

State of Illinois

Kendall County

Town of Kendall

At the regular monthly Town Meeting held in said town and country, in the state of Illinois at Kendall Township Hall on Tuesday January 17 2023. Meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Supervisor Steve Gengler. Township officials present were Steve Gengler Supervisor, Doug Westphal, Highway Commissioner, Cathy Scalise, Kendall Township Assessor, Steve Grebner, Town Clerk and all trustees: Carolyn Pottinger, Zach Turnbow, Doug Thanepohn and Don Hirsch.

Supervisor Gengler lead the board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Sheriff Department Update: Dep Kubinski informed clerk Grebner he had no information for tonight's meeting and if any questions were forthcoming to reach out to him and he will do his best to answer them at that time.

Minutes from December meeting were read. Assessor found two small corrections - those corrections were noted and Motion was made to amend the meetings minutes was made by Zach Turnbow and seconded by Doug Thanepohn. Roll was called and motion passed unanimously. Motion was then made to approve the minutes by Doug Thanepohn and seconded by Zach Turnbow and motion passed unanimously.

General Funds and Road District bills were reviewed and motion to approve was made by Don Hirsch and seconded by Zach Turnbow. Motion was approved unanimously.

Income report and settlement sheets were shared and reviewed, and Supervisor Gengler did want to bring to Trustees' attention we did receive additional PPRT payments to both the General Township and Road and Bridge budgets. We are in good position in both of our budgets.

Reports:

Assessor: Annual Assessor's meeting was held with Kendall County on 1/9/2023. Average Factor for Kendall Township is 1.11. While this is an AVERAGE, the township assessor wanted to emphasize the point that many people will see a different amount than this on their individual tax bill. An average is just that, so some will be higher and some will be lower.

Assessor said that while historically this is a quieter time, this year it has not been so. This could be due to continual growth in our township residential construction and the natural lag time in getting proper information to assessor's office as well as additional requests by county and state for more information and transparency. While this is a good thing and our staff has been making tremendous progress in getting information updated and entered into the system it has required (as mentioned in previous meetings' reports) the need to secure an additional license for the VPAMS system. This will allow 3 staff to work simultaneously on the system entering photos and information. The vendor was very accommodating, allowing us to split the payment over this year and next year's fiscal budgets. We will be looking to request and process a budget transfer for the personnel line item in the very near future. A reminder again as this year is the Quadrennial update which requires a review of all properties.

Assessor also wanted to inform everyone that the efforts by her and her staff to improve the transparency, accuracy and exposure of the township data benefits the county and the township in a very positive manner. Also wanted to remind all Seniors that they need to reapply annually for their Senior Exemption and if applicable, Senior Freeze on assessments with the County. Clerk Grebner asked if she could supply a website with more information about this he would add it to our township site and try to raise awareness.

Highway Commissioner: It has been pretty quiet so far in January, and this has allowed the Highway commissioner to address some pressing issues in the shop. We are presently securing a quote to update and upgrade the lighting in the shop to convert to LEDs. This will be a good investment in both quality of light and longevity - maintenance of the current lights is costly and must be repeated regularly and with new LED technology the cost of operation will be less as well.

Commissioner is looking at maintenance and emissions issues with trucks and there is a Recall on the Peterbilt that he is working on.

Clerk's Report: There was no real info to report by Clerk, but was asked to get data for website traffic and report out at next meeting. Clerk said he would do so.

Supervisor:

- (A) Whistleblower protection policy #23-01 was distributed and discussion regarding it ensued (see Action assignment (A) below). This is a reaffirmation/ re-adoption of an existing policy but as is best practices, these should be reviewed and reaffirmed every couple of years. Questions regarding what exactly had to be included in the "pamphlet" to be published. Clerk Grebner will make inquiries and provide a pamphlet as soon as possible but all agreed that would not preclude us from voting on the re-adoption of this policy.

Gathering quotes for window replacement for the Township office building as two south facing windows are leaking and need to get them replaced. Supervisor Gengler is doing a deeper dive into the opportunity to transfer some of our funds into the Illinois Asset Fund for a better Return on Investment. This is a fund used by other townships in IL to earn interest and still allows for liquidity in the event it is needed.

Action Items:

- (A) Action was taken to call for a motion to approve Whistleblower Protection Policy #23-01. As stated above discussion ensued and Motion was made by Zach Turnbow and seconded by Don Hirsch. A request for additional questions/comments was made and hearing none, roll was called and motion passed unanimously.

Other Items/Information:

On Saturday Feb 4th there is the Annual Planning Commission Workshop Meeting for the County. It is at 9 AM at the Kendall County Office Building. Clerk Grebner will plan to attend as well as Supervisor Gengler as well as other trustees and elected officials of the township.

Supervisor Gengler wants to attend the Kendall County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update meeting on 1/24/2023. Clerk Grebner, Highway Commissioner Westphal said they would attend as well.

Discussion was brought forth by Trustee Turnbow about potential of supplying IPADS for trustees in lieu of printing out all of the meeting packet information. Since all are already in electronic form, printing multiple copies for all attendees seems to be a wasteful process. Supervisor Gengler stated he will look into the potential of getting a grant to aid in the purchase of these devices. Clerk Grebner stated he does not need one as he has a township provided laptop and to have both would not be prudent.

No other items were brought forth and motion to adjourn was made by Doug Thanepohn and Seconded by Carolyn Pottinger at 9:12 PM. Approved unanimously by voice vote. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting February 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM at Township Building.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Grebner Kendall Township Clerk

