

**BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
8200 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD  
BELVIDERE, IL 61008  
MARCH 13, 2012 5:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order/Roll Call** ~ Supervisor Pat Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The pledges to the Flag were said and roll call taken with the following Board Members present Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy. Also present Clerk Schabacker, Assessor Helnore, Hwy Commissioner Lee and Township Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer. We have a quorum to do business.

**Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes** ~ A motion was made by Trustee Carlson to approve the minutes from the last regular township board meeting on February 28, 2012. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Robertson and passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a voice vote.

**Transfers** ~ there are no transfers.

**Reports**

**Supervisors Report** ~ concerning the Belvidere City Council Meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> it is my opinion that the Belvidere City Council violated the Open Meetings Act. Supervisor Murphy asked Township Attorney Krafthefer her opinion. The Township has the ability based on her opinion to file an Open Meetings Act Violation with the Public Access Councilor. Attorney Krafthefer stated the violation occurred when Alderman Clinton Morris asked to add to the City Council Meeting Agenda just minutes prior to the meeting starting to vote on whether the City Council should proceed with discussion on having an advisory referendum on the ballot at the November 2012 Election to eliminate Belvidere Township, a motion was made by Clinton Morris and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Schrader and a vote taken by the City Council which passed to continue discussion on dissolving Belvidere Township. Attorney Krafthefer will be filling a compliant with the Attorney General's Office tomorrow.

**Highway Commissioner's Report** ~ the Highway Commissioner's office will be pulling down the road posting signs soon. The truck traffic on Shaw Rd is still a problem; truckers are not paying attention to the weight limits on that road. The sheriff's office will be contacted to see what can be done about this.

**Assessor's Report** ~ the office is still hard at work.

**Clerk's Report** ~ nothing to report at this time.

**Trustee's Report** ~ Trustee Carlson, no report at this time. Trustee Robertson, no report at this time. Trustee Zeien, Terri in the office has been training on updating the Township web site and just did an update for the Highway Dept. and their road projects for 2012. Trustee Turner, no report at this time.

**Unfinished Business** ~ there is no unfinished business to discuss at this time.

**Legal** ~ there is no legal business to discuss at this time.

**New Business** ~ **Discussion to set rules in regards to public comment**, this topic will on the agenda at the next board meeting, this will give the Trustee's time to review the subject matter.

**Annual Town Meeting Agenda**, Attorney Krafthefer stated that the three requests received by the Township regarding the Annual Town Meeting Agenda are topics that can't be acted on or voted on by the electorates at the meeting. Township resident Catherine Cadie asked for a resolution to cut all Township funds by two thirds (2/3), and to dissolve and eliminate Belvidere Township. Township resident Clinton Morris asked that Belvidere Township voters be allowed to vote on the question to dissolve and terminate the Belvidere Township in the manner provided by law. Township resident Les Reid asked to be on the agenda under public comments to discuss the consolidation of townships. Attorney Krafthefer stated that comments from the public is not required to be on the Annual Town Meeting Agenda. The Township Board felt that those residents present at the Annual Town Meeting have a right to speak and requested that the agenda reflect that. It was decided by the Township Board to revise the Annual Town Meeting Agenda that was prepared and presented to the Township Board by Attorney Krafthefer, to include a Public Comments section on the agenda. The new revised agenda will be approved at the Township Board Meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Belvidere Township Newsletter**, Supervisor Murphy stated that some of the Trustee's felt that a Township Newsletter would be a good idea to help get information out about what the Township actually does for its residents. Supervisor Murphy thought a quarterly newsletter would be often enough to keep the public updated on what is going on within the Township.

**Treasurer's Report and Approval of Town Bills** ~ Trustee Carlson asked Assessor Helnore about a bill for a Proval Conference in Florida. Assessor Helnore stated that she had not been to a Proval Conference since she's been here, Kris, possibly Tami and herself will be attending total cost per person will be around \$1,500. Trustee Robertson made a motion to pay the town bills the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Zeien and passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a roll call vote.

**Public Comments** ~ Assessor Helnore asked Attorney Krafthefer why an Assessor's Report was not on the sample agenda for the Annual Town Meeting. Attorney Krafthefer stated that it is not required neither is a report from the highway Commissioner, the only required reports are the Supervisor's Report and the Treasurer's Report. Assessor Helnore liked the idea of a newsletter and would like to contribute to it. Hwy Commissioner Lee would like a listing of his road projects in the newsletter.

**Adjournment** ~ a motion was made by Trustee Zeien to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Turner motion passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted  
Judy Schabacker Clerk