

Minutes – Shields Township Road Commission Meeting
Special Meeting October 5, 2022

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)

Lake County,) SS.

Town of Shields)

THE SHIELDS TOWNSHIP ROADS COMMISSION COMMITTEE held its first meeting in person on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 10:00a.m.

PRESENT:	Lisette Rothing	Deputy Clerk
	Dan Rogers	Committee Chair
	Mark Wussow	Committee Person
	Scott Volpe	Committee Person

I. Call to order & Roll Call – Deputy Clerk Rothing called meeting to order at 10:00a.m.

II. Discussion of Road District Issues

1. The Board of Trustees wants this Roads Commission Committee to be specialized in making sole decisions about the roads. The Shields Township Highway Department needs to dial down their focus with proper direction and supervision. Along with that, there are future aspirations to have the township under one roof. Hoping to find a donated commercial 1 story block building with extra space for things like an all-purpose room that the community can use or rent out. The perfect route would be to find a local architect to donate their time and energy to build out the Highway Department.

2. The Shields Township Roads Commission Committee wants to recommend to the Board of Trustees that they need a new highway vehicle. Right now, they have an old vehicle that has been

unmaintained for 16 years and is in disrepair. There are also some electrical issues with the Roads building itself. The garage doors do not work properly and need to be replaced. The committee thinks a realistic time frame to get the Highway Department up to code would be 18-24 months based on the condition of the building especially if we can't find something of an original blue print. Starting a building like this from the ground up could take some time.

3. The Committee talks about the area of roads that our district is responsible for mowing grass and found that our department has entirely too many locations to mow and it should be dialed down to about 10 locations. Suggestions for contracting out the mowing just as we do our Senior Snow Removal Program have been put on the back burner for now. Since our township has 4 quadrants, we could contract out the whole area but they would have to use our equipment. We only have 3 vehicles and 1 big Ford tractor and we would need our skid loader back.

4. The Committee talks about getting bids together for the placement of speed tables on Basil and Foster Avenue. Another project would be to get the road(s) Birch and Adelpia redone in the near future. Suggestions to apply for a CBDG (Community Block Development Grant) would help fund a lot of these things. There are both state and federal grants to help out Townships for stuff like this.

5. There was a study done in 2003 for a fully funded pedestrian/bike path that never got off the ground. The Roads Committee wants to look into getting that bike path back on the map.

6. Finally the Roads Committee wants to start making "noise" about the on/off ramp at 41 and 176. We need to make sure it gets fully funded and have someone like Sandy Hart sign off on the project so that we can get the ball rolling on that.

*While The Committee is in agreement about most of the above recommendations, they are focused on making sure they create a completely functional government entity first. The next step would be to get the roads projects done on Basil and Foster since the documents have already been approved.

III. Adjournment – 11:35am