. Trustee Turner shared Trustees were told not to publicly speak for or against the referendum. Supervisor Shaughnessy clarified only for the Open Meetings Act.
4. Supervisor Shaughnessy reported Trustee Smouse requested totals spent on the new building effort to date. Line item 101-525 Building Project had \$100,000 put aside and a total of \$84,209 was spent, \$15,791 under budget. \$29,175 was spent on Strategia Consulting who did a presentation in August 2021, \$43,700 on Kluber Architects brought in June 2020, \$8,885 on Green and Associates who completed the St. Peter's feasibility study in June 2020 and looked at 3 other buildings, and \$2,449 on Pioneer Engineering for a Phase 1 study at the Bitner property in June 2020.

**2. Clerk:**

1. A referendum question on the March 19, 2024 ballot needs to be filed with the County Clerk by December 18, 2023. A question on the November 5, 2024 ballot has to be filed with the County Clerk by August 5, 2024. Per State Statute the question can include the language Senior Center or Township Hall. The question can't state community Center.

3. **Assessor:** Oakridge Village Apartments is low-income housing purchased in June 2020, then transferred to another company, then purchased by a 5013C company who applied for a non-homestead exemption. That would result in a \$200,000 a year tax break that would get spread to the other 18,000 parcels in Antioch. The request went through the Lake County Board of Review. The Antioch Assessor's office was notified 9 days before the hearing and 600 pages of evidence were submitted. It is believed this is a shell 5013C. Illinois Department of Revenue makes the final decision and they approved the request. The Village Attorney is filing an appeal. This could set a bad precedent and have long term impacts outside the \$200,000 impact. Trustee Shepard noted how hard Assessor Perry is working to prevent the burden from being distributed to the other 18,000 parcels in Antioch. Assessor Perry shared complaints are received for \$1,100 being spent on Christmas cards, but the Assessor's office makes back approximately \$7,500 doing it from identifying people not living at their homes that are receiving exemptions they shouldn't.

4. **Highway Commissioner:** The large invoice is for the Payne and Dolan asphalt work.

**5. Trustee Reports:**

**1. Senior Services, Trustee Davis:**

- a. November 11, 2022 20 attended cards for soldiers. 37 attended Badda Boom Badda Bingo on November 17, 2022. 24 attended Uncle Buck at Antioch Theater on November 21, 2022, with 7 attending lunch at Oliverri North after. 16 attended Mr. Smith Goes to Washington at Antioch Theater on December 5, 2022, with 12 attending lunch at Oliverri North after. 61 attended Badda Boom Badda Bingo on December 8, 2022 and National Alliance on Mental Illness of Lake County (NAMI)

attended and spoke their mission. They provided lunch for those that stayed after bingo. December 14, 2022 2 busses attended White Christmas at Fireside Theatre. December 16, 2022 is the Jolly Luncheon at the Antioch VFW at 11:00 A.M.

- b. Supervisor Shaughnessy introduced Renee Mehring, the new Director of Senior Services, who is responsible for all planning after December 2022. Renee Mehring noted she is looking for feedback from seniors and is looking into My Senior Center Card Registration ideas. Feedback is desired from Seniors, but not as a council. The previous council was for spending Dolly Spiering funding, which is now gone. Carol Pribianka recommended an additional Tai Chi session and that will be looked into.

**2. Finance, Trustee Turner:**

- a. The National Fitness Campaign (NFC) \$50,000 grant was approved. Trustee Turner was surprised to see an approved grant based on the November 2022 board meeting decision to wait until 2023 to solicit sponsors to reduce taxpayer fund use. Supervisor Shaughnessy noted a resolution is needed by December 20, 2022 to receive one of three grants for 2022. 4 sponsors are on board – the Township, the Village, Vikings Football and Cheer, and the Lions Club. The Township doesn't have to pay until the end of Quarter 1, 2023 and can back out if sponsors aren't received. Trustee Shepard made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Shaughnessy to put resolution 1214-22-01 on the table. Trustee Smouse questioned if sponsors were received if the Township would pay a lower amount. Supervisor Shaughnessy confirmed yes if 7 sponsors are received it would be \$19,000 apiece and less with more sponsors. Trustee Smouse questioned security. Supervisor Shaughnessy clarified the weights are permanently in the ground. Trustee Turner questioned if 7 sponsors were on board. Supervisor Shaughnessy clarified 4 are committed, 3 are on the wish list, and an additional 3 will be reached out to. Trustee Turner questioned if the sponsors know the dollar amount they will pay and why the end of quarter 1 decision deadline isn't in the resolution. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared the amount will depend on how many commit and the funding application has the end of Quarter 1 deadline in it. Trustee Turner requested the resolution language be changed as he doesn't agree with moving forward and spending tax payer funds if sponsors aren't received. Trustee Smouse agreed with Trustee Turner. Trustee Turner made a motion to amend the text in the Resolution to "Whereas, Antioch Township after receiving the financial commitments from community sponsors and partners, by March 15, 2023, will commit to moving forward with the project and launch of the outdoor Fitness Court by the end of the 2023 calendar year, and;", seconded by Trustee Shepard. Motion carried with a voice vote, all in favor. Yes: 5, No: 0. A motion to accept the amended resolution 1214-22-01 was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Shepard, Smouse, Davis, Shaughnessy, Turner, No: 0.
- b. Supervisor Shaughnessy would like to bring in Speer Financial or Chapman Cutler to explain all funding sources such as money borrowing options, back door referendums, general obligation bonds, double barrel bonds, etc...

**3. Parks, Trustee Shepard:**

- a. The inclusive park at Northbridge Church is still looking for funding. It is Newport Township and has been annexed into Antioch. An easement is being drawn up to make the park accessible to the public.

- b. All the equipment for the new ice rink has been delivered and the Village committed to paying \$4,500. Fifty percent of the \$9,000 total.
- c. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared a proposal was accepted from Hey and Associates for \$3,000 to complete a tree inventory at Thelen park of any tree greater than or equal to 12 inch to determine which can be taken down and which will need to be replaced with two trees if removed.
- d. A proposal not to exceed \$74,800 was received from CCS for Thelen Park project management to ensure timelines, budget, and scope are met. Trustee Shepard believes the Township will save more money than what CCS is charging as the Township doesn't have the staff or expertise to manage the project. CCS will assess items and provide project reports. Trustee Turner believes the Township will get their money back, but questioned if it should go out for bid.
- e. Trustee Shepard discussed a Thelen Park soil boring proposal. Trustee Shepard made a motion to accept the Applied GeoScience soil boring proposal for \$8,170, seconded by Trustee Turner. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Smouse, Shepard, Turner, Shaughnessy, Davis, No: 0.

**4. Public Safety and Transportation, Trustee Smouse:**

- a. Lake County determined the long eared bat is in the community and could impact the Highway Department tree cutting. Supervisor Shaughnessy confirmed Pamela Self was notified prior to the Thelen Park tree inventory.
- b. A transit app is now available for the Lake County Dial-a-Ride bus that provides mapping and timing.

**VIII. New Business:**

- 1. A motion was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Davis to approve the 2022 Township Levy as presented in the amount of \$1,163,196.00. Trustee Smouse questioned the size of the increase. Supervisor Shaughnessy confirmed 4.9% is being requested, but the County determines the final amount. Cost of living increases aren't received if an increase isn't requested. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Shepard, Turner, Smouse, Davis, Shaughnessy, No: 0.
- 2. A motion was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse to approve the 2022 Highway Department Levy as presented in the amount of \$2,659,982. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 – Davis, Turner, Shaughnessy, Shepard, Smouse, No: 0.

**IX. Executive Session:**

- 1. Motion to suspend the open meeting to go into executive session to discuss personnel and real estate under the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 5 –Shaughnessy, Davis, Smouse, Shepard, Turner, No: 0. The board moved into executive session at 9:00 P.M..
- 2. Motion to move back into open session at 9:40 P.M. was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a voice vote, all in favor. Yes: 5, No: 0.

- X. Adjournment:** There was no further business to come before the board. Trustee Shepard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion carried with a voice vote, all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:41 P.M. Yes: 5, No: 0.

**Meeting place:** Antioch Township Hall, 1625 Deep Lake Rd., Lake Villa, IL 60046

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Dyer Dawe