

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK PARK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016, AT THE OAK PARK TOWNSHIP HALL, 105 SOUTH OAK PARK AVENUE, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Supervisor Boulanger called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. On the call of the roll the following were present: Supervisor F. David Boulanger, Trustees Clarmarie Keenan, Ade Onayemi, Mary Cozzens, James Taglia, and Clerk Gregory White. Township Manager Gavin Morgan, Finance Director Jack Norton and Attorney John Garofalo were also present.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Onayemi moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including the Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Regular Board of Trustees Meeting and to approve the Township bills for the period January 8, 2016, through January 21, 2016. Trustee Cozzens seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

FY2017 BUDGET PRESENTATION: SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES

Senior Services Director Desiree Scully-Simpkins shared copies of the Senior Services Budget Executive Summary with Board members, which included projected revenues and expenditures with no major changes. She reported on a new software program “My Senior Center” an improved data system for clients, with major funding provided by *AgeOptions*. She further noted concerns for building repairs, and efforts for continued provision of services with little or no additional cost to the Township. Ms. Scully-Simpkins then answered questions from Board members on the budget proposal and services, and the Board thanked her and the staff for their fine efforts.

Ms. Scully-Simpkins noted a major concern of the SCSC and Staff is that the State owes Township Senior Services over \$95,000, due to the continuing budget crisis, and suggested writing letters to State leaders noting the hardships that this is causing on senior citizens and funded programs. The Supervisor agreed to provide written support for this critical topic.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS TO ETHICS POLICY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE/CMHB POLICY

Manager Morgan shared copies of an Amended Ethics Policy draft written after consultation with Attorney Garofalo, which addressed conflicts of interest for elected officials and advisory committee members, particularly on fiscal relationships. Trustee Keenan suggested an annual reporting form for Township use, and Board members discussed other provisions. Mr. Morgan agreed to revise the draft for presentation to the Board at a future meeting.

REVIEW OF ANNUAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Supervisor Boulanger shared copies of the current Township Mission, Policy, Goals and Objectives for Board members’ review and input for revision at the next meeting. He and Manager Morgan will also suggest revisions, incorporating cultural competence and social justice.

REPORT ON HOUSING FORWARD/PREVAIL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Manager Morgan provided a summary sheet of emergency assistance funds provided by the Township General Assistance for *Prevail*, now part of the *Housing Forward* program. *Housing Forward* has requested that the funding be increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 to meet the demands for assistance to local citizens in need; Board consensus was to approve the increase as requested.

DISCUSSION ON EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE CARRIER

Manager Morgan and Finance Director Jack Norton recommended that the Township provide health insurance coverage with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois, effective July 1, 2016. Mr. Morgan explained that this was based on conversations with BCBS and the IPBC, and that BCBS has assured rates 1% lower than United Health Care, the current carrier. Also, many employees have expressed their preference for BCBS. After discussion, the Board approved the recommendation to provide employee health insurance through Blue Cross/Blue Shield, effective July 1, 2016.

YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Supervisor Boulanger reported that Youth Services Director John Williams and Youth Interventionist Supervisor Bert Patania will be giving a presentation on the Youth Interventionist Program and activities at the next Oak Park Council of Governments Meeting.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD REPORT

Trustee Keenan, liaison and CMHB member, reported that the Committee is reviewing funding of local programs and respective agencies. Three recently appointed members were in attendance at the last meeting. The *Youth and Family Behavioral Health Consortium Breakfast*, sponsored by CMHB and partners, was held with many attendees. The CMHB and local agencies are doing their best in coping with State funding problems. Also, a recent presentation was given by Rev. Wiley for YEMBA, providing junior mentors for high school students. The CMHB offered suggestions for careful training of mentors.

IGOV REPORT

Manager Morgan gave a presentation at the recent IGOV Meeting at Brooks Middle School. Trustees Keenan and Taglia and Supervisor Boulanger also attended the meeting and remarked that it was both informative and well run.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Morgan reported on the work to date of the IDHS Strategic Prevention Framework- Partnership for Success Grant. Program Coordinator Vicki Scaman has led the formation of the OPRF Workgroup for Positive Youth Development from multiple schools, governmental agencies and youth-centered organizations to address the problem of underage alcohol use in the community. He also shared a recent news article on township consolidations an information page on the Oak Park Developmental Disabilities Consortium.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor Boulanger reported that the Governor's State of the State address will be held tomorrow. He has been working with Youth Services Director John Williams on a database update for Township Youth Services and clients.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Oak Park Township Board of Trustees will be a Regular Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at the Oak Park Township Hall, 105 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, IL.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Onayemi moved to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Trustee Taglia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by
and recorded in the office of

Gregory White, Township Clerk

Approved: 2/09/2016