

**STATE OF ILLINOIS                    )**  
**WILL COUNTY                            )**       **S.S. Approved Minutes**  
**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD                )**       **Revised**

**PRESENT:**

**OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

Ken McCafferty

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Andi French	Administrator
Monika McMillen	Admin Assistant

John Argoudelis acting as chairman and Anita Gerardy acting as Town Clerk, the following official business was transacted:

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- B. Senior Services Center of Will County:** Will be tabled to the August meeting.
- C. Ready Set Ride Therapeutic Recreation Facility:** Eric Burknep, explained, *Ready Set Ride Therapeutic Recreation* is a program designed for special needs or terminally ill children. This program provides horseback riding services for these children. Ready Set Ride is a non for profit organization, run by volunteers. A donation of \$500.00 could help cover any of the following expenses related to the well-being of the therapy horses; two months of hay for all horses, cover half of the expenses for a horse for a month, or horse shoes for one horse for a year. A motion was made by Chuck Willard to donate \$500.00 to Ready Set Ride, seconded by Tony Fremarek. Roll call taken: Tony Fremarek-Aye, Steve Cammack-Aye, Chuck Willard-Aye, John Argoudelis-Aye. Motion carries.
- D. Senior Shuttle Bus-** Ms. French and Ms. McMillen presented their report on the status of purchasing a new shuttle bus for the township. Ms. French stated the Township is test driving a minivan with wheelchair capabilities to weigh the pros and cons of a minivan vs. a shuttle bus. Ms. McMillen said she has had both positive and negative responses from the riders. Supervisor Argoudelis suggested going forward with the original plan of purchasing a shuttle bus. Ms. French will finalize bid packets and place ad in newspaper.
- E. Food Pantry:** Ms. Gerardy presented an update on the progress being made between the Food Pantry and the Township. She stated there are no other issues at the present time. The Food Pantry continues to look for additional storage space. They placed an appeal in St. Mary's Sunday bulletin.
- F. Senior Addition Update:** Mr. Argoudelis stated the Park District Board of Directors will sign the agreement this evening. Ms. French has made appointments with the four architects selected to solicit a conceptual drawing and fee structure. Drawings will be included in August board packets.
- G. PHS Alumni Association - Homecoming Banner Renewal:** A motion was made by Tony Fremarek to purchase two banners for the Homecoming Parade at \$50.00 each, total of \$100.00, seconded by Chuck Willard. Roll call taken: Chuck Willard-Aye, Tony Fremarek-Aye, Steve Cammack-Aye, John Argoudelis-Aye. Motion carries.

- VII. Public Comments:** Judy Medveskas stated she would like to know if all parcels of land have been acquired. Mr. Reichert stated the acquisition of parcels of land has been completed. Bids were let July 1<sup>st</sup> and will be opened Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. He anticipates construction may begin in October, 2011, with possible completion late 2012.
- Mr. Argoudelis advised Ms. Medveskas and the board the DuPage River study is on hold due to the lack of funds in Illinois at this time.

## VIII. Elected Officials Report:

- A. Assessor's Office:** Deputy Commercial Assessor, Vern Kujath, reported on his findings on vacancies in Plainfield Township. In early January, 2011, he visited all commercial properties. He looked over any change or existing vacancies at these properties. He broke the Township into zones. Zones were based on historic roads and areas of development and specialties. Overall he stated the vacancy issue was not as bad as was anticipated.
- Vacancies were concentrated in certain areas. To the North and Northwest on Route 30 there is an area of high vacancies. There is a large three story building; 1<sup>st</sup> Community Bank occupies one floor of the building, leaving several small and large offices empty. There is also an empty factory building. There is a strip mall on 143<sup>rd</sup> and Route 30 with heavy vacancies.

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Budler and Lockport Street have vacancies, due to the fact that buildings were constructed with anticipation of the Interstate renovation. When that did not happen, buildings were left vacant. Another area of concern is on Route 30 East of the Mall where there is a lot of vacant land. Supervisor Argoudelis asked if the Assessor's office has a vacancy policy. Mr. Kujath stated they have a policy, following the Will County policy. Mr. Kujath stated not only are the vacancies a concern, but also the overall decline in market rents.

**TIF District (tax increment financing district)** dedicates a certain percentage of property taxes to repay debt incurred when business owners make improvements in the downtown area. There is a lot of money is sidetracked from the school district, that goes back to the downtown area for facade grants. Mr. Kujath stated the **TIF District** continues to be challenged due to the lack of diversity in the downtown area. The **TIF District** defers \$500,000.00 per year to be used by the Village for whatever they deem necessary. The Tax rate was frozen at the 1998 assessment. Any increase of assessments goes back to the **TIF District Fund**.

Mr. Kujath stated the Assessor's office welcomes business owners to come in and question or negotiate their assessment. The quadrennial residential assessments and the commercial assessments have come at the same time. Ms. Kljaich, Township Assessor, stated more information and details regarding the quadrennial assessment will follow.

**B. Clerk:** **Written Report**

**C. Highway Commissioner:** **Written Report**

**D. Tax Collector:** **Written Report**

**E. Trustees:**

- Chuck Willard: Mr. Willard complimented the Highway Department for their help with the past flooding.
- Steve Cammack: Trustee Cammack would like to order new Township shirts for the parade. Mr. Argoudelis stated if anyone would like to order additional clothing with the Township logo printed, they should contact Ms. French and would be billed separately for their purchase.
- Tony Fremarek: **No Report**

## **IX. Reports**

**A. Building Issues:** **Written Report**

Ms. French advised the board the problem with the back door locks continue. Ms. French presented the board with an estimate from Oestreich Sales and Service, Inc. for installment of a new door locks. Mr. Cammack suggested replacing one door lock because there is a possibility one door will be eliminated when the Senior Center expansion begins.

**B. Community Garden Plots:** The gardens are really looking good this year. There are a few lots that have not been planted yet because these few gardeners are cool weather gardeners.

**C. Disabilities Committee:** Mr. Cammack stated the Disabilities Committee will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Village Green. Registration is required and is open to all disabled residents of Plainfield Township and their families.

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### **D. Emergency Management:**

**No Further Report.**

### **E. Flooding:**

**No Further Report**

### **F. Food Pantry:**

**No Further Report**

**G. Senior Coordinator:** Kathy Whalen submitted a written report. She stated the Senior luncheon was a big success. The residents played Bingo instead of having entertainment. She stated they were happier with Bingo, so she will have it again next year.

### **H. Senior Shuttle Bus:**

**Written Report**

### **I. Youth Committee:**

**Written Report**

## **X. Approval of Bills:**

**General Town Fund:** A motion to approve the *General Town Fund* in the amount of **\$120,871.38** was made by Tony Fremarek, seconded by Chuck Willard. Roll call taken: Tony Fremarek-Aye, Steve Cammack-Aye, Chuck Willard-Aye, John Argoudelis-Aye. Motion carries.

**Road and Bridge:** A motion to approve the *Road and Bridge Fund* in the amount of **\$146,833.19** was made by Tony Fremarek, seconded by Steve Cammack. Roll call taken: Tony Fremarek-Aye, Steve Cammack-Aye, Chuck Willard-Aye, John Argoudelis-Aye. Motion carries.

## **XI. Announcements:**

**None**

**XII. Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the Township General meeting at 7:49 p.m. was made by Tony Fremarek, seconded by Chuck Willard. Voice vote taken. Motion carries.

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Anita Gerardy

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Residents in attendance:

Judy Medveskas, 15912 S. River Road, Plainfield, IL 60544

Robyn Monahan, Plainfield Patch

Cortney Frahm and Julie Otter, Big Brothers Big Sisters, 417 W. Taylor, Joliet IL

Eric Burknap, Ready Set Ride, Plainfield IL

Mark Churma, 11650 Dorey Lane, Plainfield, IL

Alexander Rodriguez, 2068 Riverside Road, Plainfield, IL