

# **LISLE TOWNSHIP**

## **DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

### **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 22, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting of the Board of Town Trustees was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Lisle Township office, 4711 Indiana Avenue, Lisle, IL, by Supervisor Clarke.

1. Roll Call:

Physically Present:

Supervisor Charles Clarke

Highway Commissioner Michael Dow

Trustee Patti Voras

Trustee Vito Modica

Trustee Robert Klaeren

Trustee Michael Tams

Clerk Richard Tarulis

Present Electronically:

Assessor John Trowbridge

Absent:

None

Others Present:

Virginia Wisdom

Sue Burtnette

Aileen Eilert

2. Public Comments: Supervisor Clarke asked if anyone was recording the meeting. Ms. Virginia Wisdom said she refuses to disclose if she is recording. She said her attorney told her there is an exception in the evesdropping law for public meetings. Clerk Tarulis advised the Board that the Open Meetings Act allows the township to adopt reasonable rules for the recording of meetings, but that Lisle Township has no rules, so she can record the meeting. Supervisor Clarke found the Open Meetings Act and read the section on recording meetings.

3. Resolution for Early Retirement Incentive Program: Supervisor Clarke handed out a legal opinion from Heidi Katz, at the Robbins, Schwartz law firm in Chicago, regarding whether he can vote for the ERI Resolution. Ms. Katz said that Supervisor Clarke would be prohibited from participating in the ERI Program if it were adopted, because it would be considered an increase in his compensation during his term of office, in violation of the statutes. Therefore, in her opinion, there is no conflict of interest for Mr. Clarke to vote on the ERI Resolution.

Trustee Modica stated that in his opinion it is not responsible to expose the township to possibly over a million dollars of costs in order to possibly save a little money. He said it is not efficient. Supervisor Clarke pointed out that we have saved over \$30,000 so far from just one employee early retirement last year. Trustee Tams said that the early retirement program was created by the legislature in order to save money, and that if the township can save one dollar then we don't have to ask the taxpayers for it. He felt ERI is not irresponsible, and it is not a new program. Trustee Voras felt that it is wrong to be used as a benefit for employees, and that it has been promised to employees in the past and is considered an entitlement. She questioned how much replacement employees will cost. Supervisor Clarke referred to the projections made by him and Assessor Trowbridge two months ago.

Motion by Trustee Klaeren to approve the Early Retirement Program effective June 30, 2010. Second by Trustee Tams.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Klaeren, Tams, Clarke

Nays: Modica

Present: Voras

Absent: None (Motion Passed.)

Trustee Voras read a motion as follows: "For clarification of purpose and transparency in government, I move that we set up guidelines for compensation, other than worker's expenses, for monies paid to any employee over and above their current salary. These guidelines should include Board approval for any bonuses, severance pay and/or any additional compensation for retirement over and above regular IMRF pension payments and should be capped at a given percentage of worker's salary or a flat, capped amount."

The motion was seconded by Trustee Modica. Trustees Voras and Modica said that the employee buyout last year was not approved by the Board in advance, and the Board was not even notified before a severance check for \$40,000 was handed out. They felt the township Board should have more control. Supervisor Clarke suggested that the Board can only set the budget, and that he hires, fires and sets compensation for employees. Trustees questioned whether they had the authority to adopt the motion.

Trustee Voras amended the motion to obtain two legal opinions whether the Board had authority to adopt the guidelines described in the motion, and to put the question on the June agenda. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

4. Approval of Minutes: Motion by Trustee Klaeren to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2010 Town Board meeting. Second by Trustee Tams. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

5. Public Hearing on Budget: Motion by Trustee Klaeren to open the public hearing on the tentative Budget for the Town Fund and General Assistance Fund. Second by Trustee Tams. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Supervisor Clarke called the public hearing to order. Mr. Clarke noted that the tentative budget has been posted for public inspection for over 30 days. Ms. Virginia Wisdom questioned the line for a new building. Trustee Tams pointed out that this was discussed at the budget workshop, which Ms. Wisdom attended. The line is for a reserve fund to construct a new building for the assessor's office in the near future. The building has been leaking and needing substantial repairs during the past few years. At some point the township will be better off building a new building than continuing to fix up the old one. Ms.

Wisdom suggested that the line be re-named "New Building Reserve" for clarification. No one objected, so Supervisor Clarke will have the name of the line changed.

Ms. Sue Burtnette advised the Board that the budget looks like it was prepared by kindergarteners. She thought the budget should be tabled in order to address her concerns. She said the township attorney should also be present at all meetings.

Trustee Modica suggested the following revisions to the tentative budget: Line #1306 – Building Maintenance – change from \$150,000 to \$100,000; Line #1308 – Capital Improvements – change from \$200,000 to \$150,000; and add a new line #1310 for Contingencies in the amount of \$100,000. Also, Mr. Modica suggested that line #1631 – ERI – be reduced to \$200,000 from \$250,000, because the Supervisor and Assessor cannot participate in ERI pursuant to the legal opinion from Ms. Katz. Trustees agreed to make the changes.

Trustee Voras questioned whether the township was buying one van or two vans. Supervisor Clarke answered two.

6. Approval of Budget for Town Fund: Motion by Trustee Voras to approve the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year 2010 – 2011 for the Town Fund as amended. Second by Trustee Klaeren.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Voras, Klaeren, Tams, Clarke

Nays: Modica

Absent: None (Motion Passed.)

7. Approval of Budget for General Assistance Fund: Motion by Trustee Tams to approve the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year 2010 – 2011 for the General Assistance Fund. Second by Trustee Voras.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Voras, Klaeren, Tams, Clarke

Nays: Modica

Absent: None (Motion Passed.)

8. Public Hearing on Road District Budget: Supervisor Clarke called the public hearing on the tentative Budget for the Road District to order. Mr. John Quinn gave the Board a summary of the road projects that are scheduled for this year. Highway Commissioner Dow noted that there will be only four brush-pickups this year instead of six, in order to save money. Trustees asked several questions. There were no public comments.

9. Approval of Budget for Road District: Motion by Trustee Modica to approve the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year 2010 – 2011 for the Road District. Second by Trustee Voras.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Voras, Modica, Klaeren, Tams, Clarke

Nays: None

Absent: None (Motion Passed.)

10. Report of Township Supervisor: None.

11. Reports of Township Officers: None.

12. Other Business: None.

13. Audit of Expenditures:

Motion by Trustee Voras to audit expenditures. Second by Trustee Modica. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

The following total expenditures in each fund were reviewed:

Town Fund	\$ 53,703.70
-----------	--------------

General Assistance Fund	\$ 7,669.29
-------------------------	-------------

Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 34,145.96
--------------------	--------------

Motion by Trustee Voras to approve the audit of the expenditures. Second by Trustee Modica.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Voras, Modica, Klaeren, Tams, Clarke

Nays: None

Absent: None (Motion Passed.)

14. Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Trustee Modica, second by Trustee Tams. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Tarulis

Township Clerk

\*\* Next regular meeting Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at the Lisle Township office \*\*