

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees
Regular meeting June 20, 2019

THE TOWN BOARD OF ^{SHIELDS} SHIELDS TOWNSHIP met at 1850 Lewis Ave. North Chicago, IL. 60064 for its regular monthly meeting on June 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Teressa Darraugh _____ Supervisor
 Mike Darraugh _____ Alternate Clerk
 Heather Kerr _____ Town Trustee
 Kristin Strom _____ Town Trustee

1. **Meeting called to order**

Supervisor Darraugh called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:** Trustee Garrity, Trustee Blahunka, and Assessor Helton were unable to attend. Road Commissioner Anderson was also in attendance.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Darraugh opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **For Action, Motion to approve minutes from May 2019** – Supervisor Darraugh asked that a line from the May 2019 minutes be removed. The line is within the Supervisors' report and states, “This is due in part to having Abbot Labs as a neighbor”. Discussion was asked for, there was none. The regular May meeting minutes were then approved on a motion by Trustee Kerr, seconded by Trustee Strom, and passed by 3-0 on a roll call vote.

5. **For action, Motion to approve bills:**

A. Town Fund Bills – A motion by Trustee Kerr, seconded by Trustee Strom, to approve the payment of Town Fund expenses in the amount of \$64,972.95 passed by 3-0 on a roll call vote.

B. Road & Bridge – A motion by Trustee Strom, seconded by Trustee Kerr, to approve the payment of Road & Bridge expenses in the amount of \$15,158.28 passed by 3-0 on a roll call vote.

C. General Assistance - A motion by Trustee Kerr, seconded by Trustee Strom, to approve the payment of Road & Bridge expenses in the amount of \$5,062.51 passed by 3-0 on a roll call vote.

6. **Discussion on Phoenix Rising Foundation lease** – Supervisor Darraugh, comments on Phoenix Rising, the Shields Township food pantry. The food pantry serves 90 families per month, representing 200 people per month and with a low estimate of \$50 of food per visit that equates to over \$54,000 of goods & services per year. They have been paying rent since they split off from the Township, but since they are such a valuable asset to the Township, Supervisor Darraugh thinks that they should no longer pay any rent. Trustee Strom states: Phoenix currently pays about 9% of the entire Township rental expenses. There can be no vote on this issue tonight because of the absent Trustees. Phoenix is closed about 2 weeks per year.

7. **Reports:**

A. Trustees – None

B. Highway Commissioner – Road Commissioner Anderson stated they are working on the spring clean up and waiting for 3 – 4 days of no rain in the forecast in order to finish up last fall's road work. Darraugh: Springfield passed a new law for Lake County whereby any Township with less than 15 miles of roads will dissolve their Road & Bridge department. Anderson: Shields has about 9 miles and therefore will be gone. Darraugh: Are you making

plans for two years from now? Anderson: NO. Somebody will have to take it over. Lake County doesn't want it. I haven't approached anyone specifically on the matter. Lake Bluff is shorthanded and they contract out their snow plowing. Everyone except maybe Chicago contracts out their paving. The Township will have to hire their own contractors, the building and equipment will need to be sold. Darraugh: In your opinion will this save the Township money? Anderson: Quite likely not. They will save my salary of \$25,000, but the snow plowing alone will cost about \$100,000 per year. The big issue is that where we have much of our work done by our full time employee, the state requires the use of prevailing wage workers. This will raise our cost from \$35/hour to about \$125/hour.

C. Assessor – None

D. Supervisor – Check for \$200 to give to Mayor Rockingham for North Chicago Youth Night Out. Township ran it's first bus to the food pantry, had 2 shoppers. Proceeding with RFP for refuse haulers, five company's are bidding the job, with new service to begin Dec 1, 2019. Recycle rama on Saturday Aug 10, 2019.

8. **Public Comments -**

Ann Micelli, resident and business owner in North Chicago. Operates rental properties and wants to thank the Township for it's food pantry and rental assistance to those less fortunate. It is greatly appreciated.

Alderman Bobby Allen, North Chicago. You have a snow shoveling project and people in his Ward have filled out the forms 2 years in a row but never received a reply. Who should he call. Darraugh: Call our office directly. I apologize.


Jeanetta Prissan, North Chicago resident who used the food pantry for about 3 months while unemployed. Very happy with the service and the food, thank you very much.

Steve Lavone, North Chicago resident and retired Navy Vet. Two heart surgeries, if not for city of North Chicago and the Township I would have been homeless. Thank you very much. He's concerned with how to help the young girls, age 10 – 13, who need guidance and programs.

Mayor Rockingham, North Chicago. Welcome to North Chicago and Thank you for coming to our community to host your meeting. Our citizens are interested in Shields Township and you have touched some of them with your food pantry and services. We're open to doing this regularly.

Alderman Carl Evans, North Chicago. Thanks for coming to North Chicago for this meeting. Shields has a lot to offer, but not everyone knows of these services. We need to get the word out about the Township offerings. I know about the food pantry, but they have passports and ID services too. Come back again, come every other month, we'll get the word out so people will come to learn about the services. We have events coming up. This Saturday is Conversation in the Park, on Argon Green at 10:00 a.m. with food and activities. Then on July 31st the Chicago History museum, kids are free and adults are \$20 at the Community Center.

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m. motioned by Supervisor Darraugh and seconded by Trustee Kerr with all in favor.


Joy Gayter, Town Clerk
MIKE P. DARRAUGH