

**LISLE TOWNSHIP
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 22, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Meeting of the Board of Township Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Mullen at 7:00 p.m. at the Lisle Township office, 4711 Indiana Avenue, Lisle, IL.

Roll Call:

Physically Present:

Supervisor Mary Jo Mullen
Highway Commissioner Ed Young
Assessor John Trowbridge
Trustee Michael Tams
Trustee Michael Riedy
Trustee Kathy Chatman
Clerk Robert Klaeren

Present Electronically: None

Absent: Trustee Sean Allen

Others Present:

Jim Vondran	Lene Young	Paula Garcia	Dick Furstenau
Jim Patterson	Rick Taurulis	Larry Spencer	Keri-Lyn Krafthefer

Public Comments:

None

Discussion on Status of and Potential Impacts to Naperville Township and Lisle Township Highway Departments Consolidation and Referendum:

Supervisor Mullen began the meeting by explaining that the Naperville Township Board had passed a resolution to hold a binding resolution that would eliminate the Naperville Road District, with the Naperville Township Board taking responsibility for the township's road. She explained that Naperville Township officials and their attorneys have asserted that this action would supersede the 2017 referendum merging the Lisle Township and Naperville Township Road Districts into a single entity. The supervisor then invited Highway Commissioner Young to speak to the issue first, next hear from the township's attorney regarding options, then have an open discussion regarding the matter.

Discussion on Status of and Potential Impacts to Naperville Township and Lisle Township Highway Departments Consolidation and Referendum:

The highway commissioner went through the chronology of events which lead to the 2017 referendum consolidating the Lisle and Naperville Township's Road Districts. These events began in February of 2016 and lead to the intergovernmental agreement between the Lisle Township Road District and Naperville Township Road District which took effect on August 15 of 2016. That agreement provided that the Lisle Township Road District would take responsibility for Naperville Township's Roads. Subsequently, an understanding was developed between Naperville Township and Lisle Township officials that the IGA would be expanded and the Naperville Township Road Levy never to exceed one million dollars during the four-year transition period (2017-2021).

In April of 2017 the election of township officials resulted in the Naperville Township highway commissioner, as well as township supervisor and three trustees, were voted out of office, bringing new individuals into office. On June 2nd of that year, the Naperville Township highway commissioner canceled the intergovernmental agreement with the Lisle Township Road District.

The April 2017 consolidated election also contained a binding referendum merging the Lisle and Naperville Road Districts in April of 2021. Since that election, the Lisle Township highway commissioner has made numerous attempts to discuss planning the consolidation with the Naperville Township highway commissioner, who declined to discuss the consolidation.

The highway commissioner then mentioned a December 2017 meeting held by Naperville Township to discuss a referendum very similar to the one they passed recently, and which is the subject of this meeting. Lisle Township's attorney then interjected that the December 2017 meeting was held between Christmas and New Year's, with the minimum 48 hours advance notice. Lisle Township's attorney asserted that there was no legal authority for the township to take over the road district at that time. However, a new law took effect January 1, 2019 allowing townships to take over road districts, and within eight (8) days of the new law taking effect, Naperville Township voted to consolidate their road district into the township.

Then in October of 2018, the Naperville Township highway commissioner agreed to have a meeting with the Lisle Township highway commissioner, with the supervisors and clerks of each township in attendance, on October 31st. This meeting was an introduction and discussion regarding how the two entities might begin again to cooperate to assure a peaceful transition to a consolidated highway department.

In November of 2018, the two highway commissioners ran into each other at the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) Annual Seminar. At that time, the Naperville Township highway commissioner indicated that they [Naperville Township] would like to have the Naperville Road District merge into Naperville Township.

Lisle Township's attorney then laid out the options available to Lisle Township. These options ranged from do nothing to pursue a lawsuit. One middle-of-the-road option mentioned was for

Lisle Township to pass a resolution stating that Naperville Township's board should honor its commitment to merge the two road districts.

Following the township's attorney explaining the board's options, the board discussed its options with their attorney and among themselves.

Among the board's concerns were how to follow the mandate given to them by the electorate to consolidate the two highway departments if the Naperville's Highway Department no longer exists as a result of Naperville Township's new referendum. The Board was also very cautious regarding spending large amounts of taxpayer money pursuing lawsuits against other taxing bodies.

The board next discussed what it would mean for Lisle Township's residents should Naperville Township's residents change their mind(given the results of the prior referendum) and elect to merge into Naperville Township's Supervisors office this time around instead. This discussion went on for some time.

Upon a slight lull in the conversation the supervisor invited residents in attendance to speak. Rick Tarulis spoke in favor of the resolution to ask Naperville Township to honor its commitment to merge road districts with Lisle Township. He further asserted that a lawsuit would be very costly and would send the wrong message.

The supervisor noted that her thought process was actually in agreement with Mr. Tarulis' regarding the lawsuit. She further noted that expensive and lengthy litigation would only strengthen the calls for township consolidation, to which the board generally agreed.

The discussion then turned to the Naperville resolution. It was noted that on page 3 of Naperville Township's resolution, that the electors of Naperville Township had elected at its annual meeting to form a "task force." The next paragraph refers to the findings of the task force. It was asked if Lisle Township had been supplied the task force findings. The highway commissioner said no he had not but he had FOIA'd Naperville Township asking for the document but has not yet received a response. Commissioner Young then noted that he had reviewed the agenda for the Naperville Township annual meeting and the appointment of a task force for any purpose was not on the agenda. It was also noted by the highway commissioner that the Naperville Township supervisor mentioned that he was just forming a task force at the October 31st meeting.

There was then a discussion of how to best proceed, with each board member discussing what they felt was the best course of action moving forward, most also expressed their concerns that the taxpayers of Lisle Township know they have attempted to fulfill the will of the electors.

In the end the board asked the township supervisor and attorney to prepare a resolution opposing the Naperville Township Resolution. The supervisor also said that she would reach out to the Naperville Township Supervisor to determine if Naperville Township's board would consider putting off this issue until the next election so that the Lisle township electorate could be considered.

It was finally decided that the board would meet again on January 30th to discuss and potentially approve the resolution being prepared by the Supervisor Mullen and the township attorney.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Riedy; it was second by Trustee Chatman. Voice vote, all present in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert Klaeren', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Klaeren
Township Clerk