

**BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
8200 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
BELVIDERE, IL 61008
MAY 22, 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 and Hwy Commissioner Lee. We have a quorum to do business.

Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes ~ A motion was made by Trustee Robertson to approve the minutes from the last regular township board meeting on May 8, 2012. The motion was 2nd by Trustee Carlson 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 ~ the Township received a letter from the BCCA (Boone County Council on Aging) thanking the Township for their \$25,000 donation to help with the purchase of a medical car to assist the elderly and others in our community with their doctor appointments and other medical needs. Supervisor received a letter from the Attorney General's office regarding an Open Meeting Acts Violation by the City of Belvidere at a city council meeting. The Attorney General's office did find that the City of Belvidere did violate the Act but there will be no penalties or fines related to the violation. Trustee Zeien asked that the information about the Open Meetings Act Violation be put on the Township web site. The Township received a copy of an editorial from the Chicago Tribune regarding seven ways to shrink government, Supervisor Murphy will respond to this.

Highway Commissioner's Report ~ black top bids will be open tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. at the County Office.

Assessor's Report ~ there are 220 properties left to visit in the city then we will be valuing the properties in June and July. There has been one contract negotiation with the union so far which was positive and we hope to finish this up quickly.

Clerk's Report ~ the Township received a thank you card from the C.E.R.T. and E.M.A. Security Team for the lunch provided by the Township on Shred Day May 5th at the Township.

Trustee's Report ~ **Trustee Carlson**, the Community Building Board is working on their budget. **Trustee Robertson**, the BCCA received \$30,000 from the State of Illinois, but the state still owes the BCCA over \$100,000. **Trustee Zeien**, nothing to report at this time. ~ **Trustee Turner**, noting to report at this time.

Unfinished Business ~ there is no unfinished business to discuss at tonight's meeting.

Legal ~ nothing to discuss for legal at tonight's meeting.

New Business ~ **Boone County Council on Aging-Med Car**, there will be lettering on the BCCA Med Car recognizing Belvidere Township.

Treasurer's Report and Approval of Town Bills ~ Trustee Zeien made a motion to pay the town bills the motion was 2nd by Trustee Robertson and passed with Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner and Supervisor Murphy indicating aye on a roll call vote.

Public Comments ~ Township resident Bill Wolf asked if the purchase of the BCCA Med Car went out for bids? Supervisor Murphy stated that the Township made a donation towards the purchase but the BCCA actually made the purchase and they wanted to keep it local with Chrysler and a local Chrysler dealer. Township resident Cathy Ward asked about changing the meeting time to make it easier for people to attend the Township Board meetings. Trustee Robertson stated the Board tried changing their meetings to different times and it didn't make any difference in the number of people attending the meetings. They had tried changing the time to 7:00 pm for 6 months and also tried Saturday mornings at 9:00am and it did not make any difference in the number of people attending the meetings. The 5:00 pm meeting time also makes it easier to have township staff available if needed for question or problems. Township resident Dan Snow asked, what happened to the old Med Car? Supervisor Murphy thought it was traded in. Township Resident Max Newport also would like the meeting times changed because the Park District meets at the same time. Mr. Newport also asked for a copy of the Township Board Bills that were approved tonight, Supervisor Murphy stated that they will be on our Township web site for anyone to see or print out. Township resident Cathy Ward asked if we tape our meetings. Supervisor Murphy stated that we do tape our meetings. Ms. Ward asked if those tapes are available, Clerk Schabacker stated that those tapes are used to help prepare the written minutes and then the tape is reused. The only tapes that are required by law to be kept are closed session minutes and they have to be kept for 18 months. Township resident Don Rice asked about the multiplier related to the tax bills, his tax bill went up 10% and he can't understand it. Assessor Helnore tried to explain it to him. Township resident Dan Snow asked if it could be on the agenda for the next Annual Town Meeting or Special Town Meeting to change the Township Board meeting time.

Adjournment ~ a motion was made by Trustee Robertson to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 pm, 2nd 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