

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting September 15, 2022

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

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP held its rescheduled regular monthly meeting in person on September 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Tammy Bryan	Clerk
Brady Andersen	Town Trustee
Kathryn Walker-Eich	Town Trustee
David Weil	Town Trustee
Jeff Urso	Supervisor

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** - Supervisor Urso called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.  
**Roll Call** – Also in attendance - Assessor Helton and Counselman Kimsey
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Deputy Supervisor Urso opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance
  - a. **Non final draft of agenda was posted to website, did not include 2 items to be considered approval of regular minutes resolution payment to certain bills made by audit** – the correct version of agenda was posted on door and earlier on website when clerical error was discovered. Shall not invalidate, the board intends to table 2 items, until its next regular meeting. Motion to approve Trustee Weil, second motion Trustee Walker-Eich approved, passed roll call vote 4-0
- III. **Public Comments** – Alderman Karl Evans of North Chicago. I am here today to discuss about this board, itself and along what is going on here. We have several people from North Chicago that would like to be on the board and get together to collaborate, and what about the videotaping for people to see how conducting the board. We wanted to know, as alderman, invite shields to the city council to have the meetings down there so their residents can arrive, would be nice to show that representation, many have been misled, different parts of north Chicago, there are 4 diff townships, some people can get things mixed up as to where they belong to, hopefully we can send out more literature to the city to let them know that this is their township to come to. Committee is going well, we all need to work together, invite October 30, Sunday, Halloween event at Foss part community center 4-7 parade at 2, meet at city hall, enjoy yourself and bring your family and friends.
- IV. **Reports**

**Supervisor** – Invited North Shore water district to come up and speak. Steve Waters Director of Engineering. Give a report on things that happened with sewers over the last year, Nick Wolfe, engineer from the district, update of what happened, what we did and what we are moving forward, maintain Knollwood area. End of November, investigated, cleared it and television and adding it to the jetty program found grease deposit, flow monitoring, installed one there, be able to tell when there is high flow on an app on our phone so we can respond quicker. We have a 10 year program, where we have to clean 100% of sewers that have to be cleaned. Have had other issues in reported area in 2015 and cleaned then, and found that area narrower building up, 5 years later it built up again, the pipe is a 10 or 12, range from 8-12 inch. The highlighted Birch area just south of Safford.

Supervisor Urso - Budget workshop proposed to meet with 6<sup>th</sup> or 13 of Oct to allow for the 30 days for the November hearing, trying to get a census to work together, appropriating the budget, salaries, official salaries, budget accordingly, Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> or 13th, this time or a little earlier. Trustee Andersen, Trustee Weil, open, 6<sup>th</sup> is agreed upon. Public hearing Nov 17th, have a meeting just prior to give them availability to inspect budget.

Minor repairs to the truck, and other repairs that we are attending. Road district building, garage door and doors to address fire code. If power goes out during a storm, the doors lock and cannot be open. We will get ahead and have an electrician come in and have the garage doors hooked up to a generator.

Address some of the flooding, the southeast, areas: Basil, Quassey, Smith, Blodgett, Bleck contract to have them come in, less than \$5,000 to create drawings to put out for bid, to improve the area.

**Assessor** – Assessor Helton – We closed our complaints Sunday. 368 complaints, little less than we thought, 318 res, 36 commercial, 12 industrial complaints, our hearing dates, we are ahead of others, begin 9/29/2022, great progress in the office. We have new staff, number of people come in with their taxes which are too high. The assessor’s job is to evaluate properties. New office member Karl Kitzerow, takes all the time to help each and every one of them. We are doing better with new staff, we really help the taxpayer, and North Chicago, many residents have come in, make sure they are getting their senior freeze, many did not have those. Residents did come in and we helped in each and every one of them. Very pleased with new staff - doing everything we can for the taxpayer. Warren is a contracted service with AccuBase, doing a good job. Switching to the AccuBase, you don’t just push a button for this system, it has been down a few times, which can slow us down, but we try and get them an answer within 48 hours and we have been getting them a response in 1 day. We have been very successful at that.

V. **Approval of Bills** – Current Month & Ratification of April Bills

VI. **Ratify last month’s bills, go through and motions:**

Town Fund Expenses, motion to approve Trustee Walker-Eich, second Trustee Andersen, passed 4-0 roll call vote

General Assistance Fund, motion to approve Trustee Weil, second Trustee Walker-Eich, passed roll call vote 4-0

Road and Bridge motion to approve Trustee Walker-Eich, second Trustee Andersen, passed roll call vote 4-0

- a. September Town Fund Expenses of \$65,381.45 – Trustee Andersen motioned to approve, second by Trustee Weil, passed by 4-0 on a roll call vote. Includes 56,000 payment to Accubase.
- b. September General Assistance Expenses of \$433.45 – Trustee Weil motioned to approve, second Trustee Walker-Eich, passed by 4-0 on a roll call vote.
- c. September Road & Bridge Expenses of \$4,107.03– Trustee Andersen motioned to approve, second by Trustee Weil. Passed by roll call vote 4-0.

**VII. New Business – Appointment of**

- a. **Approval of Shields Township Trustee** – Sec 60-5, vacant 49 days, the Board can fill by appointment within 60days. Appoint Matt Garrity – Supervisor Urso to motion, second Trustee Andersen, any discussion Trustee Weil stated would we have better representation, with skin color issues, nothing against Mr. Garrity, let me just voice that, it would have been good to have someone, Vickie Brown, a possible candidate. I would advocate for that, I don't know if she put her name forth. Supervisor Urso interviewed and encouraged all of them to reach out to you and a lot of them are already assisting us on committees. Everyone has a voice and also having an opportunity being on the committee. The reason why I have moved to appoint Matt, as he was a previously on board, he does his due diligence review bills, has a great financial background, good understanding of road and bridge issues we are dealing with and truck and plowing and pavement issues, Matt has 4 years' experience working with the Shields Township. He has the knowledge, he knows there is not enough money in roads and we need to make tough decisions and Matt having that knowledge and is why I nominated Matt. I encouraged Vickie to continue to work on the committee, she is big part of the committee, establishing a roads committee, and these committees can bring us advice to move forward with action. The committees are making true policy recommendations to the board. Any other discussion. Trustee Weil nay, passed roll call vote 3-0. Matt is a registered voter and has been a resident of the township for over 1 year.
- b. Appointment of Road and Bridge Committee Chair by Supervisor Urso motion to approve – Dan Rogers as the Road and Bridge Committee Chair, move to affirm Trustee Walker-Eich. Trustee Weil stated I don't know Dan Rogers. Dan Rogers stated he was the Highway Commissioner for 4 years, long standing relationship with Rob, bring issues to you, trucks and road and identify with Rob and you guys can make decision to move forward on. Others on the committee are Mike Carlson, who was of the road district for

over 20 years and Scott Volpe is retired tradesman and be able to assist in identifying and coming up with solutions and how you want to move forward. 2 meetings with the committees, to discuss, poll and advise no action, no monetary, just advice, with the committee, it would keep it transparent as possible and more people, especially in the unincorporated areas to have a say what roads and what can happen. The highway commissioner was eliminated last year, we need to maintain good drainage and good roads and get as much advice from the community as possible. Passed roll call vote 4-0

VIII. **Old Business**-No old business

IX. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m., motion to adjourn by Trustee Walker-Eich and second Trustee Weil, and passed unanimously by voice vote.