

MCHENRY TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MINUTES - July 11, 2019

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

**Final Revision**

**BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
July 11, 2019**

**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 Mar}' Mahady, Road Commissioner Condon, Account Manager Macrito and 32 Public.

Supervisor Adams warned of any outburst from anyone including the Board members that they will be excused from the meeting.

**Public Comment -**

**Marty Swanson - Ringwood, IL** - Stated that this board has given McHenry a bad name in a short period. She asked the board instead of giving a tax incentive to a business to use those monies to reinstate the bus service.

**Brian Arnold - Wonder Lake, IL** - Stated that he has lived here all his life, "I do not own real estate, nor do I need these services. " With cost of the service, being \$8.59 I would give \$10.00 and you could keep the change to keep this bus service in place.

**Julie Ann Thomas - Wonder Lake, IL** - Spoke in regards to becoming disabled at young age and now not being able to drive. I need to use this bus service and I am not able to afford to pay for other services on Social security Disability. Please for all the people whom need this service, please keep the service.

**Judy Gotlieb - McHenry, IL** - Explained what a social contract entails. She also stated that people have been paying for this service through their real estate taxes and rents. The bus service is available to all in the community to help the community as a whole. I question the Trustee who has not paid his taxes and has voted to take away services from those who have paid.

- For more in depth details go to [www.voiituhc.com](http://www.voiituhc.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplate
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

**Robert Beltran - McHenry, IL** - I believe the Trustees do not understand federal grants; I would like to explain to the Trustees how federal grant monies are used. You led people to believe you were saving tax dollars. Those monies will just go somewhere else and we will not be able to benefit. I ask this board to seriously reconsider and listen to the people you were elected to serve. The people do not just want this service, they need this service.

**John Macrito - McHenry, IL** - Asked this board to reconsider their decision and make a plan or have a committee to look at ways to save money and let us get people where they need to go. Let us call this tax reform not tax revolt. Let us look at this wisely and smartly.

**Jamie Rous - McHenry, IL** - I am very concerned with the board who ran to help cut our taxes not our services. You were elected to serve the will of the people and have decided that your will is what the people want. I urge you to reinstate the bus service and work on being fiscally responsible and following the will of the people. As our Trustees, we are trusting you to find ways to reduce taxes without reducing services.

**Rhonda - McHenry, IL** - This is not a political party problem this is a people problem. McRide already stated they could not handle what the Senior Bus already does at a previous meeting. We should not be punished, because you think that saving \$8.00 on our budget is good, find something else to save money on. In Addition, we should have been able to vote on something like this. Please do the right thing and reverse your decision.

**Mike Tauler - Wonder Lake, IL** - I just wanted to point out that on the agenda today is a tax rebate for Jessup Manufacturing. I believe that this rebate may be good as far as jobs. As we have been informed by Mary Mahady that when a rebate, tax freeze or exemption is made, those who are not exempt make up the difference. If this board is truly a tax revolt and this is your high priority you will vote no. Let us see what you do.

**Darius Swag - McHenry, IL** - Stated she was there to represent all of the seniors, veterans and disabled who are in need of the Bus Service. Bob Anderson and the other trustees who voted against this service are not speaking for the people, we need this service. The people have been very clear they want this service. The people want this township. This township offers so much for the community for all of us to use. There are programs and facilities for all to use. To the three trustees who voted to cancel the bus either support the voters who have been very clear we need to keep this service or stepdown.

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

**Brain McCafferty - Wonder Lake, IL** - I serve on the board of Indian Ridge sub-division, which is around 400 households. At our last meeting, our board voted unanimously to urge McHenry Township Trustees to reconsider their vote to eliminate the senior bus service. I have just one question for the Trustees who vote to eliminate a critical service, "what is the matter with you?" This board should vote again tonight and reconsider the elimination of the senior bus service. Mr. Rakestraw if it true about your non-payment of real estate taxes you should resign immediately. For you to vote on matter that comes before this board is not acceptable of responsible.

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
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#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Review of the Regular McHenry Township Board Meeting minutes held last month on June 13, 2019. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Anderson, second by Wojewski

Voice Vote: Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries

- B. Review of Budget and Appropriations hearing minutes held on June 13, 2019, for the McHenry Township. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Wojewski second by Rakestraw.

Voice vote Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- C. Review of Budget and Appropriations Hearing held on June 13, 2019 for the • McHenry Township Road District, Permanent Hard Road Fund. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Wojewski,, second by Adams.

Voice vote Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- D. Review of the Budget and Appropriations Hearing for the McHenry Township Road District held on June 13, 2019. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Adams, second by Anderson

Voice vote, Adams aye, Anderson, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
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- E. Review of the continued Budget and Appropriations Hearing held on June 18, 2019 for McHenry Township. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes

Motion to approve by Wojewski, second by Rakestraw.

Voice vote, Adams aye, Anderson, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- F. Review of the continued Budget and Appropriations Hearing held on June 18, 2019 for the McHenry Township Road District, Permanent Hard Road Fund. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes

Motion to approve by Anderson, second by Wojewski.

Voice vote Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- G. Review of the continued Budget and Appropriations Hearing held on June 18, 2019 for the McHenry Township Road District. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Rakestraw, second by Anderson.

Voice vote Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes - Motion carries.

- H. Review of the Special McHenry Township Board Meeting held last month on June 18, 2019. Discussion, Motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve by Wojewski, second by Adams.

Voice vote Adams aye, Anderson aye, Rakestraw aye, Wojewski aye, Verr aye.

All ayes Motion carries

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Review of Executive Session Minutes - NONE

**Motion for approval of receipts and bills for the Town Fund**

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

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$182.76
Total Bills to be approved	\$60,618.66
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$37,628.86
Total to be approved	\$98,430.28
Total Receipts	\$13,417.13

**Voice Vote** Anderson aye, Verr aye, Adams aye, Wojewski aye, Rakestraw aye.

**All ayes, Motion carries**

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
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**Motion for approval of receipts and bills for General Road and Bridge fund**

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

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$00.00
Total Bills to be approved	\$55,648.77
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$10,052.38
Total to be approved	\$65,701.15
Total Receipts	\$40,968.95

**Voice Vote:** Anderson aye, Verr aye, Adams aye, Wojewski aye, Rakestraw aye.

**All ayes, Motion carries**

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

**Motion for approval of receipts and hills for Permanent Hard Road Fund**

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

Total reimbursements to be approved	\$00.00
Total Bills to be approved	\$25,660.14
Total Bill paid prior to Audit	\$16,543.12
Total to be approved	\$42,203.26
Total Receipts	\$561.25

**Voice count** Anderson aye, Verr aye, Adams aye, Wojewski aye, Rakestraw aye.  
**All ayes, Motion carries**

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**Fund transfers** (if necessary) - None

**New Business**

- A. Jessup Manufacturing, McHenry, 1L. Request for Real Estate Tax Abatement and Incentive Agreement by McHenry Township and McHenry Township Permanent Hard Road Fund and McHenry Township Road District Fund. Discussion and Possible Action.

**Discussion Ensued** - City of McHenry Economic Director, Doug Martin and Wes Ferguson, Finance Director of Jessup Manufacturing explained the history of Jessup Manufacturing in McHenry, which has been here for over 60 years. In addition, they explained what they are trying to do with the expansion and creating jobs and needing a tax abatement to extended water to the new addition. This will help them to stay local and keep on supporting McHenry. This effects all taxing bodies within McHenry. This will also create many jobs. The board asked many questions. Highway commissioner Jim Condon was able to answer some questions along with Attorney Militello.

Mr. Adams asked to table this request until the next meeting and allow Attorney Militello with work with Jessup Manufacturing to answer the boards concerns.

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

- B. **Fox Water Ways Request for funds for watershed development plan. Discussion and Possible Action.**

**Discussion Ensued** - Supervisor Adams explained that this request from the Fox Waterway was sent without much information and I believe that the County has a watershed program already; lie asked that the board table this request until he could get more information and bring it back to the board at the next meeting.

**Motion by Supervisor Adams, second by Trustee Anderson**

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

**Motion carries**

- C. **Resolution that the Township may not enter into a contract without the Boards Approval. Discussion and Possible Action.**

**Discussion Ensued** - Attorney Militello addressed this request. He stated he is still looking in to the powers and duties of the Board and the Supervisor. The board asked that on the next agenda there would be discussion with possible action to have all board contracts on the website.

- D. **Report and Discussion on the possible Marijuana Farm being constructed in the Pistakee Highlands Area. Township Attorney, Mr. Militello to report on his inquiries regarding this operation and questions that the electors have regarding this business.**

**Discussion Ensued** - Attorney Militello addressed what he found in his research. He also stated that Assessor, Mary Mahady also went to the property and talked with the owners. The towers are old hunting towers that now can be seen since the property is being cleared for use as a hemp farm, which is legal in Illinois and is licensed by the state. The Township has no jurisdiction over how the farmland is used.

- E. **Discussion to remove or change, second opportunity, for Public Comment on the agenda for all future township meetings. Discussion and Possible Action.**

**Discussion Ensued** - [The board discussed different ways to eliminate and change public comments.](#)

Trustee Anderson made a motion to have public comment as the third item on the agenda. Second by Trustee Verr.

**Discussion Ensued** - Supervisor Adams disagreed that eliminating a second public comment is lacking in transparency. No further discussion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Anderson aye, Rakestraw nay, Adams nay, Wojewski nay, Verr Aye.  
2 ayes, 3 nays - Motion Fails

**We will continue to have two public comments.**

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrytownshiplive
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**Old Business**

Trustee Verr asked that if the Township Attorney is sending the Supervisor memos that the board members be emailed also.

**Trustee Verr made a motion** - To have the board included on all memos from the Township Attorney, second by trustee Anderson.

**Discussion ensued** - Attorney Militello address the matter. There is no issue with the board being included on the memos.

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

**Motion** – Carries

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mehenrytownshiplive
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**Proposed Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

NONE

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mehenrytownshiplive
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**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**

- A. ) Park report - see packet
- B. ) General Assistance Report - see packet
- C. ) Senior Center Report - see packet

**Discussion Ensued** –

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mehenrytownshiplive
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

**ASSESSOR’S REPORT** - See packet

**Discussion Ensued** -

For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mehenrytownshiplive Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Sec packet

Discussion Ensued -

- For more in depth details go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - type in: mchenrvtownshiplive
- Audio-recorded is not retained as part of the permanent record.

BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENT – **Final revision**

Trustee Verr – Asked to have his remarks stricken from the record, he stated these were not his words. -Stated that **four county board members** put out **a letter** in the northwest herald stating the transportation services available in the county. That it is just a matter of calling a different number to get a free ride. He stated the bus service should have been eliminated when McRide started in 2011. He also stated this is just a **patronage scam** and vote **buying scam**. In addition, he stated that through the budget process, the board found that a scam was going on and was given false information, that the fuel information was false. **I am accusing this administration for giving us false information.**

PUBLIC COMMENT –

**Jamie Rous – McHenry, IL** - Stated how incredibly disappointed she is with this board. It is embarrassing how this board cannot do your job and take the time to go through your packets. You are short sided on your desire to cut taxes that you are disregarding what this community wants. I am so insulted by this board. Trustee Rakestraw you are being very disrespectful to your Assessor Mary Mahady by wanting another authority. This board is disrespectful to every member of McHenry Township, by your lack of foresight of what should do as trustees. Just do your job. The next two years are going to be longest two years of your life and mine until you can be voted out.

**John Sarth – McHenry, IL** - I work in District 156. When I speak to high school kids, they look at me when I talk and show respect. When we look at this board, you look like you have somewhere better to be. You are our representatives, start acting like it and start listening to us.

**Robert Beltran-McHenry, IL** - This has been a pattern of Verr and Anderson of accusing the Township of nepotism, patronage and having conflicts of interests. Nothing has ever been substantiated. The example of people coming to speak out in the audience are all family of employees or employees themselves. This is not true. There has been substantial and unanimous testimony of people in need of this bus service. Whether you believe this or not there is a personal agenda. I do not know what that is but it is clear that it is not representative of the people you are serving. I understand the minority elected you. I suggest you start listening to the people you represent.

**Brian McCafferty – Wonder Lake, IL** - I am very disappointed in Mr. Verr's comments and the hardhearted attitude you have. At the last meeting you heard of the various services and how they differ. You are comparing apples to oranges. You know that the McHenry Township bus service helps door to door and groceries and in and out of their homes. You are here to help us. If you think that saving us \$8.00 on our tax bill is helping, you are not. I also wanted to compliment Jim Condon and his road crew for the cleanup after the recent storm. This shows how to serve the people. You should use him as an example as to how to serve the people. He should be given a raise.

**Julie Ann Thomas – Wonder Lake, IL** - I am disabled and have called many, many services and was turned down for multiple reasons. If it were not for the township bus, I would have to stay in my home and cry all day. I did not decide to become disabled at 55. You never know when you will be in my situation.

**Brian Arnold – Wonder Lake, IL** - I suggest we take a practical approach to this, Steve Verr has a law firm in town and Anderson has a barbershop. I suggest we give neither one of them patronage until this matter is resolved.

**Rhonda Sporer – McHenry, IL** - I cannot understand how I was at the same meeting this board was at. There were different bus representatives and drivers who stated specifically that they could not handle the service the Township Bus offers. I have made phone calls and have been told that they cannot guarantee services. You obviously listen to these representatives. You are not listening to us either.

**Sarah - Crystal Lake** - I am the Executive Director with Senior Care Volunteer Network. Yes, we help Seniors County wide, but we are unable to provide wheelchair services. We fill the gap where McRide does not go and our services are free. Unfortunately, our volunteers use their own vehicles and it is not possible to transport wheelchair clients. I would love to help those in need, but unfortunately, we cannot. I wanted to clarify for this board that we could not help fill this gap. We will help anyone who may qualify for our services that are 60 and over.

**Mike Tauler – Wonder lake, IL** - You have all turned your backs on the seniors and disabled of this township, this is why I turned my back on you. You have asserted that there is some sort of fraud in the fuel and have presented no evidence. Without evidence, we cannot prove it, so show us the evidence in the fuel fraud. Otherwise you are just lying. I do not tolerate people who lie, cheat or steal.

**Unknown** - This is for Bob, Steve and Mike please, please, please one of you change your mind. The fabrication of the cost is not what state. Of a house with taxes of \$9633.00, \$320.00 goes to the Township for many, many services. Less than \$8.00 goes to the bus. When you dissolve the township, it will save 320.00 a year. I am pleading with you Bob, Mike, Steve please change your mind.

EXECUTIVE SESSION -

Supervisor Adams called for recess to move to executive session on personnel matters 5DL/C120/2 (Q)  
(1)

Motion made to move to executive session at 9:20pm made by supervisor Adams, second by Trustee Anderson.

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

All Ayes - Motion carries

Call to reconvene @ 9:50pm made by Supervisor Adams ADJOURNMENT

Motion for adjournment at 9:51pm, made by Trustee Anderson, second by Supervisor Adams. All in favor signal by aye.

All ayes, Motion carries

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday, August 8, 2019 @ 7:00pm Monthly Board Meeting at McHenry Township Hall.



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.**