

MCHENRY TOWNSHIP MONTHLY BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 13, 2020

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

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
February 13, 2020**

Supervisor Adams called the meeting to order in the McHenry Township Hall at the published and posted time of 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Anderson here, Verr here, Adams here, Wojewski here, Rakestraw here.
Also attending the meeting was Clerk Aylward, Attorney Militello, Assessor Mahady, Highway Commissioner Condon, Account Manager Macrito, and 19 Public.

Public Comment –

John Macrito – McHenry, IL – Asked the people to watch the County Board meeting from today at 9am on their website. Stated the County Administrator said to vote no on the elimination of the township, County Board member Chuck Wheeler stated that the township roads are better than the county or state, County Board member Kay Bates asked if it would cost more to township residences since the county drivers are union in which she was told yes. In addition, the board cut approximately \$170,000 from the budget cutting out the bus service and mosquito abatement, but spent \$40,000 on a cost study that is only going to measure dollars not services.

Jamie Rous – McHenry, IL – Addressed the misinformation that is out in the public in regards to the township portion of the real estate tax. The combined tax for the Township and Road District is 3.7% the 10% reduction would be \$37.00 for the first year and will not provide all the services the township offers. These services can be found on the townships website. In addition, you can find ways to help reduce your taxes to make sure you are getting all the exemptions offered which are also listed on the website. If you can, why would you not want to help others less fortunate than yourself? Please help save McHenry Township by voting No on March 17. Township Trustees if you are not interested in serving the township or this community do the right thing and resign.

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

John Sarff – McHenry, IL – The senior Bus service was put into effect over 20 years ago by a vote of the electors. This is not a duplicate service and the reason Pace partners with the municipalities is because they cannot provide this level of service. Over the years the population of seniors has increased and the bus service is needed more now than ever. It should be advertised and expanded. Instead, this board of trustees has tried to eliminate it. Why should this board of trustees have the authority to eliminate the service against the will of the electors? Shouldn't the electors decide what services the township provides? We the electors need to remind the board what their job is. Our services, our choices. If you can please attend the next budget meeting on February 24 to remind them what their job is. Vote yes to the bus referendum on March 17 to keep the bus service.

Terry Kappel – McHenry, IL – I voted at the courthouse today and there are two referendums that are for the township. One is to dissolve the township, which I voted no. I want local control of our government. The other is a bus service advisory question for the bus service. This is for the people to express their will. Elected officials are supposed to be public servants. I ask that each of you take a pledge to abide by the will of the people and serve them.

Robert Beltran – McHenry, IL – The township bus is like insurance for people who may need it in the future, like me who has had an accident and now may not be able to see out of my left eye. You don't want me on the street driving. This is a safety issue for myself and others on the road. I have no family to help and I can't use my faith community as my faith doesn't have a community.

Linda Tauler – Wonder Lake, IL – Stated she finds the comparison of being homeless, a temporary problem, being disabled or elderly, not usually a temporary problem, this is flat out insulting. I question how many of these "taxed out of their homes" people are elderly or disabled and you in fact are just compounding their problems. In addition, this ridiculous war against the township being led by our very own Don Quixote, enough is enough. The way I see it our township is like a car. You can chop off pieces to better the mileage, but I enjoy my doors, front and rear windshield, antilock brakes, a radio, heat, and air conditioning, all redundant systems that cost money and mileage and the comfort and services they provide and I don't mind paying for them. So just stop this war on the township, disabled and elderly. To those on the board trying to do what your job entails. Thank you. Please never stop fighting.

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Mike Tauler – Wonder Lake, IL – N42 degrees by 22:00:42 less -88 degrees by 20:00:40. I am stating this since Mr. Verr wanted to know our specific locations. In regards to the sanctuary resolution on the agenda, which I pointed out is absolutely pointless. Let me reinforce that thought. Under what situation would the sanctuary would be activated? When would the states come to the township for assistance that would require you to have this resolution? Mr. Verr, before you try to make this a liberal vs conservative thing let me remind you I am a card-carrying member of the firearms policy coalition. I will also point out there is a quote from Marxist, under no pretext should arms and ammunition be surrendered in the attempt to disarm the workers must be frustrated by force if necessary. Here is a quote from Donald Trump, take the guns first and go through due process second. I think you might be more Marxists than you know.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Review of the regular McHenry Township Board Meeting minutes on December 20, 2019.
Discussion and possible action.**

Motion to approve with correction of the last sentence of unknown subject comments, made by Supervisor Adams, second by Trustee Anderson

Discussion Ensued - None

All in Favor: All ayes, Motion carries

**Review of the regular McHenry Township Board Meeting minutes on January 9, 2020.
Discussion and possible action.**

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

Discussion Ensued – Trustee Verr stated that once again a set of false minutes have been presented.

All in Favor: 4 ayes, 1 nay - Motion carries

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REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

None at this time

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MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS AND BILLS FOR THE TOWN FUND

Trustee Anderson motioned to approve receipts and pay the bills of the Town Fund, second by Trustee Rakestraw.

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$00.00
Total Bills to be approved	\$ 24,137.36
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$ 38,778.00
Total to be approved	\$ 62,915.36
Total Receipts	\$

Discussion Ensued –

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

4 Ayes, 1 Nays – Motion Carries

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS AND BILLS FOR GENERAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Trustee Rakestraw motioned to approve receipts and pay the bills of the General Road and Bridge Fund, second by Trustee Wojewski.

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$ 00.00
Total Bills to be approved	\$ 112,408.33
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$ 23,466.30
Total to be approved	\$ 135,874.63
Total Receipts	\$ 15,278.34

Discussion Ensued – Trustee Verr asked about the McHenry Township Highway Commissioners annual dues, HR Green, McHenry Excavating, Omni lighting, Dale Schultz, Think big go local, Prime Law bill. Highway Commissioners Condon explained the bills and what they were for.

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

4 Ayes, 1 Nays – Motion Carries

A motion to reconsider the approval of the bills and the receipts, made by Supervisor Adams, second by Rakestraw.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion Carries

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MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS AND BILLS FOR PERMANENT HARD ROAD FUND.

Trustee Wojewski motioned to approve receipts and pay the bills of the Permanent Hard Road Fund, second by Supervisor Adams.

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$ 00.00
Total Bills to be approved	\$ 36,353.88
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$ 14,414.68
Total to be approved	\$ 50,768.56
Total Receipts	\$ 112,886.69

Discussion Ensued – None

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion Carries

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Fund transfers (if necessary)

None at this time

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New Business –

- A. **Discussion for the adoption of a resolution that the Township border is a sanctuary for gun owners.** Discussion and Possible Action.

Discussion Ensued – Supervisor Adams stated he believed that this should be done at the county level and not the Township. He asked County board member Chuck Wheeler in the audience to explain what the county is doing and his thoughts. County board member Chuck Wheeler explained that the county is not doing anything at this time and that the Township can show they are in support of the county doing this by passing this resolution. The Attorney Militello explained some wording that was to be changed.

Motion to approve the amended Resolution # 20-0213 with the changes presented by the attorney, made by Trustee Verr, Second by Anderson

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion Carries

- B. **Discussion on getting the board packet out the Friday prior to the meeting.** Discussion and possible action.

Motion to approve made by Supervisor Adams, Second by Rakestraw

Discussion Ensued –Supervisor Adams explained that he would be able to get the board packets on Friday prior to the meeting without the financials.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion Carries

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OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Discussion on the amount charged for the bus service and who is eligible to ride.** Discussion and possible action.

Discussion ensued - Attorney Militello addressed the board stating he sent an email to the board and will address this issue with complete information at the March regular board meeting.

Motion to move this item to the March regular board meeting made by Supervisor Adams, second by Anderson.

All in Favor – Motion carries

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PROPOSED AGENQA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

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SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- A. Park Report- see packet
- B. GeneralAssistance Report-see packet
- C. Senior Center Report- see packet
- D.

Supervisor Adams stated that we are working closely with Urban Analytics and this has taken up a lot of our time. I would like to start the budget process the last week in January, after Urban Analytics has been here. They will be conducting interviews January 22nd through the January 24th. Discussion ensued and it was decided that the budget process will begin February 3, 2020 and a proposed budget will be given to the Trustees the week before.

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ASSESSOR'S REPORT

Assessor Mahady stated they are in appeals at this time. Also that her budget is due January 31, 2020. Her budget may not be done early.

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HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Verr motioned to go to executive session for legal matters, second by **Trustee Anderson**.

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

5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion Carries

Recessed at 8:15pm. The meeting was reconvened at 9:07pm.

All in favor signal by say aye.

All in Favor – Meeting reconvened.

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BOARD MEMBERS COMMENT - (Remarks limited to three minutes per person)

Trustee Verr I would like people to take to heart that we are the 17th highest taxed county in the state. This, bus program that was rightfully cut, should have been cut years ago when the County started their program. I have asked repeatedly how many people need this service. The McRide program is a superior program in every way. The Board did not decide to cut Sunday services. People can cry all they want but it is a duplicated service and needs to be cut. This board has never been provided with information on the people that need this service. As far as I am concerned, we have an obligation to cut the program and cut waste and duplication. Maybe people should help each other.

Trustee Wojewski – At the last budget meeting we cut 67, 000 cutting the mosquito abatement, so we screwed the seniors and saved the mosquitos.

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PUBLIC COMMENT - (Remarks limited to one minute per person) Please clearly state your name and town you reside in, for the official record.

Mike Tauler – Wonder Lake, IL – I would like to point out that we recognized one member of the audience and not another, that is playing favorites. The way the board tried to vote that down was improper as Mr. Verr is always stating to follow Roberts Rule of order. As a pattern with this board, recently Mr. Anderson has been removing comments on his Facebook page that are showing his half-truths about his 10% cuts, you are silencing the electors here to preserve your own narrative. This is not what elected officials are to do. You are to represent the people, which you took oath to do. If you look at Mr. Andersons' page and see how nasty, he can get.

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Linda Tauler – Wonder Lake, IL – The sign of a true leader is that he holds himself to a higher standard than others. Please stop using your positions for petty personal squabbles. This is not the time nor the place. In addition, never trust a man who won't let his opposition speak, he holds no faith in his own convictions.

Jamie Rouse- McHenry, IL – I find it ironic that you are going to have the township do the job that the county is not doing, which is their job. We have been telling you that for months. In addition, tomorrow is the anniversary of the NIU, Parkland Florida and Robert Pratt, Elgin shootings. The laws in this state are not strong enough to stop the people who acquire guns illegally. We need common sense gun laws.

Rhonda Sporer - McHenry, IL – Pointed out that the bus service is not a duplicated service and that the township had representatives from Pace, the county and the volunteer program stating that this is not a service they can provide. This board does not listen and just makes up facts. Maybe if you would open your ears and listen something would change. It is wrong that you just arbitrarily stop the service that is needed and then mention raising fares and adding advertisement. Mom needs this service and no other systems have the service she needs, I don't think so.

Robert Beltran – McHenry, IL – The firearm resolution is fine for the board, but don't make it seem that this representative of the township you don't know what others in the township feel. In regards to the busses, I agree with the previous speaker you can't make up fact, because then it is not a fact. I agree with her that hundreds of people have told you over and over again on the subject matter that the McHenry Township service is not a duplicated service.

Mike Guy – McHenry, IL – I have been coming to these meeting the past few months, there has been very little I agree with. I am glad to see the support of the gun sanctuary and I hope it sends a message to the county to get off their butts and do something.

Chuck Wheeler – McHenry, IL – I would like to thank the board for passing the resolution. The county's resolution is to put an advisory question to the electors of McHenry County on the ballot for the General election in November 3, 2020. The question will be this, Shall McHenry County stand as a pro 2nd amendment county that protects lawful gun owners from the unconstitutional laws passed by the Illinois General Assembly. This is a question of yes or no. It is not a question of whether you agree or don't agree. If you agree you check yes, if you don't you check no. We are doing this to find out what the numbers are for those for and against.

John Sarff – McHenry, IL – Only one question on this resolution, why is it only the General Assembly. Last, I checked, I thought that there is a Senate, General Assembly and Governor who needs to sign this.

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Dan Aylward – McHenry, IL – Jamie I normally agree with you, we are being taxed out of our homes. However, it is not the Township; my tax bill is over 11, 000 and 400.00 is the township it's the schools that is where the problem is. Mr. Verr we could cut this time in half if you would stop voicing your opinions, you know what they say about opinions, they are like buttholes everyone has one and they all stink.

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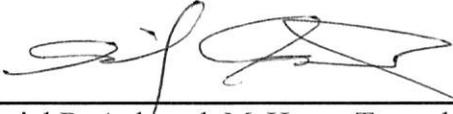
ADJOURNMENT

Motion for adjournment at 9:25pm, made by Trustee Rakestraw, second by Supervisor Adams.

All in favor signal by aye.

All ayes, Motion carries

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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.