

**GRAFTON TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING
GRAFTON TOWNSHIP, MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, May 18, 7:30 P.M.**

1. Supervisor Kearns called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Present: Trustees Wagner, Ziller and Zirk; Supervisor Kearns; Road Commissioner Poznanski; Assessor Zielinski; Clerk Hurley. Absent: Trustee Holtorf

3. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

4. Approval of Agenda as posted

Supervisor Kearns requested that the audit discussion be moved from 9B to right after 5C.

Motion by Trustee Zirk, second by Supervisor Kearns to approve the agenda with changes to the placement of the audit discussion.

Ayes: Trustee Zirk, Supervisor Kearns, Trustees Wagner and Ziller

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

5. Regular Business

A. Approval of Minutes of April 13, 2015 Township Regular Meeting

Trustee Ziller pointed out a typo in 5E: change the word "agenda" to "bills".

Motion by Wagner, second by Ziller to approve the minutes with the amendment.

Ayes: Trustees Wagner, Ziller, Zirk, Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

B. Audit and payment of unpaid bills/Warrant check detail for Town Fund.

Motion by Trustee Ziller, second by Trustee Zirk to approve payment of Township bills.

Ayes: Trustees Ziller, Zirk, Wagner, Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

C. Review Road and Bridge Warrant check detail.

Motion by Trustee Zirk, second by Trustee Ziller to approve the Road and Bridge warrant list.

Ayes: Trustees Zirk, Ziller, Wagner, Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

6. New Business

B. Review and possible approval of the 2014/15 Township audit

George Roach briefly presented his findings from his 2014/15 audit. He was able to confirm balances, and that everything was properly categorized. Any exceptions had backup documents. He stated that the township fund balance was getting back in the ballpark of normal fund balances. He also said that the IMRF is 97% funded, which is one of the better funded in the area. A correction was noted that on page 6 of the report, the line items for General Assistance had the Road and Bridge numbers and vice versa. Motion by Trustee Ziller, second by Trustee Zirk to approve the 2014/15 audit with the correction noted on page 6 to transpose the two line item names.

Ayes: Trustees Ziller, Zirk, Wagner, Supervisor Kearns

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

7. Public Comment/Board Members Response to Public Comment

One resident expressed concern that his property taxes in Cheswick Place increased 22-23%. Assessor Zielinski stated that there will be a presentation to a couple of groups regarding taxes. He said that some properties had been under assessed in the past and that particular property was under-assessed 5%. He explained levies and the tax rates and how they are applied to assessed values. Another resident said that her value went up \$60,000 in one year and that she did not make any improvements at all, not even the planting of perennials.

Other members of the public from Lakewood and Lake in the Hills began to discuss their taxes. Several said their taxes went up 25-30%. One resident said he will now have to sell his property because he cannot afford the taxes. Trustee Wagner asked Assessor Zielinski why so many properties were assessed in a non-quadrennial year, when so many appeals had already happened. The other Townships did not assess so many. Assessor Zielinski said that he promised the residents in his campaign that he would level out the values in neighborhoods. One resident said he was discouraged to appeal by the assessor, so he didn't. The trustees explained that Nunda and Algonquin didn't re-assess so their assessments went down compared to Grafton's going up, so Grafton has to pay a bigger share of the taxes because their assessments went up. There was further discussion and the residents were told about some upcoming meetings to discuss taxes.

8. Executive Session

None.

9. Discussion and potential action of items as discussed during Executive Session

None.

10. New Business

A. Discussion and potential Reactivation of the Grafton Township Planning Committee
The trustees tabled this discussion.

11. Old Business

12. Committee and Officer Reports

Supervisor

Supervisor Kearns stated that he intends to put a bid out for several vehicles. He said he plans to sell the bus and both vans, but plans to purchase only one van. He said they plan to go from 5 vehicles down to 3. The assessor will have 2 vehicles.

Trustee

Trustee Zirk thanked the board for allowing Road Commissioner Poznanski to help with the food drive. She said that his support was very helpful.

Audit Committee

Assessor

Assessor Zielinski addressed the residents and the board to say that he understands the concerns. He said that he is following code and it's not a personal issue. He said that he made over 15,000 changes and there were 660 appeals, 250 complaints. He said there will be two meetings to talk about assessments: Thursday May 21st and Thursday May 28th.

Road District

Road Commissioner Poznanski said that he is replacing shoulder gravel, and has 76.6 tons put down already. He also said he had to replace the side walls of the bucket truck with sheet metal. Electronics recycling is available 7am – 3:30 pm and if they're not there to take it, leave it out by the bin. No old TV's and no CRT tubes.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Wagner, second by Trustee Zirk to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 P.M.
All Ayes.

No Nays. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Exhibit I

GRAFTON TOWNSHIP TOWN FUND WARRANT LIST FOR MAY 18, 2015 MEETING

With my signature below, I hereby approve of the invoices listed on the following pages being submitted for payment.


Betty Zirk - Grafton Township Trustee

Joe Holtorf - Grafton Township Trustee
Dan Ziller Jr. - Grafton Township Trustee
Bob Wagner - Grafton Township Trustee
Kathryn Hurley - Grafton Township Clerk
Jim Kearns - Grafton Township Supervisor

Exhibit II

GRAFTON TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT VOUCHER LIST FOR MAY 18, 2015 MEETING

With my signature below, I hereby approve of the invoices listed on the following pages being submitted for payment.



Betty Zirk - Grafton Township Trustee

Joe Holtorf - Grafton Township Trustee



Dan Ziller Jr. - Grafton Township Trustee



Bob Wagner - Grafton Township Trustee



Kathryn Hurley - Grafton Township Clerk



Jim Kearns - Grafton Township Supervisor



Tom Poznanski
Grafton Township Highway Commissioner