

LISLE TOWNSHIP
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Township Clerk Richard Tarulis called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Lisle Township Assessor's office, 4721 Indiana Avenue, Lisle, IL.

1. Election of Moderator: Motion by Chuck Clarke to nominate Mike Loftus as the Moderator of the Annual Meeting. Second by Bob Klaeren. There were no other nominations. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Motion by Bob Klaeren to set the Moderator's salary at zero. Second by Mike Tams. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Clerk Tarulis administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Loftus.

2. Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms and Parliamentarian: Moderator Loftus appointed Joe Hantsch as the Sergeant at Arms for the Annual Meeting.

Mr. Loftus appointed Rick Tarulis as the Parliamentarian for the Annual Meeting.

3. Approval of April 14, 2009 Annual Town Meeting Minutes: Motion by Joel Kagann to approve the April 14, 2009, Annual Town Meeting minutes. Second by Patti Voras. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

4. Report from Township Clerk: Township Clerk Tarulis read the financial statements for the past fiscal year, including beginning balance, income, expenses and ending balance for each Township and Road District fund. There was a Motion and second to accept the financial reports and place on file. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

5. Vote to Add Advisory Referendum to November 2nd Ballot – "Clean Elections" Legislation: Pursuant to the Township Code, a petition was submitted by Melissa Urda to the Township prior to this meeting to add this topic to the agenda. The petition requested that the electors at this meeting add an advisory referendum question to the November 2010 election ballot as follows:

"Shall the Illinois General Assembly enact "Clean Elections" legislation, a system whereby candidates voluntarily agree to accept limits on campaign contributions and spending in return for public financing of campaigns for the General Assembly and statewide offices?"

Ms. Urda explained that the referendum would be advisory only. She described how Arizona and Maine use criminal and civil penalties, and voluntary taxes, to pay for elections. Bob Heap questioned where the money would come from in Illinois. Mike Tams said the revenue sources are not voluntary. Mr. Heap noted there is no actual bill with details of the

proposal. Mr. Patel said the referendum is not about a bill, but a concept. Zach Lawrence said there must be a bill in order to consider this. He said the concept confiscates choice, and the way it would work is that House Speaker Madigan would write the bill and control the money.

Scott Belford requested that we limit this discussion. Frank Fletcher-Broucek suggested Clean Elections could be a not-for-profit corporation, and discussed ballot integrity. Kenny Byrd noted everyone wants clean elections. Liz Martinez asked who could be against clean elections? Amy Eilert said she doesn't want corporate-funded elections. Jim Healy said large political contributions already have to be reported within 48 hours and there is full disclosure. Kevin Lukes made a point about the law of unintended consequences. Jeff Pierce noted there is a direct relationship between who spends the most money and who wins. Dave Pittinger said campaign finance is already a failure, and there should be individual limits. Charlie Schneider noted that this would probably lead to substantial litigation. Joe Heneghan said he doesn't understand the objection to the referendum. Rick Tarulis summarized a list of objections: the question is vague, it is a compound question, it has nothing to do with townships, the township can't take a position, the township would not spend funds to provide information about the referendum, so there would be more misinformation, other states' experience are not meaningful in Illinois, we don't need legislation to implement a voluntary system, and campaign limits favor incumbents.

John Huff said the process could lead to persons running for office just for name recognition, such as a Chicago Republican. Mike Tams said we already have open and clean elections – people can and should check the website followthemoney.org. Carl Fasig said Springfield would treat the process as mandatory, and noted that unions fund campaigns. Ms. Urda responded to some of the comments, and said that Exxon-Mobil made \$85 billion of profit last year, which is enough to fund all elections. She quoted Thomas Jefferson, and said that our current system is a \$300 million back-door elections tax.

Motion by Melissa Urda to add an advisory referendum question to the November 2010 election ballot as follows:

“Shall the Illinois General Assembly enact “Clean Elections” legislation, a system whereby candidates voluntarily agree to accept limits on campaign contributions and spending in return for public financing of campaigns for the General Assembly and statewide offices?”

The registered voters of Lisle Township present voted by show of hands. The votes were counted twice. The results were Yes: 21; No: 45. Motion failed.

6. Discussion of Freedom of Information Act: Township Clerk Tarulis described new requirements of the law, such as quicker response times and lower fees. The township records are available for inspection and copying during normal business hours, and everyone is invited to review them.

7. Food Pantry Report: Mr. Loftus introduced Jim Vondran, Food Pantry Supervisor. Mr. Vondran reported that the number of food pantry clients is increasing. This year alone, through

today, 4,866 people from 1,829 homes have been helped. There should be over 20,000 people helped this year. The Friends of Lisle Township foundation, our 501 (c (3) organization, is accepting tax-deductible donations to help the food pantry. Mr. Vondran recognized Elizabeth and Shirley as extraordinary volunteers, and Clarence for driving the van to pick up the food. Mr. Vondran noted that sponsors are always needed for the next holiday program.

8. Report from Highway Commissioner: Highway Department Superintendent John Quinn described the services that are provided in the unincorporated areas, such as brush pickup, leaf pickup, mowing, patching, paving and plowing. In the winter of 2008-09 the cost of road salt went up to \$145 per ton, so this year the township joined an intergovernmental agreement with the County and other townships to jointly purchase salt at \$72 per ton. This year Janes Avenue was reconstructed from the bare ground up, including sewers, curbs, etc. This year's pavement overlay and seal coating have been bid out. The new building purchased in 2008 was painted in 2009, and many new doors and windows were installed.

Mr. Quinn introduced the staff of the Road District, and thanked them for their hard work.

9. Report from Assessor: Assessor John Trowbridge reported that he has been in office for 16 years now. The real estate market is still dysfunctional. Foreclosures are up, and he feels there is a hidden inventory of houses not on the market yet. The assessments will go down this year due to the rolling 3-year average. There are 42,557 tax parcels in Lisle Township now. 40,995 are residential, and only 28 are farms. There is \$5.3 billion of assessed value in Lisle Township at this time. Mr. Trowbridge introduced the employees of his department, and thanked them for doing an excellent job.

10. Report from Township Supervisor: Supervisor Clarke thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He said tonight's meeting is democracy at work – everyone got their 2-cents in and we voted. Mr. Clarke introduced the staff who work in his office, and thanked them for another year of excellent service. The General Assistance programs are busy and serving more and more residents each year. The Friends of Lisle Township is accepting donations. Mr. Clarke said the township doors are always open, it is the taxpayer's building.

11. Sale of Surplus Property: Moderator Loftus read a list of surplus property, including old computer equipment that doesn't work, old copiers that do not work, and old phones that do not work. Motion by Joel Kagann to approve the sale or disposal of the surplus property as presented. Second by Doug Krause. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

12. Public Comments from Registered Voters of Lisle Township: John Huff congratulated the Township officials for doing a good job.

13. Set Next Annual Town Meeting Date: Motion by Jim Healy to set the next annual town meeting for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at the Township building. Second by Bob Heap. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

14. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Doug Krause. Second by Liz Martinez. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Township Clerk