

MCHENRY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES May 28, 2020

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF MCHENRY S.S.
TOWNSHIP OF MCHENRY

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS
GENERAL ROAD AND BRIDGE and PERMANENT HARD ROAD
BOARD MINUTES
MAY 28, 2020

Supervisor Adams called the meeting to order in the McHenry Township Hall at the published and posted time of 6:00 pm.

Roll call: Anderson here, Adams here, Wojewski here, Verr here (late), Rakestraw here. Also attending the meeting was Clerk Alyward, Attorney Militello and Debbie Macrito Accounting Manager. 26 Public call in.

Public Comment –

Mike Tauler, Wonder Lake, IL – Since I have attended the budget meeting workshops I am very interested to see how this meeting goes without Mr. Verr. In addition I would like to let those who need information in regards to the bus cost increase to look at Save McHenry Township on Facebook.

A) McHenry Township, Road District, Road and Bridge Fund.

Motion to the Adoption of Ordinance RD202805, an Ordinance making Appropriations for McHenry Township Road District, Road and Bridge Fund and Permanent Hard Road. Purposes for the Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st day of April 2020 and ending on the 31st day of March 2021 for McHenry Township, McHenry County, Illinois.

Motion to approve by Supervisor Adams, second by Trustee Anderson.

- For more in depth details go to www.youtube.com – type in: mchenrytownshiplive
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

Discussion. Trustee Anderson stated he wanted to reduce the budgets by 250, 000, but was not sure on how to make those changes at this meeting and asked for the advice of the Attorney Militello. Attorney Militello stated he could ask for changes and would need to state what those changes are and his reasons for the change. Trustee Anderson stated that the Road District has too many employees and that the Highway Commissioner needs to cut. Trustee Rakestraw stated that passing this tonight is premature and they have not had time to discuss it. Highway Commissioner stated that he has already made the requested cuts and reduction in salaries requested by the board and he cannot reduce any further. He stated that this is a front to destroy the township from the inside. I have reduced my staff and the miles have increased and the levy has stayed the same. Condon also asked Trustee Rakestraw how he could say they haven't had time to discuss. What were all the budget meetings for? Trustee Rakestraw stated they did not discuss hiring contractors for plowing. Condon also asked Trustee Anderson why he approved an increase of 3% for the teachers but wants to reduce the employee compensation of the highway department. Trustee Anderson said he was not aware he would be making changes at this meeting. The attorney stated that this budget is in fact lower this year.

Voice Vote Anderson nay, Adams aye, Rakestraw nay, Wojewski aye.
2 ayes, 2 nays – Motion Fails

Discussion Ensued – Trustee Anderson stated that a reduction of 250, 000 is to be made to the budget. Highway Commissioner Condon stated to Mr. Anderson, I guess you can't say that the board has no control over the road department like you have in the past. I want to know the exact reason for reducing the payroll budget. Make sure you are specific. It seems to me you are just throwing a number out there with no reason or justification. The board continued their discussion and have settled on an 85, 000 decrease. Trustee Verr has now joined the meeting. Trustee Verr stated that \$85,000 would be abdicating their responsibility. Trustee Verr we need to cut the budget by 250,000. Stating that this is due to the Covid-19. Highway Commissioner Condon stated that the road district is essential. That his blanket statement is not true. Trustee Verr is now asking for a reduction of \$260,000. Highway Commissioner Condon stated he has said all he can about the budget and will not agree.

Trustee Wojewski made motion for \$85,000 reduction, second by .

Roll Call Vote: Verr nay, Anderson nay, Rakestraw nay, Adams aye, Wojewski aye.

2 ayes, 3 nays – Motion Fails

Trustee Verr made a motion to take \$60,000 off GRB and \$200,000 off PHR.

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Discussion Ensued - Supervisor Adams stated that is way too much. Trustee Verr asked if he did a study. Highway Commissioner stated that compared to other townships that are comparable we are less people per mile. Trustee Verr states that is not true and that the state of Illinois is in crisis and that government needs to stop expanding and that this board is not Santa Claus. This Road District is overstaffed and the IGA's are evidence of that. Trustee Rakestraw stated we need to come up with a number we all can agree on. Trustee Wojewski stated we had already done that with the \$85, 000. Trustee Rakestraw suggested \$50,000 off GRB and \$125,000 off PHR.

Trustee Verr amended his motion to \$50,000 off GRB and \$125,000 off PHR.

Roll Call Vote: Verr aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Adams nay, Wojewski nay.

3 ayes, 2 nays – Motion Carries

Trustee Verr stated that the benefits need to be reduced by 20%. Supervisor Adams stated that those numbers are not a straight percentage and depending on how Mr. Condon decides to adjust his payroll those amounts will adjust automatically. Some of those line items may not change at all. Highway Commissioner Condon stated that we need to just move on “haven’t you already gotten enough blood.”

Supervisor Adams made a motion to approve the reduced budget, second by Anderson

Roll Call Vote: Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Adams aye, Wojewski aye, Verr nay.

4 ayes, 1 nays – Motion Carries

Motion to adjourn at 7:30pm made by Supervisor Adams, second by Anderson

All in Favor – Meeting adjourned

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Daniel R. Aylward, McHenry Township Clerk.

McHenry Township is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations so that they can observe and/or participate in this meeting or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the Township facilities should contact Supervisor Adams at 815-385-5605 promptly to allow the Township to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.