

**2012 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP
HELD AT THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
8200 FAIRGROUNDS ROAD, BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS
APRIL 10, 2012
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Clerk Judy Schabacker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Township building and welcomed all in attendance to the Annual Town Meeting. Clerk Schabacker introduced all Township officials present they are Supervisor Murphy, Trustees Carlson, Robertson, Zeien, Turner, Highway Commissioner Rich Lee and Assessor Diann Helnore.

Clerk Schabacker asked for a motion to set the moderators salary. Pat Murphy made a motion to set the moderators salary at \$50.00 the motion was 2nd by Dan Snow motion passed with a voice vote with a majority of ayes and only a couple of nays.

With the salary set for the moderator Clerk Schabacker asked for nominations for a moderator to conduct business for the Annual Town Meeting. Les Reid made a motion to nominate Vickie Buhl as moderator; Vicky Buhl quickly declined the nomination. A motion was made by Pat Murphy to nominate Jim Hursh as Moderator for tonight's meeting the motion was 2nd by Bill Robertson motion passed with all ayes no nays on a voice vote. With no other nominations Jim Hursh was sworn in by Clerk Schabacker as moderator.

Moderator Hursh asked for approval of the minutes of the last Annual Town Meeting on April 12, 2011. Bill Robertson made a motion to accept the minutes from the last Annual Town Meeting on April 12, 2011, The motion was 2nd by Pat Murphy and passed with all in attendance indicating aye on a voice vote.

Moderator Hursh asked for approval of the minutes of the Special Town Meeting on October 18, 2011. Dave Gallano made a motion to accept the minutes from the last Annual Town Meeting on October 18, 2011. The motion was 2nd by Dan Snow and passed with all in attendance indicating aye on a voice vote.

Moderator Hursh asked for the Supervisors report from Supervisor Murphy. In the last 12 months the Township's General Assistance Office has done 172 pre-applications for assistance. Our office also did 6 emergency apps and 19 general assistance cases and no transient cases. The inter-governmental agreement that Belvidere Township has with the eight outlying townships for GA had our office doing 53 pre-Apps, 9 cases handled and \$3,450 reimbursed to Belvidere Township for the cases handled for them. This year for the first time ever we had no work fair hours, anyone that should have worked couldn't work because they were pending disability.

Moderator Hursh asked for the Treasurer's Report from Clerk Schabacker. The Treasurer's Report is as follows. Clerk Schabacker stated that these Funds are subject to audit and will also be published.

01 Town Fund.....	1,406,787.89.....	1,677,202.10
02 Road & Bridge.....	827,938.49.....	1,353,891.69
03 General Assistance.....	215,372.33.....	230,993.78
04 Belvidere Cemetery.....	108,511.18.....	123,124.82

05 I.M.R.F.....	112,379.41.....	113,445.96
06 General Insurance.....	376,840.00.....	378,341.51
07 Road & Bridge-Tax.....	1,978,723.58.....	2,019,944.71
08 Permanent Road.....	763,990.88.....	923,904.34
09 Road & Bridge		
Machinery & Housing.....	390,867.35.....	457,958.43
10 Social Security.....	82,486.41.....	103,352.11
11 CDAP.....	11.72.....	11.72
 Total All Funds.....	 6,263,909.24.....	 7,382,171.17

Moderator Hursh accepted the Annual Treasurer’s Reports as read. The 2011-2012 Supervisor’s and Highway Commissioner’s Annual Financial Reports are available at the door.

Public Comments, Clerk Schabacker read a letter emailed to the Township by a resident of Belvidere Township requesting that someone read her letter at the Annual Town Meeting stating she would be out of town and unable to attend the meeting and really wanted to be heard. The next Township resident to speak was Les Reid who discussed his feelings on the consolidation of Townships in Boone County. The next person to speak was Kay Blair; her question was what does the Township do for the youths within the Township? The question was answered by Clerk Schabacker who stated that the Township Board tried to purchase a building for the purpose of having youth programs but it was voted down last October by the public. Pat Mattison was the next resident to speak and stated that transparency is the major concern the public has with Belvidere Township. Mr. Mattison asked if the elected officials would sign a transparency pledge. Dave Hammer spoke next and stated that he would like to be referred to as a taxpayer instead of just a Township resident. Assessor Diann Helnore stated that she had some handouts in the back of the room showing a pie chart and how your local taxes are distributed between the taxing bodies. Assessor Helnore also had information in the back of the room about dissolving Township Government and what that would mean for the Boone County. Alderman Mark Sanderson spoke next stating that we need to have more discussion on dissolving Township Government and if it will work or not work. Resident Steve Sims spoke next stating he had two comments to make, one that he was pleased with the response to the issues on Shaw Road regarding weight limits. His next comment was that he would like to see the merits of Township Government versus the alternative. Mary Smedegard spoke next asking why people want to get rid of Belvidere Township when they seem to be doing all right financially and not in a bad situation like some of the other government bodies. Ms. Smedegard also stated that she is very happy with the Township Road District, stating that she has never been snowed in and she lives out in the country she wants things to stay the same. Vickie Buhl asked if all the Townships have to approve to be dissolved. Township Attorney Keri-Lyn Krafthefer answered the question stating that yes all the Townships would have to approve to be dissolved.

Moderator Hursh asked for a motion to set the next Annual Town Meeting for April 9, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the Township Building 8200 Fairgrounds Road Belvidere. A motion was made by Les Reid to set the date for the next Annual Town Meeting for April 9, 2013. The motion was 2nd by Pat Murphy and passed with all ayes no nays on a voice vote.

There being no other business of the Town, Moderator Hursh asked for a motion to adjourn. Karen Schrader made a motion to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 6:45pm, motioned 2nd by Dave Gallano and passed with all ayes no nays on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted
Judy Schabacker, Clerk
James Hursh, Moderator