

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

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP met at the North Chicago City Hall for its regular monthly meeting on September 15, 2011 at 6:30 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 Theresia Yakes were also present.

#### **I. Meeting Called to Order**

Supervisor Strenger Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. She cited special reasons to hold the meeting in North Chicago, noting that the local 19.7 percent unemployment rate there is the highest in the State of Illinois.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Strenger Wayne opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and requested an attendance roll call. All current Board members were present.

#### **III. Consideration of Minutes from the Previous Town Board Meetings**

A motion by Trustee Woodson to approve the minutes of the Board's monthly meeting of August 18, 2011, seconded by Trustee Anderson, was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

#### **IV. Payment of Bills**

**Town Fund Bills:** A motion by Trustee Baehr, seconded by Trustee Carney, to approve the payment of Town Fund expenses in the amount of \$63,178.07 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

**Road & Bridge Bills:** A motion by Trustee Carney, seconded by Trustee Woodson, to approve the payment of Road Fund expenses in the amount of \$9,055.28 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

**General Assistance Bills:** A motion by Trustee Woodson, seconded by Trustee Carney, to approve the payment of General Assistance expenses in the amount of \$5,171.56 passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

#### **V. Presentation by A Safe Place**

Supervisor Strenger Wayne introduced Melissa Albach, the grant writer for A Safe Place, which has provided a shelter and related services for victims of domestic violence for 31 years. Their shelter has 35 beds. They maintain a crisis hot line and provide advocacy and intervention services for abuse victims. The organization's website is [www.safeplaceforhealth.org](http://www.safeplaceforhealth.org). They are having a fund-raising casino night on October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Exmoor County Club. They can use both trained (40 hours required) and untrained volunteers as well as in-kind donations of paper products and toiletries. Supervisor Strenger Wayne added that the Township has a link to the Safe Place website on its website under "Social Services." In response to a question from Supervisor Strenger Wayne about trends in light of the economic downtown, Ms. Albach said that many women return to their abusing spouses because they cannot afford alternative housing.

#### **VI. Public Comment**

County Board member Susan Gravenhorst reported on the following items:

- The Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> dedication of the new Greenbelt Cultural Center Forest Preserve District facility on Green Bay Road in Waukegan near the North Chicago border.

- Other Forest Preserve activities, including the upcoming move of the Discovery Museum from Wauconda to Libertyville in December, the farm heritage festival, and Halloween hikes.

Russ Armstrong of Knollwood reported on a successful first-time golf outing fund-raiser on August 12th benefiting the Township's Phoenix Rising Foundation and Shields Township Food Pantry. There were 19 foursomes participating, and \$9,000 was raised. Northwestern/Lake Forest Hospital was a major sponsor, and Wisma, and Kenny Karnezis provided key support and assistance.

## **VII. Old Business**

### **A. Discussion and Possible Vote on Coast2Coast Discount Prescription Card**

Supervisor Strenger Wayne introduced Joel Babbitt of the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association (IPPPFA) to discuss a possible contract with the Township to provide pharmacy discount cards from a company called Coast2Coast. Supervisor Strenger Wayne had introduced the topic in her comments at the August meeting (see August Board meeting minutes), and the Board had requested more information on the proposal. Trustee Woodson said she had read the materials and thought the program sounded like a good idea that could help local residents save money on some of their prescriptions. Trustee Baehr said that residents could be made aware of the existence of discount cards but expressed reluctance to have the Township contracting with a single provider, noting that an online search shows many different providers of such cards.

Joel Babbitt explained that IPPFA had begun a program in the last four years in which they partner with Coast2Coast to offer the card through units of local governments that contract with the company, now including 71 counties; 24 townships and 13 cities. IPPFA helps to distribute the pharmacy discount cards in the pharmacies located in the jurisdictions that have contracted with Coast2Coast. The pharmacists make the cards available to those who do not have them, and the pharmacies give up a portion of their dispensing fee. He explained that the exclusivity feature of the contracts with the units of government enables Coast2Coast to obtain the best discount. He said that the card sponsored by Lake County through the National Association of County Officials (NACO) and which he said is affiliated with the CVS pharmacy chain offers only a 20 percent discount on average, while the average discount with the Coast2Coast card is 40 percent. Mr. Babbitt discussed the experience in Niles Township in northern Cook County, which has sponsored the Coast2Coast card for the past year. He said with 102,000 people in the Township, there are about 1,100 prescriptions per month filled with the Coast2Coast card. The pharmacy cards are branded with the name of the unit of government with which Coast2Coast contracts, and the unit of government receives 50 cents per prescription once a certain threshold number of prescriptions is exceeded. Several townships in Lake County, including Waukegan Township, are currently contracted to sponsor the Coast2Coast card, and IPPFA has taken steps to distribute the cards in the pharmacies within those jurisdictions.

Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she was interested in the revenue-sharing aspect of the program for the Township.

Mr. Babbitt explained that 72 percent of prescriptions generate a dispensing fee, and that Coast2Coast is paid from a share of the dispensing fee that the pharmacies are willing to forgo as an incentive to attract customers into their stores who purchase other items. He suggested that \$150/month might be a reasonable amount that Shields Township could expect to receive from this program.

When Supervisor Strenger Wayne asked for a motion to support a contract with Coast2Coast, a motion was made by Trustee Carney and seconded by Trustee Woodson. There was then some discussion about the point at which the agreement might be reviewed, with Trustee Anderson suggesting a review after six months and Trustee Carney recommending two months. It was pointed out that the contract could be terminated by the Township at any time.

Trustee Baehr noted that Shields Township residents could obtain a pharmacy discount today and that neighboring Waukegan Township is among the townships offering the program through local pharmacies.

Trustee Carney subsequently rescinded her motion, and it was decided to take more time to review the program and ask any appropriate questions as well as to review the contract, which the Board members did not have with them. Supervisor Strenger Wayne suggested taking the matter up again at the Board's November meeting, and it was tabled until then.

## **VIII. New Business – Discussion Separate Account for IMRF Levy and Fund**

Trustee Carney mentioned that a separate bank account had been set up several months ago for funds set aside for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) obligations on the advice of Township attorney Richard Cowen because the Township has had a separate IMRF levy as part of its levy ordinance. She recalled that Mr. Cowen had said that the accounts could later be merged if there did not continue to be a separate IMRF levy and the IMRF levy was combined with the general town fund levy. Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she had researched the matter and confirmed that a separate IMRF levy is required and that, therefore, a segregated IMRF bank account would need to be maintained. There was no further discussion of the question.

## **IX. Township Officials' Reports**

### **a. Assessor's Report - none**

### **b. Highway Commissioner's Report**

Highway Commissioner Goodman mentioned recent work filling potholes and chipping brush, while taking advantage of the recent good weather. In response to a question from Supervisor Strenger Wayne about partnering with municipalities for bidding on maintenance work, Commissioner Goodman said he was exploring those possibilities.

### **c. Trustees' Report**

Trustee Carney asked about monthly reports relating to General Assistance that the trustees had received in the past, and Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she needs clarification on the format for this data that the trustees prefer.

### **d. Supervisor's Report**

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

- Regarding food pantry items: a mobile food pantry availability through the Northern Illinois Food Bank that had been held for the second time in Forrestal Village in North Chicago on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 p.m. with a good mix of military and community residents served by it. The Expense was shared with the Navy. Supervisor Strenger Wayne thanked the volunteers involved, including her husband, Rob. She said a future venue might be Nimitz Village on Lewis Avenue to try to reach lower-ranking Navy personnel and that an effort would be made to secure availability on a Saturday again.
- The annual Knollwood Neighbors picnic held on the previous Sunday, September 11, marking the special commemorative day with the presence of the Color Guard from the Great Lakes Navy Base, the Boy Scouts, and the brass ensemble from Lake Forest High School as well as the participation of the Knollwood Fire Department.
- A new initiative by Lake County to enforce building code and nuisance violations through the use of an administrative law judge rather than having to proceed through the circuit court with the goal of shortening considerably the time and effort required to enforce these ordinance provisions in the unincorporated areas of the County.
- A special welcome to James Wilson as the new videographer recording Township Board meetings.

## **X. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Baehr, was approved unanimously on a voice vote at 8:02 p.m..

Attest

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David N. Barkhausen, Town Clerk