

Old Town Township
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Downs, IL 61736
<http://www.OLDTOWNTOWNSHIP-IL.GOV>
Trustee Meeting Minutes
November 19th, 2024

Meeting Call to Order and Roll Call

Supervisor McCready called the Old Town Township Trustee Meeting to order at 7:0 p.m.

Township Officials Present:

Larry Durbin, Trustee
John Haushalter, Clerk
Brent McCready, Supervisor
Ruth Novosad, Trustee
Phil Reynolds, Road Commissioner
Joe Rogus, Trustee
Jim Walters, Trustee

Township Officials Absent:

Terry DeHaan, Contract Tax Assessor

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge recited by Old Town Township elected officials.

Guest(s) Introductions/Public Comments

- Tom Novosad
- Marsha Reeves (Republican Committee Chairman)
- Jeff Taylor – Metronet
- Phil McKinley - Metronet

Marsha Reeves attended to coordinate on the upcoming Republican Caucus on December 3rd for the 2025 consolidated election.

Metronet came to the Old Town Township meeting to discuss challenges that have been experienced working with the crews and communication on where the fiber lines will be run. Based on the conversation, Metronet agreed to provide more detailed mapping information and meet with Road Commissioner Reynolds to get on the same page.

Metronet is targeting to provide fiber optic internet service to the residents of Old Town Township mid 2025.

Administrative Agenda

Ruth Novosad made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from the October 2024 Trustee meeting. A second motion was made by Joe Rogus. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

Ruth Novosad made the motion to approve the November 2024 Treasurer's Report. A second motion was made by Larry Durbin. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

Larry Durbin made the motion to approve the November 2024 Authorization of Expenses - Town. A second motion was made by Joe Rogus. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

Larry Durbin made the motion to approve the November 2024 Authorization of Expenses - Road. A second motion was made by Ruth Novosad. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Phil Reynolds

Road Commissioner Reynolds reported challenges working with the Metronet teams. The maps that were provided were not clear and the mapping was not followed as expected.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

The publication in the Pentagraph, Notices of Change in Assessed Values Letters and Post Cards was made on October 18th with 30 days to appeal, the appeal process expired on November 15th. So as of today, November 18th, the appeal process has expired but I do expect a few more appeals as the Mclean County staff are behind in processing appeals.

To-date I have responded to 17 inquiries received either by telephone or email. Of the 17, I have made seven changes to assessment recommendations to the board of review. Four of the seven are for Beecher Trails.

Eleven appeals were filed directly with the board of review. One was a request for farmland adjustment and two were for farm building adjustments. Seven are for home assessed value changes; six of the seven are from Beecher Trails subdivision which was reassessed in 2024. (Two of the six Beecher Trails appeals are for developer model home assessment) One appeal is for a commercial building.

To date, the number of inquiries, board recommendations and appeals are about average compared to prior years. The total number of non-Beecher Trails residential recommendations or appeals are only seven.

The 9.642% increase due to the multiplier appears to seem reasonable to Old Town Twp residents based upon the overall Real Estate values increase over the past three years and the low number of appeals other than Beecher Trails. Old Town at 9.642% increase is the tenth lowest of all 31 townships including City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal.

CEMETERY REPORT:

No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor McCready reviewed the proposed salary for the Contract Assessor - 2025-2028 Term.

Joe made the motion to approve the November 2024 Authorization of Expenses - Town. A second motion was made by Ruth Novosad. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

Supervisor McCready reviewed the proposed salary for the Elected Officials - 2025-2028 Term.

All Trustees opposed the recommendation as presented based on the terms for the Road Commissioner

After discussion the terms for the Road Commissioner were modified to have a flat salary of \$70,000 for all 4 years of the term, with the agreement that \$5,000 would come out of the road fund.

Ruth Novosad made the motion to approve revised Elected Officials salary for the 2025 – 2028 Term. A second motion was made by Larry Durbin. **The motion presented was approved by a unanimous vote of the trustees present.**

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

- The Republican caucus will be held on December 3rd at 6:00 PM for the 2025 Consolidated Election.
- Meeting in December will be held on Thursday December 19th, rather than Monday December 16th.
- Discussion on Blunier and Cleary proposals. Based on discussions Blunier will be invited to a future meeting to discuss the Old Town Township remodeling project.

AROUND THE TABLE:

Old Town Township was mailed to residents. Over 100 people have signed up for the email marketing service. Future discussions will be needed to determine what to send to residents.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Jim Walters and seconded by Joe Rogus. **The motion presented was approved by unanimous vote of trustees present.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.