

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 January 17, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT: <u>Gale Strenger Wayne</u>	Supervisor
<u>David Barkhausen</u>	Town Clerk
<u>Scott Anderson</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Lynn Baehr</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Laura Carney</u>	Town Trustee
<u>Mary Woodson</u>	Town Trustee

Highway Commissioner Bill Goodman and Assessor Yakes were also present.

I. Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Strenger Wayne called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Strenger Wayne opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and requested an attendance roll call. All Board members were present other than Trustee Baehr, who arrived after the informal discussion of the Town Fund budget.

III. Discussion of Budgets for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year

The meeting began with an informal discussion among Board members to arrive at the tentative budgets for the next fiscal year beginning March 1st.

Town Fund: Most all of the informal budget discussion involved individual line items in the Town Fund, the general fund for the Township that pays the expenses of the supervisor's office, including General Assistance, and the assessor's office. As the result of modest changes to several line items, the proposed total budget for the Town Fund was reduced from \$857,160 to \$839,825. This amount included \$38,850 for the General Assistance Fund, including for Emergency Assistance, and \$800,975 for the balance of the Town Fund. This total represents about a \$70,000 reduction from the current year, largely reflecting the initial impact for part of the next fiscal year of the reduction in compensation for elected officials approved in November for the next term of office.

Road Fund: The Board suggested no changes to the proposed budget for the Road District presented by Commissioner Goodman totaling \$284,985.

IV. Consideration of Minutes from the Previous Town Board Meetings

A motion by Trustee Baehr, seconded by Trustee Woodson, to approve the minutes of the Board's monthly meeting of December 13, 2012 was approved on a voice vote.

V. Payment of Bills

Town Fund Bills: A motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Woodson, to approve the payment of Town Fund expenses in the amount of \$63,394.98 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Road Fund Bills: A motion by Trustee Woodson, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the payment of Road Fund expenses in the amount of \$16,273.55 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

General Assistance Bills: A motion by Trustee Baehr, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the payment of General Assistance expenses in the amount of \$2,150 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

VI. Public Comment

Rick Egan of Knollwood questioned the forgiveness of the loan from the Town Fund to the Road Fund. He claimed that the Road District had not gone after grant money from the State that he said was available and mentioned that Antioch Township had received over \$100,000. Trustee Carney said that local residents complain about the condition of roads and that the Road District does not have enough money to resurface and rebuild roads and take care of drainage improvements as it is and would be in even more of a fiscal bind if forced to repay the loan. She said that she found it ironic that Mr. Egan would complain about the condition of the roads while advocating that the limited resources used to maintain them should be used to repay the loan. Mr. Egan said about \$1.5 million in grant money went to Lake County townships other than Shields.

VII. Old Business

a. RibFest Check Presentation by Baytree Bank

Supervisor Strenger Wayne welcomed representatives of Baytree Bank to present a "People's Choice" award for the Lake Bluff RibFest. Baytree donated \$1,000 and food for the RibFest. \$3,500 was raised from the People's Choice Award (in which patrons paid \$1 to cast a vote for the favorite ribs recipe) to the Shields Township Food Pantry. Supervisor Strenger Wayne mentioned that every dollar raised or contributed buys 9 pounds of food through the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Emily Tanner presented some information about Baytree Bank and its services. Cindy Avis spoke about the Bank's sponsorship of RibFest and noted that they have also been involved with the Lake Bluff PTO PumpkinFest and Knollwood Days.

b. Discussion and Vote on Forgiveness of \$105,000 Town Fund Loan to Road Fund

Trustee Anderson said the cash-strapped nature of the Road District will mean that the ability of the Road District to repay the loan to the Town Fund will not increase in the future. Trustee Woodson said she agreed with Trustee Carney's earlier comments about the Town Fund loan to the Road District. Trustee Baehr said she also agreed. Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she was disappointed that the Road District had not even made an interest payment on the loan and that she had misgivings about the business aspects of this loan. With a year-end cash balance of \$273,000, she said there is an adequate balance at least to begin to repay the loan. Trustee Baehr said the new Board taking office in May should not still have to deal with the outstanding loan and suggested that having to repay the loan would lead to an inability to fill potholes. Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she had brought in \$50,000 in grant money and that the Road District surplus in prior years has been twice the amount that loan principal repayments would have been. After limited further discussion, Trustee Baehr moved to forgive the balance of the loan, which motion was seconded by Trustee Anderson and approved on a 4-1 roll call vote with Supervisor Strenger Wayne voting no.

VIII. New Business

a. Discussion and Adoption of Tentative Budgets for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Town Fund: Pursuant to the informal budget discussions that had taken place earlier in the meeting, approval of a tentative budget for the Town Fund, not including the General Assistance Fund, of \$800,975 was moved by Trustee Carney, seconded by Trustee Woodson, and approved 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Road Fund: Approval of a tentative budget of \$284,985 for the Road Fund was moved by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Baehr, and passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

General Assistance Fund: Approval of a tentative budget of \$38,850 for the General Assistance Fund was moved by Trustee Woodson, seconded by Trustee Anderson, and approved 5-0 on a roll call vote.

b. Vote on Setting the Date for the Public Hearing and Adoption of Final Budgets for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

The date and time for the public hearing on, and adoption of, the Township budgets for the coming fiscal year was set for the Board's next regular monthly meeting on February 21st on a motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Woodson, and approved on a voice vote.

c. Vote on Grant Disbursements for the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Senior Center and Emergency Partnership Funds

The grant disbursements of budgeted amounts for the current fiscal year of \$25,000 for the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Senior Center and \$10,000 to Mother's Trust through the Emergency Assistance Partnership Fund were approved 5-0 on roll call votes after motions made and seconded in both cases by Trustees Carney and Woodson.

IX. Township Officials' Reports

a. Trustees

Trustee Carney mentioned the Township's "Phoenix Rising Foundation" has had a surplus from which recent grants have been made for I-PLUS, which helps to manage benefit monies for recipients who are mostly veterans with serious social problems, and for the Career Resource Center in Lake Forest.

b. Highway Commissioner

Highway Commissioner Bill Goodman said the mild winter weather so far had made it possible to do extra maintenance work around the shop and continue with pothole patching.

c. Supervisor's Report

In her Supervisor's Report, Supervisor Strenger Wayne mentioned the following items:

- The following donations to and developments relating to the Shields Township Food Pantry: a \$2,000 contribution from the Chicago Community Trust on behalf of Baird & Warner made to the Township's Phoenix Rising Foundation; donation of sacks of food by John Van Ardsdale; the designation by the Charmm'd Foundation of the food pantry as the recipient of their food drive; the implementation of a "Client Choice Menu" (items are no longer pre-bagged with whatever is in stock) for patrons of the food pantry with choices of between 25 and 40 items; and a new schedule for food pantry volunteers with Tuesdays set aside for set-up and pantry days on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn by Trustee Baehr, seconded by Trustee Woodson, was approved on a voice vote at 7:11 p.m..

Attest

David N. Barkhausen, Town Clerk