



ANTIOCH TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

March 13, 2024

- 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: Turner, Shepard, and Smouse. Also present were Supervisor Shaughnessy, Clerk Dyer Dawe, and Attorney James Hartman. Trustee Goeckner was absent.
- IV. **Citizen Comments:** None.
- V. **Minutes:**
 1. The minutes of the February 14, 2024 Antioch Township Board Meeting were presented. Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Turner, Smouse, Shepard, Shaughnessy, No: 0, Absent: 1 – Goeckner.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report:**
 1. Township bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$128,579.07. Motion for payment as presented was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Shepard, Shaughnessy, Smouse, Turner, No: 0, Absent: 1 - Goeckner
 2. Road District bills were presented for payment in the amount of \$44,154.80. Motion for payment as presented was made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Trustee Shepard. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 3 – Turner, Shaughnessy, Shepard, No: 0, Abstain: 1 – Smouse, Absent: 1 – Goeckner.
- VII. **Township Officials Report:**
 1. **Supervisor:**
 1. The Revize contract for the website redesign has been signed. Full payment was chosen versus installments to save \$4,500. The start date is to be determined.
 2. Draft budgets are available for review.
 3. Strategia Communications, wo was used for the referendum, provided a proposal for public relations for the new building. Messaging needs to go out before it hits social media. The fee is \$290 per hour and assistance would likely be needed for six months. Strategia suggests a monthly fee of \$6,500 for the first two months, and then a monthly subsequent fee of \$5,800 regardless of hours. Courtney Kotloski is meeting with Jim Moran from the Village to ensure consistent messaging.
 2. **Clerk:**
 1. Budget Hearings will be held on April 10, 2024 at the Township. The Township's will be at 6:30 P.M. and the Road District's will be at 6:45 P.M..

2. The Annual Meeting is April 9, 2024 at 6:30 P.M..
3. Voting hours for the March 19, 2024 election are 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M..
3. **Assessor:** None.
4. **Highway Commissioner:** None.
5. **Trustee Reports:**
 1. **Senior Services, Trustee Goeckner:**
 - a. Judith Davis shared 12 attended a Strang Funeral Home tour on February 14, 2024. 20 attended Badda Boom Badda Bingo on February 15, 2024. 68 attended Jersey Boys at Fireside February 22, 2024. 25 attended Mrs. Doubtfire at Antioch Theatre on February 26, 2024. 50 attended Life and Legacy of Robin Williams on February 27, 2024. 29 attended Sister Act at Lakes High School on February 28, 2024. 38 attended Milwaukee Fish Fry on March 8, 2024. 12 attended American President at Antioch Theatre on March 11, 2024 and 6 attended lunch at Oliverri North after.
 2. **Finance, Trustee Turner:** An application for a native tree grant for up to \$10,000 for Vern Thelen park was submitted by the grant writer on March 11, 2024.
 3. **Parks, Trustee Shepard:**
 - a. Work is progressing at Vern Thelen Park. The trees have been cleared, the silt fences are up, and retention ponds will be done soon to get native planting in. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared the Township will be working with Eagle Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Marines for a presentation area.
 - b. The windmill aerator at Osmond Park is delayed due to high water. A Shamrock Shuffle race will be there on March 16, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. with food and activities.
 4. **Public Safety and Transportation, Trustee Smouse:**
 - a. Transportation is going smoothly with buses and routes. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared the Township has reached out to Sunshine Transport to try and assist getting a resident to a meeting at St Peter's after hours.
 - b. Trustee Smouse shared terrorism is at an all time high, crime is up in major cities, and increasing in smaller towns, aside from rural towns. There is little the board can do aside from support the Township to try keeping crime away, and promote neighborhood watches. Security cameras are being jammed during thefts. The February 22, 2024 cell phone outages brought out the worst in people, and proved this will likely happen again and how vulnerable our systems are. Trustee Smouse would like to create a checklist for the Township website to advise residents on how to prepare for this scenario. He noted a second amendment resolution he brought to the board two months ago. Trustee Smouse shared it is only symbolic, but there is an unprecedented attack on the second amendment by federal, state, and local officials bowing to the screaming section of the population. The Sherrif refuses to designate Lake County as a second amendment county like ninety percent of the counties in Illinois. There are also unprecedented attacks on the first amendment and free speech in Western Countries. The screamers are attempting that here and making headway. Free speech cannot exist where speech is censored in any way. Trustee Smouse also noted the first amendment and others don't exist without the second amendment, which is why he raised the second amendment resolution on behalf of some residents. He shared he is not promoting violence as a solution. Residents have unalienable rights as defined by the Constitution and Bill of Rights

and no government has the right to infringe on those rights. People have the right to protect themselves. Trustee Smouse shared he believes the board needs to stand in favor of the second amendment resolution, even if it's just symbolic. Denying the ability to bring it to a vote is not justified. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared he will confirm with the Village if they have a checklist. He noted making political statements and personal opinions on them is not what the board does, and the board also does not have the authority to enforce this. This is not for the board to speak on without knowing how residents stand. Trustee Shepard noted he believes in the second amendment, but the board is unable to speak for all residents regarding their second amendment views. Trustee Turner shared he thinks this is ahead of the curve.

VIII. New Business:

1. Motion to approve the 2024 Annual Meeting agenda as presented was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Shepard, Smouse, Turner, Shaughnessy, No: 0, Absent: 1 – Goeckner.
2. Supervisor Shaughnessy shared there will be a special meeting on April 10, 2024 with Northern Illinois University regarding the long term and short term strategic plan goals.

IX. Executive Session:

1. Motion to suspend the open meeting to go into executive session to discuss real estate was made by Trustee Turner, seconded by Trustee Shepard. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Turner, Shaughnessy, Shepard, Smouse, No: 0, Absent: 1 - Goeckner. The board moved into executive session at 7:50 P.M..
2. Motion to move back into open session at 8:16 P.M. was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Turner. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Turner, Shaughnessy, Shepard, Smouse, No: 0, Absent: 1 – Goeckner.

X. Action on Items Discussed in Executive Session:

1. Motion to approve the February 14, 2024 executive session minutes as presented was made by Trustee Shepard, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Yes: 4 – Smouse, Shepard, Shaughnessy, Turner, No: 0, Abstain: 1 – Goeckner.

- XI. Adjournment:** There was no further business to come before the board. Trustee Shepard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Smouse. Motion carried with a voice vote, all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M. Yes: 5, No: 0, Absent: 1 - Goeckner.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Dyer Dawe