

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE RICH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 5, 2023

**Leonard Robinson Administration Building
22013 Governors Hwy., Richton Park, Illinois**

Call to Order: Supervisor Calvin Jordan called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Supervisor Calvin Jordan; Trustees Jackie Small, Therese Goodrich, and Nick Bobis (a quorum)

Officials Present: Clerk Sugar Al-Amin, Assessor Sam Brown, Highway Commissioner Dennis White

Others Present: Priscilla Centeno, Attorney; Alana Thompson, Finance Director; Devon Taylor, Deputy Clerk; Dorothy Calhoun, Administration; Pamela Al-Amin, Administration; Schunita Carter, Accountant; Paula Farr, Deputy Assessor; Mayme Buckley, Senior Center; Dr. Terry Mason, Dr. Damon Arnold, Rich Township Resident.

Approval of Bills: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Small, unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board approved Town Fund checks #41955--42093 in the amount of \$308,238.76; General Assistance Fund checks #31287--31320 in the amount of \$26,209.34; Road District Fund checks #8946--8973 in the amount of \$50,593.34 for the period of 8/02/23 thru 08/29/23 as amended. Prior to a roll call vote to approve the bills, a motion was made by Trustee Small, seconded by Trustee Goodrich and approved by roll call vote, to move the check for \$1,000.00 for the Football Classic under G17 Youth Programs to external agencies.

Approval of Minutes: Upon a motion made by Trustee Bobis, seconded by Trustee Small, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Board approved the Minutes of the August 7, 2023, Board of Trustees meetings as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Calvin Jordan recognized Dr. Mason for his credentials and leadership. He expressed that the Man Cave with Dr. Mason has been great as Rich Township senior men are excited to come back each time. Assessor Sam Brown said the Man Cave was great along with Trustee Bobbis, who expressed his excitement for the event as it is a unique idea. Trustee Bobbis also recognized Deputy Clerk Taylor for being there to help

with anything needed. Dr. Mason thanked the Supervisor, Board, and Officials for allowing him to be a part of the Man Cave. Dr. Mason introduced, Army Colonel, Dr. Damon Arnold, who will be around to also assist Dr. Mason with Man Cave. Supervisor Jordan recognized Mayme as well for spearheading all our great Senior events. Trustee Small thanked Dr. Mason as well. She also asked Mayme if the Township could reach out to Benjamin O. Davis Post 311, Dr. Damon Arnold is also a part of the group. Mayme also thanked Dr. Mason as he is always available for every Man Cave. Mayme also expressed the wives of the senior men as they are happy to see the men taking better care of their self. Dr. Damon Arnold expressed being impressed with what he has seen with Rich Township and is proud to be a resident of Rich Township.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 23-13 Establishing And Adopting A Building Access And Visitor Policy For Rich Township: Upon a motion made by Trustee Small, seconded by Trustee Goodrich, and unanimously passed by roll call vote, the Board of Trustees voted to approve Ordinance 23-13.

Finance Discussion: Supervisor Jordan, Finance Director, Alana Thompson, Assessor Brown, and Deputy Assessor Farr explained the financial need for funds for the property taxes and the challenges faced through Covid-19 to present times.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Supervisor: Supervisor Calvin Jordan expressed his gratitude and appreciation for Rich Township and its employees, Constitutional Officers, and Board of Trustees. He also thanked Attorney Pricilla Centeno for her great work. Supervisor attended several events including: Hazel Nut, District 159 Back to School Parade, Park Forest Youth Commission, Senior Trip to Springfield, Country Club Hills Back to School Parade, Matteson Food Giveaway, Congress Woman Robin Kelly's Husband, Nathaniel Horn's services, an Architectural Tour, the Man Cave, BMW Stand Down, a Recycling Day, a meeting with Matteson regarding the TIF of the recent Lincoln Mall. Supervisor reminds the Board to be present for the Resource Fair September 21, 2023. Supervisor Jordan stated how he is happy to have diversity within the Township. Supervisor was extremely pleased with Matteson and the Trustees of Matteson, along with Matteson Fire Department as the BMW Classic was a great turn out. Supervisor

Jordan also thanked Clerk Al-Amin for the Birthday card as well as the Senior Center as they presented a cake to Supervisor Jordan.

Clerk: Clerk Al-Amin recognized Deputy Clerk Taylor for attending the District 159 Back to School Parade as well as had high school student volunteers to help. Clerk Al-Amin attended several events in August: The Country Club Hills Back to School Parade, Congress Woman Robin Kelly's Husband, Nathaniel Horn's services, Judge Fairman Autism Event, and the Matteson Economic Business Breakfast. Clerk Al-Amin stated that several residents have come for temporary placards and notary services which Clerk thanked Deputy Clerk Taylor for handling those services. Clerk Al-Amin wished the Clerk's Department Summer Intern, Bria Armstrong well on her journey back to college. Clerk stated that the Monday, October 2, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting will be moved to Tuesday, October 3, 2023. The Clerk also wishes Happy Birthdays to the Board as well as reassuring the Board that the Clerk's Department will be out in the field encouraging residents to register and vote. Clerk Al-Amin expressed her continued campaign to find Rich Townships eldest/oldest resident from each municipality.

Assessor: Assessor Brown stated that the Assessor's Office processed 76 exemptions, had 340 phone calls, and 764 permits entered. Deputy Assessor Farr attended the Maple Brook Homeowners Association Meeting. The Board and residents are concerned with the increase to their portion of the property tax bill that is passed on to them by Sun Properties, the Owner of Maple Brook as well as the increase due to the CPI. Many residents are suffering from these increases and are turning to the Rich Township Food Pantry for assistance with groceries, General Assistance and CEDA. In addition to this report, he presented additional information regarding the 2nd Installment Property Tax Bill which is due to be mailed on or about November 1, 2023, with a due date of December 1, 2023. Property tax rates for the 2nd Installment Tax Bill have not been released yet. Other Townships who have had their properties reassessed, appear to be up on the average of about 30%. Assessor Brown stated that the Assessor's Office is preparing for Rich Township's to be up as well. Trustee Bobis had questions regarding the Senior Freeze Exemption and Assessor Brown reverted the discussion to Deputy Assessor Farr. Deputy Farr explained that numerous homeowners who received the Senior Freeze Exemption last year (2021 tax year), did not return their Senior Freeze Renewal Application for the 2022 (current) tax year. She stated that as a result, the Cook County Assessor's Office sent out another mailing with a due date of September 1. After September 1, Certificates of Error will be issued. The 2nd Installment Tax Bill WILL NOT reflect any exemptions that were applied for as a Certificate of Error. Within 10 days AFTER the issuance of the 2nd Installment Tax Bill, anyone who was issued a Certificate of Error should receive a revised tax bill reflecting the exemption in time for the due date of December 1, 2023.

Highway Commissioner: Highway Commissioner Dennis White stated how keeping employees hydrated were a focus as well as monitoring the roads with the heavy rainfall received. The Commissioner also stated how the new hire is working out well. Commissioner White expressed that Josh, one of the employees for Highway, just married and had a newborn. The Commissioner thanked Cler Al-Amin for the Birthday card.

Trustee Bobis: Trustee Bobis welcomed all attendees to the Rich Township Fish-Fry, which he expressed was amazing. Trustee also attended the Man Cave Event, the Matteson Economic Business Breakfast, and the Township Officials of Illinois Board Meeting. Trustee Bobis stated how proud he is of the Township and its employees as he is impressed with the pantry, and Trinette with working on future grants. Trustee also stated his appreciation for the Department Reports.

Trustee Burris: No Report

Trustee Goodrich: Trustee Goodrich expressed her joy to be able to donate blood. Trustee Goodrich attended a TIF Meeting in place of Supervisor Jordan and learned a lot as it was very informing. Trustee expressed her excitement for passing her driving test. Trustee Goodrich stated her involvement with St. Veronicas Church and ST. Vincent de Paul Program. Trustee stated that she is interested in the Township's Senior Center to possibly partner with Red Cross to do a Blood Drive. Trustee Goodrich also attended Nathaniel Horn's services. Trustee Goodrich expressed how proud she is of Supervisor Jordan, and she also thanked Clerk Al-Amin for the Birthday card.

Trustee Small: Trustee Small thanked Clerk Al-Amin for the Birthday card. Trustee Small attended several events in the month of August including: a press conference in Health Fair on Organ Donation/honoring of Jack Lynch, a meeting with the Auditor, Administrator, and Supervisor Jordan, a Back to School Event, providing materials for 120 kids, and the Matteson Economic Business Breakfast. Trustee Small thanked Supervisor Jordan for always supporting as well as Alana for preparing a monthly statement to review. Trustee Small also mentioned how Funky Strandz Salon and Groom 183 Barber Shop did/cut young girls/boys' hair for free.

Attorney: Attorney expressed her wishes for the Board to attend an October 13th party. Priscilla updated the Board on getting Trinette more information on the Tax and Participation Warrant. Attorney Pricilla also stated that the Open Meetings Act was Amended and Rich Township policies are to be updated.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon a motion made by Trustee Goodrich, seconded by Trustee Small, and unanimously approved by roll call vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Supervisor

Clerk

Approval by the Board of Trustees

Date: _____

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