

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Meeting February 25, 2019

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

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP met at the Shields Township office for its regular monthly meeting on February 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: <u>Teresa Darraugh</u>	Supervisor
<u>Joy Gayter</u>	Clerk
<u>Kathy Blahunka</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Matt Garrity</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Bill Brown</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Kristin Strom</u>	Town Trustee

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

Supervisor Darraugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. Roll Call:** see above. Assessor Helton and Road Commissioner Anderson were also in attendance.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Darraugh opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. Presentation of Cash Balances: Cash on Hand by Fund,**

Supervisor Darraugh presented cash balances by fund;

Town Fund - \$642,205.49

General Assistance - \$189.27

Road and Bridge - \$299,561.28

**V. For Action – Motion to approve minutes from January 17, 2019**

Minutes were not sent out for approval, they will be sent out for review and approved at the next meeting.

**VI. For Action – Motion to approve bills:**

- i. **Town Fund Bills** – A motion by Trustee Blahunka, seconded by Trustee Strom, to approve the payment of Town Fund expenses in the amount of \$47,805.18 passed by 5-0 on a roll call vote.
- ii. **Road and Bridge** – A motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Strom, to approve the payment of Road and Bridge expenses in the amount of \$17,563.93 passed by 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- iii. **General Assistance** – A motion by Trustee Garrity, seconded by Trustee Blahunka, to approve the General Assistance expenses in the amount of \$5000.00 passed by 5-0 on a roll call vote.

## **VII. For approval FY 2020 Budget**

A motion by Supervisor Darraugh to approve the Town Fund Budget for \$387,925, General Assistance Fund Budget for \$12,000, Emergency Assistance Fund Budget for \$17,000, Assessor's Budget for \$340,473 and the Road and Bridge Budget of \$322,250 was seconded by Trustee Blahunka. The levy was not increased as promised at the December 2019 meeting.

## **VIII. Presentation by each candidate for the open Trustee position:**

**Jason Houlston** - Jason is a long-time resident of North Chicago and Knollwood. He also works in Lake Bluff as a part time Fire fighter and as a Supervisor in a local retail store. Jason has been an active volunteer in the community for many years.

**Heather Kerr** - was raised in the area in a family who believed in public service. She is currently a resident of Knollwood and has previously served as a Shields township trustee and is on the Phoenix Rising Board. She mentioned the three biggest issues that Shields Township will be dealing with in the near future, were the garbage referendum contract, the house bill (HB4763) which will allow dissolution of Road and Bridge districts that service less than 15 miles of roads, and consolidation and sharing of services within Lake County.

**Vance Wyatt** – was raised in North Chicago and has a Master's of business administration with a concentration in finance from Concordia University. He currently is a past member of the Lake County Board, past commissioner for Foss Park District and is a 4<sup>th</sup> Vice Chairman of the Lake county Democratic Party.

## **IX. For approval New Trustee**

A motion by Supervisor Darraugh to nominate Heather Kerr as the new Trustee was seconded by Trustee Garrity. Supervisor Darraugh, Trustee Garrity and Trustee Brown voted in favor of Heather Kerr. Trustees Blahunka and Strom voted against the nomination. The motion carried by 3-2 on a roll call vote.

## **IX. Township Reports**

- i. **Trustees** – Nothing to report
- ii. **Highway Commissioner** – February was a very busy month with snowplowing, salting the roads and road repairs. The road construction started in 2018 should be completed by late April – early May.
- iii. **Assessor** – It has been a long, complicated process getting the new Tyler system up and running. The Shields Township Assessors office is seen as a leader to other local townships. The blue cards should be mailed out in July. Many seniors haven't

filed for Senior Exemption – Assessor Helton asked for help in getting the word out and said that with the new system it can be done online.

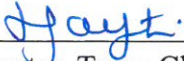
- iv. **Supervisor** – The snow shoveling program has been very busy due to the severe weather.

- XI. **Public Comment** – Foss Park Commissioner – Anthony Colman congratulated Heather but expressed his disappointment that neither candidate from North Chicago was elected to the trustee position. He thanked the other two candidates (Vance Wyatt and Jason Houlston) for their commitment to serving the community.

The Third Ward Alderman for North Chicago, Carl Evans also expressed his disappointment in the appointment of a Trustee from outside the North Chicago area of the Township. Carl Evans also expressed his concern, that services offered by Shields Township are not accessible to members of the North Chicago community and suggested that it may be easier to access those services from the Waukegan Township.

- XII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. motioned by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Blahunka.



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Joy Gayter, Town Clerk