

MINUTES OF THE DORR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
June 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Dorr Township Office
1039 Lake Ave, Woodstock, IL 60098

Present: Supervisor Susan Brokaw; Clerk Brenda Stack; Highway Commissioner John Fuller; Assessor Tammy Benitez; Trustee Jon Sheahan; Trustee Tom Thurman; Trustee John Buckley, Trustee Laura Cullotta.

Public present: Bruce Farris (President, Oakland Cemetery)

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Brokaw at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

1. Roll Call of Board Members present as listed above.
2. Public Comments: None
3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Approval of Minutes of the May 14, 2024 Board meeting.

Motion by Trustee John Buckley to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2024 Board meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Tom Thurman. Motion approved unanimously.

- b. Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of Dorr Township held on May 21, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. regarding discussion and vote on the construction of two (2) buildings pursuant to specifications at the Dorr Township highway Operations Center, 12322 Davis Road, Woodstock, Dorr Township, McHenry County, Illinois.

Motion by Trustee John Buckley to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Dorr Township held on May 21, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Trustee Jon Sheahan. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Claims for period May 15, 2024 to June 11, 2024:

TF	\$56,339.22	GA	\$ 775.00
DRD	\$ 7,602.24	PHR	\$27,098.41

Motion by Trustee Tom Thurman to approve the claims for the period May 15, 2024 to June 11, 2024. Motion seconded by Trustee John Buckley. Board polled; motion approved unanimously.

General Assistance and Salvation Army case reports provided prior to Board meeting via email for review.

5. Senior Activities Report

Senior Activities Report provided prior to meeting via email for review. Trustee John Buckley asks if there is a distinction between positions held by Laura Wassinger and Lynda Rohe. Supervisor Sue Brokaw advises that Laura's title is Program Director for SOAR@Dorr and Lynda's title is Director of Social Services; Supervisor Brokaw supervises both of these positions. Trustee John Buckley asks if we will be seeing a different report moving forward from Lynda; Supervisor Sue Brokaw advises yes. Brief review of programs/services/duties; these are two (2) separate distinct positions. Trustee John Buckley asks if both of them could come to speak at a Board meeting to explain what they are doing. Supervisor Sue Brokaw will arrange that.

6. Road District Building Project

Highway Commissioner John Fuller advises that at the Special Meeting on May 21, 2024, the project was approved, and last he heard they will be starting in August. Highway Commissioner Fuller advises he bought a container for storage use for \$800.00. There have been flags put up on septic. Brief discussion on septic and work that may be required. Trustee Tom Thurman advises that during Phase I the highway department rented space from a nearby property owner to store equipment during construction. Highway Commissioner Fuller advises he has contacted Dunham Township, and adjacent property owner Rolf Tillman regarding possible options for storage of equipment. Trustee John Buckley suggests the Harley-Davidson owned Silgan property on Lake Avenue. Project progress briefly discussed. Supervisor Sue Brokaw advises that they will keep the project updated on our website.

7. Oakland Cemetery

Bruce Farris, President of the Oakland Cemetery Board, is present. He provides overview of what they intend - for someone to take over the management/running on the cemetery, as they are running out of money. Brief review of expenses - upkeep on grounds, bookkeeper, manager - all menial salaries. Historically, the cemetery finances and position has always been like this. Cemetery dates back to the 1860's. In the 1950's they tried to get the City of Woodstock to take over the site,

but they have, and continue to resist any involvement. Some projects have been completed recently - new mower, new roof on mausoleum. There is no electric to, or on, the property; they use some city water; all-volunteer Board. By statute, cemeteries can be deeded over to township, county, or municipality. They have money held in trust for perpetual care, but strict State guidelines restrict use of funds - interest only allowed to be used. Bruce Farris advises that over the years they have contacted the State repeatedly about usage of funds, and always told they can only use the interest accrued. Trustee Buckley reviews expenses, funds held, and asks several financial questions. Annual maintenance is approximately \$22,000.00 to \$24,000.00. There are still lots left to be filled, perhaps 1,000. Oakland Cemetery Board's concern is this is a community service and it should be respected as such; important to the community. Supervisor Brokaw advises we do not have money in our budget for a cemetery. Bruce Farris asks about possibility of a referendum; same would require 50 people (signatures) to place it on the ballot. Levy would then need to be assessed. Bruce Farris advises that he talked to the McHenry County Clerk and will try to determine if a referendum is feasible. Supervisor Brokaw advises that Dorr Township Board would need to vote if they would want to take on this cemetery. Proper process briefly discussed, basically unknown, but they will be trying to figure it out. Bruce Farris is asked how long he thinks they can operate on what they have; he replies two (2) years at most. Perpetual fund usage needs to be determined. Assessor Tammy Benitez asks if any other townships have taken over cemeteries? Supervisor Brokaw advises that Nunda and Algonquin townships both have. Trustee John Buckley asks what is the liability? Costs, etc., would need to be determined. It is suggested we compile a list of questions for the Oakland Cemetery Board. Bruce Farris advises that Herb Franks a few years ago purchased land in the cemetery for \$250,000.00 for use as a Jewish cemetery and he maintained payment of expenses for that; unsure now as Herb Franks has passed away; that will need to be determined. Thank you to Bruce Farris for coming and providing overview and information.

Discussion continues after Bruce Farris departs meeting. Trustee John Buckley asks if there may be an opportunity to have a conversation with City of Woodstock, County of McHenry, possibly school district? Concern with abandoned cemetery. Supervisor Sue Brokaw advises she has consulted with Jerry Crabtree at Township Officials of Illinois regarding this issue. Discussion continues. Could there be a collaborative formed for the County/Townships to manage cemeteries? What about the possibility of just maintaining Oakland Cemetery and not selling any more? What about the pre-solds? Trustee Buckley states we don't want to see an abandoned cemetery at the edge of town. Trustee Tom Thurman suggests possible yearly donation from Dorr

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Township to help offset their expenses? Trustee John Buckley states that could be a good idea. Discussion continues. Donations could

come from Dorr Township, McHenry County, City of Woodstock, which would greatly help Oakland Cemetery to continue operating. Some interesting options to explore beyond Dorr Township taking over the cemetery.

8. Legislative Updates

Supervisor Brokaw reminds everyone of emails with information on legislation.

9. Reports

Supervisor: Supervisor Brokaw advises of Supervisors and Trustees Workshop June 21st. Education event to be held on August 27th in St. Charles. Information for the Annual Conference - November 11, 12, 13, 2024. Please advise for registration and hotel reservations before next meeting. Coming up - election next year, April 1st. First day to circulate petitions is Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Please be thinking about running for re-election and let Supervisor Brokaw know. Last day to file petitions is Monday, November 18, 2024. (First day to file petitions is Monday, November 11, 2024.)

Assessor: Residential Sales May 14, 2024 - June 11, 2024 provided via email prior to meeting. Assessor Benitez advises they are wrapping up everything for the County and hope to turn it all in the week of June 17th. They are continuing to do site visits. Also inputting sales and permits into system

TOIPAC Golf Outing - August 23rd in Springfield.

Highway Commissioner: Highway Commissioner Fuller advises they have been mowing ditches, replaced culverts in areas of roads to be done this year, boom mowing, inmates were out, tree trimming. Roads being done this year are Chukar Place, Lucas Road between Mt. Thabor and Route 14.

Clerk: Setting of Compensation due this year - November.

Trustees: No report

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10. Executive Session - None

11.New Business - None

12.Future Agenda Items

a. Salaries/Compensation

13.Motion to adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Susan Brokaw to adjourn. Motion seconded by Trustee John Buckley. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

Submitted by Brenda Stack, Dorr Township Clerk

CIVILITY PLEDGE:

In the interest of civility, I pledge to promote civility by listening, being respectful of others, acknowledging that we are all striving to support and improve our community, and understanding that we each may have different ideas for achieving that objective.