



Shields Township

906 W. Muir Avenue, Lake Bluff, IL 60044

Special Meeting of the Roads Commission Committee Tuesday June 24 at 6:00p.m.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
LAKE COUNTY) ss.
TOWN OF SHIELDS)

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP held its Special Meeting of the Roads Commission Committee on Tuesday, June 24th, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT:

Kamila Urso	Supervisor
Jeff Urso	Previous Supervisor
Vanessa Grum	Clerk
Mikie Dunn	Committee Member
Dan Dunn	Committee Member
Christopher Prager	Town Trustee & Committee Member
Dan Rogers	Roads Representative

ABSENT:

Lisette Rothing Deputy Clerk

- I. **Call to Order** - The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.
- II. **Roll Call** - Clerk Grum took roll call at 6:05 pm. All were present except Deputy Clerk Rothing.
- III. **Public Comment** – Three (3) minutes per speaker:
 - A. Greg Brown: Greg stated that he lives by Lake Genevieve off of Bayshore. This is property that was deeded over to the Township. It is an Open Lands area. He says that there is a large tree down. Dan Roger responds stating that he and Rob will go over there to see if they can handle it and thanks Mr. Brown for bringing this to their attention.
- IV. **Overview of Shields Township Road District** - at 6:07 pm, Previous Supervisor Jeff Urso explains what roads in unincorporated areas need to be addressed. It is 8.5 miles of road to maintain including plowing, salting, and replacement. Forestview was replaced last year, and Birch and Adelpia were done the year before. At the next meeting, we will discuss what roads in which order should be addressed first.
 - A. Roads Representative Dan Rogers mentions that Foster from Birch east, north from Waukegan Road east to the dead end into Birch should be addressed. He stated that we held off on this for financial reasons, but that will now be done this year. He also reviewed that the Foster Ave. ditch isn't working well because there is vegetation which cleans the water, but the ditches in Knollwood are there to carry and move water, so the vegetation will cause back up.
 - B. Previous Supervisor Jeff Urso states that Lake Bluff is on our side of 41 (triangle). He suggests that W North Ave should be looked at and Talbot should be considered.

- C. Trustee Prager states that Foster seems to have gotten better but time will tell - it's only year old.

V. Introduction to the New Members of the Committee -

- A. **New Members include:** Dan Dunn, Mikie Dunn, and Christopher Prager. All have experience in road maintenance through current jobs, so they will contribute valuable insight.

VI. New Business -

- A. **Road Maintenance Updates:** We have been contracting Lake County DOT to bid the project for new roads. Drainage, culverts, ditches done. Can we find out how much it costs Libertyville Township west of Bayonne to redo ditches to see some comparison costs? Next move - Previous Supervisor Urso's suggestion - lets have the comprehensive list from the road representative of street repair. Everyone should drive the streets to see what they think. Dan should update ditching (NE corner of Birch and Green); take out two culvert pipes and re-ditch and re-grade the area, SW quadrant of Knollwood has flooding because of the backyards of the homes. Each homeowner needed to pitch in money and the residents did not want to pay, so that was the end of it. The township's responsibility is 33 feet either way from the center of the road, that's it, so not the backyard.

1. Dan will provide a list of roads in Knollwood and when they were last paved to help us decide on what is next.
2. Dan Dunn asks if we have a list of the worst drainage areas in Shields Township?
3. Mikie Dunn suggests that there is another option that is way cheaper called HDPE pipes - can we use that? Rogers and Mike will be looking at this together.
4. We need to pass a township ordinance about filling your ditch - is there one yet? This affects everyone's drainage so it should be discussed at township meetings - and discussion about how to enforce it.
5. Suggestion to Supervisor Urso - Put a notification on our website stating that "if you are redoing your driveway, please contact the township because we will provide you a pipe for your culvert." This will help make residents aware.

- B. **Road Fund Budget Review:** Every other year, we have anywhere from \$130-140 thousand dollars. Lisette will email the road budget information specifically. Money is allocated as its own line item on the budget from the taxes. Because we are below 15 miles of road, we are one entity as Shields Township, not separated out by roads, etc.

1. If you reduce the levy on the roads, we will never have enough money to redo roads because the cost of repairing roads is always above and increases higher and more quickly than what we get from levy money. Prager asks What kind of money would we bring in - Urso we get Motor Fuel Tax money that comes in from the gas tax, save up for 2 years and usually it costs. Kamila is looking for grants to help.
2. We should talk to the board about possibly allocating money in the next 4 years to plan for saving money to replace the last truck.

- C. **Setting date for the next Roads Committee meeting in August - Wednesday August 13th at 6 pm.** works for everyone. Dan Rogers is always accessible to take a look at anything with a committee person if they are interested.

VII. Old Business -

- A. Off of greenery by bayshore is clogged with a big beehive and creating flooding - IDOT does not want to do anything.
- B. Pump station going in, will hopefully take care of flooding on foster.

- C. Trustee Prager - asks about if he as a committee member could come help with big storm clean up and chopping up trees. Supervisor says she will ask our attorney when he is here at the next meeting. We have Martin landscaping that we can call to come help as well in emergency situations.
- D. **Speed humps** - Committee Member Prager asks if there are specific standard specs for these. Previous Supervisor Urso says it is 10 feet by 3 inches. He explains that there was speculation that it was retaliation, but there is a specific way that carpenters determine where the speed humps are located. Committee Member Prager says maybe we should have a referendum; others say this is going to be very contentious. There is very little patrol from police officers because the County has to cover many miles and they really only enter responsively. Dan Dunn suggests that maybe we should poll the neighborhood of people who live where we are thinking about putting speed humps to see what residents say. Supervisor Urso will send a letter to all residents that it would affect to see their opinion.

VIII. General Road Issues and Future Recommendations -

- A. Crossing Guards are needed in various places to ensure safety. We need to discuss in more detail about where, when, and how many we need.
- B. The bike path needs to be built. It needs to be funded. They did a study in the 90's (Goal would be to get every kid in Knollwood safely to the north shore bike path)
 - 1. Phase 1- Jimmy Johns to Jenkinson. - this is very doable
 - 2. Phase 2 - under the tracks north to Atkinson Road
 - 3. Partnership with the village of lake bluff and School District 65 would help with these things. Supervisor Urso will reach out to some people in these places to connect and discuss a plan for moving forward.

- IX. **Adjournment** - The Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm. All were in favor.