

MINUTES OF THE DORR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
October 8, 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 Tom Thurman; Trustee Laura Cullotta, Trustee Jon Sheahan.

Not present: Trustee John Buckley

Public present: Rosemary Swierk and Randy Imhoff, Direct Steel LLC; Bruce Farris, Nancy Irwin, Penny Cook, Oakland Cemetery.

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Susan Brokaw at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

1. Roll Call of Board Members present as listed above.
2. Public Comments: None
3. Approval of Minutes of the September 10, 2024 Board meeting

Motion by Trustee Laura Cullotta to approve the Minutes of the September 10, 2024 Board meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Jon Sheahan. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Claims for September 11, 2024 to October 8, 2024:

F	\$70,039.86	GA	\$ 3,775.00
DRD	\$ 8,031.24	PHR	\$269,026.95

Motion by Trustee Jon Sheahan to approve the claims for the period September 11, 2024 to October 8, 2024. Motion seconded by Trustee Tom Thurman. No comments or questions. 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 via email prior to meeting for review. Supervisor Susan Brokaw asks everyone present if they have read the article in this month's Perspective Magazine by Laura Wassinger; copies of article provided. We are getting a lot of attention and publicity. Great program continues to expand.

6. Road District Building Project

Rosemary Swierk and Randy Imhoff present from Direct Steel, LLC. Randy Imhoff presents brief overview of the status of the project. Bid opening held on August 26, 2024; good turnout. Took another week to qualify bids. Approval to proceed obtained from Dorr Township; permit was ready on September 13th and we started the process of disconnecting utilities and getting ready for demolition, and getting all the contracts out. Still in the process of getting those out and making sure everyone is qualified. October 3rd Nicor disconnect; explanation of transition during construction. Will lose water; new well starting next week. Just received well permit today. Building ordered, all contractors lined up. Projected date for completion - May, 2025. Rosemary Swierk updates project, advising there have been challenges - well permit issue; navigating Nicor and ComEd. Weather-related issues impacting manufacturer and getting product has changed; will increase demand, but we should be okay. World economics, temporary dock workers strike, hurricane(s) all have an impact. Randy Imhoff states that we are right on schedule with the good weather, and will continue weather permitting.

7. Oakland Cemetery

Supervisor Brokaw advises we are mostly in a holding pattern right now. Bruce Farris advises the Cemetery Board is discussing contacting the City of Woodstock to get on the agenda to bring the matter before the Woodstock City Council; City of Woodstock is not receptive. Bruce Farris advises this is the next step, and they intend to be brutally honest, indicating that absent help from somewhere the cemetery will fall into disrepair and become an eyesore in the community. It may be that the City's position will be that they now don't have funds to help based on their recent spending habits for projects. Bruce Farris and Nancy Irwin further advise that this cemetery has been in existence coming up on 162 years in the City of Woodstock, making it an important historic issue. Bruce Farris further states they are extremely appreciative of any help, and thank Dorr Township for keeping open communication. Going forward, the cemetery would have to rely on whatever funds are available from whatever source, indicating they need to try and find a long-term solution for the problem of funding operation of Oakland Cemetery. They lost less money than they usually do in the last year because of income (made more money from burials) this year. A couple more seasons they can get by, but they

are looking for a long-term solution. Supervisor Brokaw advises that we don't have money in our budget for this issue. Maybe we can work together to try and assist. Nobody wants to see the cemetery fall into disrepair. Bruce Farris again advises the City of Woodstock does not seem to be on board. Supervisor Brokaw states that hopefully we can get them interested. It is suggested that they get the issue out in the public, become more vocal, get the media interested, to focus community interest and get the City involved. Trustee Tom Thurman asks about District 200 and their possible involvement. Bruce Farris advises that he is on the school board, and they are not interested in taking this one; they already have two (2) other cemeteries, which consume a large portion of the tax base. These were given to District 200 and now they have to take care of them. State Statute now won't allow them to take any additional on. Supervisor Brokaw suggests cooperation with The Woodstock Independent and names several reporters. Bruce Farris advises that they will request that the item be placed on the Woodstock City Council meeting agenda, get media coverage. Supervisor Brokaw asks that they please keep use informed as to when the matter will be before the City Council so that we can support them. Supervisor Brokaw further advises that in past history townships can take over cemeteries, but most are not inclined to do so, mostly due to the expected increase that would most likely be required in their levy affecting residents of the township. Bruce Farris again expresses the cemetery board's gratitude for our attention. Thank you to the members of the cemetery board for attending.

8. Elected Officials Salary Resolution approval

Supervisor Brokaw advises that last month we discussed salaries and agreed to increases 2025 (5%), 2026 (5%), 2027 (3%) and 2028 (3%) for all elected officials. IMRF and cell phones to be included.

Motion to Trustee Jon Sheahan to approve the Resolution as presented based on correct calculations. Motion seconded by Trustee Tom Thurman. No further questions or comments. Board polled; motion approved unanimously.

9. Legislative Updates - None.

10. Reports

Supervisor: Supervisor Brokaw advises we had a successful Shred on September 21, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Thanks to Jon Sheahan and Tammy Benitez for attending to help. We will probably do it again next year; two (2) hours is adequate. Trustee Jon Sheahan advises people seemed appreciative of the event. Tomorrow Comcast will be here upgrading the phone system. Brief review of scope of upgrade. Auditors are still working on our information; obtained an extension for filing our report until November 26, 2024. Supervisor Brokaw will have a telephone conference with head auditor and member of their staff experienced in QuickBooks (payroll). Fraud Risk questionnaire should be completed by everyone; please make sure you return completed questionnaire pursuant to their instructions in email. We had a surprise health department inspection; working with them to address any issues.

Assessor: Residential Sales provided via email prior to meeting. Assessor Benitez advises Dorr Township had 53 appeals. All but five (5) responses have been prepared and sent over to the County to be scheduled for hearings. Advised today that first hearing is scheduled for October 22, 2024.

Highway Commissioner: Highway Commissioner Fuller advises that things are moving along with the building project. Cutting trees, had prisoners again for one day, shoulder work, cleaning intersections, replaced some pavement, replaced a couple of driveway culverts. Moving things to temporary building; storing equipment in Prairie Grove, City of Woodstock and Dunham Township. Trustee Jon Sheahan asks about new Lennar subdivision off Lucas Road. Highway Commissioner Fuller advises he has gotten a couple calls. Working with County - stop signs to slow traffic. Short discussion on construction activity. Trustee Sheahan asks about a ground breaking ceremony for the highway department building project; Supervisor Brokaw advises we should; will check with Rosemary Swierk at Direct Steel.

Clerk: Reminder of filing period for campaign petitions is November 12, 2024 to November 18, 2024.

Trustees: No report

Supervisor Brokaw returns to Supervisor Report briefly. Every year around this time the Illinois Department of Human Services sets rate for assistance TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, which

is currently \$425.00/individual rate. General Assistance has to be at least that amount, and they are increasing amount to \$439.00. Supervisor Brokaw advises we will be increasing rate to \$440.00 as of November 1, 2024.

11.Executive Session - None

12.New Business - None

13.Future Agenda Items

- a. Road District Levy
Township Levy
- b. 2025 Holiday Schedule
- c. Christmas Clearing House donation for discussion and approval

14.Motion to adjourn

Motion by Supervisor Brokaw to adjourn. Motion seconded by Trustee Tom Thurman. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Thursday, November 14, 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.