

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
Lake County,) } SS.
Town of Shields)

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP met at the Shields Township Office on February 22, 2010 at 5:15 p.m. for the Public Hearing on the Township Budgets for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 that begins March 1, 2010.

PRESENT: <u>Gale Strenger Wayne</u>	Supervisor
<u>David Barkhausen</u>	Town Clerk
<u>Lynn Baehr</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Cele Bull</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Laura Carney</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Mary Woodson</u>	Town Trustee

Highway Commissioner Bill Goodman and Assessor Theresia Yakes were also present.

I. Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Strenger Wayne called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. All were present when a roll call was taken other than Trustee Baehr.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Strenger Wayne opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Baehr arrived after the pledge.

III. Public Comments on the Town Fund and Road Fund Budgets

Janice Schnobrich of Lake Bluff complimented the Board for ending grants to private charities and fulfilling their campaign promise to do so. She encouraged the Board to continue with the new practice of using a portion of the monthly meetings to highlight the work of these organizations in order to promote greater private financial and volunteer support for them and avoid their dependence on the involuntary contributions of taxpayer dollars. She then suggested that, in the future, the Board take a closer look at the ratio between the salaries and benefits in the supervisor's office of more than \$250,000 in relation to benefits paid this past year for the one mandated supervisor's office activity of General Assistance (about \$9,000) or General Assistance and the non-mandated program of Emergency Assistance together (totaling less than \$30,000). She asked the Board to raise hard questions as to whether the mandated or other activities of a supervisor's office require salaries and benefits of \$250,000.

County Board member Audrey Nixon of North Chicago urged the Board to provide more generous support for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). She cited the need for constructive activities for young people during the summer and said that participants in the SYEP often use their earnings to help their families, buy food, clothes, and school supplies. She mentioned that Lake County had employed 600 youngsters last summer using Federal stimulus funds but was uncertain that this assistance would continue to be provided. She concluded by asking for support for the participation of eleven children in an SYEP this year.

IV. Discussion and Action on the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budgets

(It should be noted that detailed deliberations of the Board regarding the Township budgets are contained in minutes of the Board's budget workshop discussion held on January 20, 2010).

a. Town Fund

Supervisor Strenger Wayne introduced the subject of the Town Fund budget, which also includes the General Assistance Fund and the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

After Clerk Barkhausen read the ordinance specifying the amount of the General Town Fund budget in the amount of \$1,137,732, Trustee Bull moved and Trustee Baehr seconded its approval, which motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote. Trustee Baehr asked whether there would be a further discussion of the possibility of lowering the property tax levy in light of the reductions in the budget. Supervisor Strenger Wayne responded that the budget already exceeds the levy, and Office Manager Arona Landsman made the same point and added that the actual levy as computed by the County Clerk's property tax extension division would not be known until April.

b. General Assistance Fund

The budget for the General Assistance Fund was covered and approved as part of the discussion and action on the General Town Fund budget.

c. Road and Bridge Fund

After Clerk Barkhausen read the ordinance specifying the amount of the Road Fund budget in the amount of \$267,885 and without further discussion, Trustee Carney moved and Trustee Woodson seconded its approval, which motion passed unanimously, 5-0, on a roll call vote.

Before the conclusion of the meeting, Supervisor Strenger Wayne mentioned that the Annual Town meeting is scheduled by law for the second Tuesday in April, which is April 13th this year. She added that, if members of the public have items that they want to have included in the Annual Meeting agenda, they need to notify the Township before March 1st.

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn by Trustee Bull, seconded by Supervisor Strenger Wayne, was approved 5-0 on a voice vote at 5:38 p.m..

Attest

David N. Barkhausen, Town Clerk