

# Minutes - Board of Town Trustees

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
WILL County } SS. REGULAR MEETING  
Town of New Lenox }

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at 1100 S. Cedar Road, New Lenox on November 11, 2021, at 7:00 pm in the township meeting room.

---

The following business was transacted:

I. CALL TO ORDER  
The New Lenox Town Board of Trustees Meeting was called to order on November 11, 2021, at 7:00pm

II. ROLL CALL

MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE.

Cass Wennlund	Supervisor
Dave Medema	Clerk
Martin Boban	Trustee
Barbara Kaupas	Trustee
Kathy Hilton	Trustee
Patty Deiters	Trustee

Also Present: Highway Commissioner, Ron Sly  
Assessor, Bonnie Hernandez

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes of November 11, 2021 made by Trustee Deiters and second by Trustee Boban. Upon a rollcall vote Trustee's Boban, Kaupas, Hilton and Deiters were in favor and Supervisor Wennlund abstained. Motion passed.

IV GUEST COMMENTS: No guest comments

V ACTION ITEMS: Motion was made to waive a truth in taxation hearing because the budget levy is under 5% or 105% with a 2.6% increase by Trustee Boban and Second by Trustee Kaupas. Upon a rollcall vote all were in favor and none opposed, the motion passed.

A motion was made to waive the truth in taxation hearing for the road district because it is not increasing the budget levy 5% or 105% with a 2.5% increase by Trustee Hilton and second by Trustee Deiters. Upon a rollcall vote all were in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Motion was made to pass Resolution 2021-08 to abate the taxes for the senior housing bond levy by Trustee Boban and second by Trustee Hilton. Upon a rollcall vote all were in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Motion was made to approve the \$260,000.00 bond payment from senior housing revenues by Trustee Kaupas and second by Trustee Boban. Upon a rollcall vote all were in favor and none opposed, motion passed.

Motion was made to pass the intergovernmental agreement with Will County on the electronics recycling at our facility by Trustee Boban and second by Trustee Kaupas. Upon a rollcall vote, all were in favor and none opposed, motion passed.

Motion was made to add a full-time employee to the transportation department by Trustee Hilton and second by Trustee Kaupas. Upon a rollcall vote, all were in favor and none opposed, motion passed.

Motion was made to redesign the website with a cost of \$14,610.00 over five years by Trustee Deiters and second by Trustee Hilton. Supervisor called for discussion on the matter for the purpose of informing the public as to the reasoning for the redesign. Trustee Deiters said that she and Trustee Hilton came up with a check list. Ease of use being number one as well as a host of other uses like being able to schedule times for food pantry use. A search tool on the website for finding events easily. Ability for residents to access forms. Ability to process payments for senior housing and cemeteries. Ability for people to receive the newsletter electronically. The ability to live stream board meetings. Making the website ADA compliant. Make it mobile friendly.

Trustee Deiters continued, the current platform we use is outdated and in need of this redesign and we need it to be more accessible and ADA compliant. We currently are not able to track the usage of our website and do not know how much it is or isn't used. She said she met with five different companies to see the various styles they use before settling Revize. It cost \$1,800 a year including all training.

Trustee Hilton said a big portion of the start-up costs was due to them starting from scratch and that five years down the road when things need to be redone, we wouldn't have upfront costs again.

Assessor Hernandez requested her department does not wish to participate in the redesign that she will be taking care of her department. Trustee Hilton assured her that when somebody clicked on her tab that it would redirect to whatever she had going on.

Trustee Hilton stated that it is the most front and forward-facing thing we have for community is our website and it needs to be user friendly, not a source of frustration and it is the face of who we are.

Trustee Kaupas asked Debbie Cunningham if she wanted people booking rides through the website, she replied no it would make it too difficult. Trustee Deiters and Hilton replied that it is just a tool to have should we want it moving forward.

Trustee Boban said it seems like we would be paying for a bunch of tools that we may or may not need. Trustee Boban asked what can we add or not add to what we already have. Trustee Hilton said a search function. Assessor Hernandez felt they should try to

figure out how many people it is really affecting, a hundred or a thousand before spending a bunch of money. Trustee Hilton said that this is something different and that everyone should feel comfortable with it. She said that she would like to bring the company in to do a demonstration and sit with staff. We certainly do not want to rush into anything, but it is something we should have for our residents. So, lets table it and have the company come in and see if we can get everyone comfortable with the idea.

Trustee Kaupas asked if there was any way we can track how many people are even using our website. Trustee Hilton said not currently.

Trustee Kaupas said the people in the office would like to know what it entails for them on a daily basis. Supervisor Wennlund said he believes it's a good idea but it's not a sales job to him but to the people who will be using it regularly. There needs to be a comfort level from the people that he manages every day before he can get behind it. He would support a motion Table it because the consensus is not there yet.

Trustee Hilton made a motion to table the matter and it was seconded by Trustee Deiters. Upon a rollcall vote, all were in favor and none opposed. The matter was tabled.

- VI REPORTS FROM TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS: Supervisor had one item to bring up about the over decorating in the cemeteries and how it is out of control and needs to be addressed and is going to come up with some guidelines.

Trustee Boban: Gave a Thank You to all Veterans. The Supervisor and Trustee Boban met with Will County and they are happy with our continued help. We are still the number one collector of electronics. The number continues to be around 70. Our sirens are big part of public safety and continue to be in good order. He has a call into the fire chief about the sprinkler system mandate. Our food pantry students continue to keep going. Silver Cross does not have enough flu vaccine for an event at the Township. We added two new veterans to our Veteran's page.

Trustee Kaupas: Kathy Johnson is still out on medical leave and she is still filling in. Everything seems to be going ok. There is an issue with no boxes or bags. It was said if you go to Meijer, they will donate bags to the pantry. Kathy will be out for three more weeks. The bags are being prepared for the operation Santa. We should begin looking at training someone for Kathy in the event she would like to retire in the coming future.

Trustee Hilton: Rides are continuing to rise. 391 rides in October and congratulations on the new full-time hire.

Trustee Deiters: She will coordinate with Linda and the website company. They are not local so it will most likely be a zoom meeting.

Road Commissioner: Parking lot will be getting paved. Some big drainage projects getting done due to nice weather. Assessor Hernandez: We had 86 board of review appeals. 2 withdrew their appeal. A bill was having to refund money to over payment of taxes to all tax payers.

- VII APPROVAL OF BILLS: Motion was made by Trustee Kaupas to pay the bills and second by Trustee Deiters. Upon a rollcall vote, all were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

- VIII OTHER BUSINESS: Trustee Hilton said New Lenox Township was in the news on Channel 5. Trustee Boban said there was a bill we had to pay with regards to the generator that we will be getting some clarification on. Trustee Deiters wished Happy Veterans Day to our vets, Supervisor Wennlund made mention of the memorial wall being at the legion so stop by if you wish to pay respects to a family member or vet.
- IX ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Deiters and second by Trustee Kaupas. Upon a rollcall vote, all were in favor and none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Medema, Clerk