

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 October 18, 2012 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

Trustee Woodson was out of town. Trustee Baehr was out of town on business and participated by telephone. Highway Commissioner Bill Goodman and Assessor Yakes were also present.

I. Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Strenger Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:31 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 Woodson.

III. Consideration of Minutes from the Previous Town Board Meetings

A motion by Trustee Carney, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the minutes of the Board's monthly meeting of September 20, 2012 was approved on a voice vote.

IV. Payment of Bills

Town Fund Bills: A motion by Trustee Carney, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the payment of Town Fund expenses in the amount of \$60,661.76.76 passed 4-0 on a roll call vote.

Road & Bridge Bills: A motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Carney, to approve the payment of Road Fund expenses in the amount of \$10,335.69 passed 4-0 on a roll call vote.

General Assistance Bills: A motion by Trustee Carney, seconded by Trustee Anderson, to approve the payment of General Assistance expenses in the amount of \$2,622.51 passed 4-0 on a roll call vote.

V. Public Comment

Dr. Waddell Brooks of North Chicago spoke of a culture war throughout the country. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for holding last month's meeting in North Chicago. He voiced his support for the past practice of making grants to such organizations as the Salvation Army and Daisy's Resource Center run by his wife. He also expressed support for the youth employment program. He noted a difference between the greater number and types of programs offered by Waukegan Township as compared to those in Shields Township and said that there should be more help for the less fortunate.

VII. Old Business

a. Discussion of North Chicago Taxi Program

Supervisor Strenger Wayne mentioned that that the Township has already spent more than the \$30,000 budgeted for the taxi ride subsidy program for seniors and the disabled in North Chicago, even though five months remain in the fiscal year. Those eligible to participate receive 22 vouchers every 2 months valued at \$2 each that can be used towards cab fares for either of the two taxi cab companies in North Chicago. Supervisor Strenger Wayne said the program has increased in size and there are now 134 participants. She indicated that the colors of the vouchers have been changed so that old ones can no longer be used after a certain date. She said that the use of old tickets that had been saved may account

for the increase in the cost of the program, and she noted that there are inherent inefficiencies in the way the program is run. Trustee Carney observed that it makes no sense for this kind of transportation program to be handled on a township basis and that it should be administered more regionally, perhaps by the County. She also suggested that additional expenditures for the program could possibly be paid out of the Township's Phoenix Rising foundation. Supervisor Strenger Wayne mentioned her recent participation at a meeting to discuss transportation issues with area municipal, township, and county representatives as well as the regional manager of paratransit for the PACE suburban bus agency.

Supervisor Strenger Wayne noted that up to 10 percent of the total budget can be transferred between line items. Trustee Anderson suggested that he might be willing to agree to a supplemental expenditure while also perhaps reducing the number of vouchers given out. Trustee Baehr also voiced support for a reduction in the number of vouchers.

Supervisor Strenger Wayne asked Waddell Brooks if he knew whether PACE buses go to the medical offices on Greenleaf Avenue in Park City. Dr. Brooks said he would look into this question.

Trustee Carney asked if the program participants have to reapply every year. She suggested "recertifying" participants. She also suggested that there might be a savings if those who live on a PACE route were not eligible for participation in the program.

The discussion of the program and what to do about the budget for it will continue to be discussed at a future meeting.

b. Discussion and Vote on Forgiving the \$105,000 Balance of Town Fund Loan to the Road District

Commissioner Goodman indicated that the information that had come back from the Illinois Department of Transportation about the possibility of receiving money from the recent Federal transportation bill was being reviewed by consulting engineer, Bud Reed, but did not seem to provide a basis for much hope for the Road District. Supervisor Strenger Wayne asked about money for drainage work, and Commissioner Goodman noted that drainage grants typically require equal local matching funds.

Trustee Carney said she saw no chance of getting money from the State and no prospect of the Road District being in a position to pay back the loan from the Town Fund. She said she thought it just made sense to "clean up the books."

Supervisor Strenger Wayne said she saw no urgency in dealing with the matter, and Trustee Carney said she wanted to deal with it during the current term of office. In any case, the matter was tabled until the Board's January meeting.

IX. Township Officials' Reports

a. Trustees - None

b. Highway Commissioner

Highway Commissioner Bill Goodman said he had been working on patching around the intersection of Muir and Bayonne Avenues in the northwest corner of Knollwood. The rebuilt roads have four inches of asphalt. He expressed regret that he did not have more money to spend on improvements and said that those roads that were worn will probably be in worse shape in the spring.

c. Supervisor's Report

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

- The Lake County Transportation forum that she had mentioned in her discussion of the North Chicago taxicab program, as she speculated that perhaps more people could be served for less money if the Township's resources were pooled with others.
- A senior law day program sponsored by judges and the Lake County Sheriff's office, featuring a discussion of issues affecting seniors, such as scams targeting them, and a tour of the Lake County jail, which, she said, seemed to be run with effective discipline by long-term personnel.

- A recent lunch of the Coalition to Reduce Recidivism under the auspices of Waukegan Township attended by more than 150 people, as she noted that the criminal records of many General Assistance clients pose a major additional obstacle to finding employment opportunities.
- Love, Inc., a Zion-based consortium of church volunteers assisting with home improvement projects for needy families who own homes, which is currently working with three families in North Chicago.
- Her attendance at a recent fund-raiser for Beef 4 Hunger, a locally based organization which has donated the equivalent of 10,000 beef meals to the food pantry, consisting of about 2,500 pounds of high quality beef in 1 pound chunks and which had previously donated a chest freezer both to the Shields Township food pantry and to the Northern Illinois Food Bank.
- The recent Lake Bluff Rib Fest, which raised more than \$3,500 for the food pantry, which was again designated as the beneficiary of the “People’s Choice Award,” consisting of donations of \$1 each for those voting for their favorite recipe among the 17 barbecue cooking teams competing.
- Her thanks to Mo and Karen Neasley for their annual food drive, to the Rondout Service Center for a \$200 donation, to the Lake Bluff 3rd grade Eco Club for their collection of \$29, and to the Union Church for their regular donation.
- The golf outing benefitting the food pantry, which was rained out in July and rescheduled in September, netted about \$11,600.
- Health and wellness educational programs, conducted in partnership with the North Chicago Partners/Gorter Family Foundation and designed to be educational and fun family events, were scheduled for 5:30-7:00 p.m. on October 23rd at Forrestal School and October 25th at A.J. Katzenmaier School.
- The upcoming Gates Lecture at Lake Forest College focusing on hunger and food issues and her thanks to Lake Forest College student, Kelly Matuszewski, for her help with a campus food drive as well as to Bill Goodman for his help in delivery the food to the Township office and to other Lake Forest College students who had volunteered to help with the food pantry.
- Thanks to Lake Bluff Elementary School students and principal Shelly Overman for their help with the collection of hygiene and paper goods that cannot be purchased with LINK cards and for a \$250 donation from the teachers there.

X. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Strenger Wayne, was approved on a voice vote at 7:41 p.m..

Attest

David N. Barkhausen, Town Clerk