

**SOUTH MOLINE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**April 17, 2023**

**PRESENT** — Greg Aguilar, Supervisor; Andrea Anderson, Trustee; Howard Gripp, Trustee; Nick Vyncke, Clerk; Kent Breecher, Derrick Burton, Jasmine Lee, and Ashley Pankey.  
Absent: Brian Forsberg, Trustee; and Bob Schultz, Trustee.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** — Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Supervisor Aguilar.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** — Motion by Anderson, second by Gripp, that we approve the minutes of March 20, 2023. Motion carried, with all voting in favor.

**OFFICIALS' REPORTS** —

- a. **Clerk** — Vyncke reminded all that Statement of Economic Interests are due at the beginning of May.
- b. **Cemetery** — A lot of trees are down with the recent storm. TOIRMA will cover up to \$5,000 of tree removal. Anderson asked if there is no other insurance. Breecher stated that there is a funeral planned soon. That specific location must be taken care of quickly. Breecher continued by presenting plants that will be used to overtake the hill to decrease costs and maintenance time. Discussion ensued on the availability of water. Access was found on another line that will need repair.

Aguilar once again brought up the ongoing conflict of interest in having a South Moline Township Road and Bridge employee take care of the cemetery property using his own business. Aguilar asked Breecher to confirm or present anything saying that this is not a conflict of interest. Breecher stated that a contract was signed and the cemetery board does not want to break said contract. This individual has been taking care of the cemetery for over four years. Breecher stated he is not an employee of the township, but an employee of Road and Bridge district. He continued by stating how hard it is to find someone willing to take on such a task for the current price. Breecher believes the current situation does not pertain to this individual because he is a part-time employee. Breecher believes a breach of contract at this time will bring on a lawsuit. Anderson gave her opinion and stated that if something seems questionable, it probably should not be done. Aguilar read the statute from the Laws and Duties Handbook which stated that:

*“No township/road district officer or employee may be interested or indirectly, in his or her own name or in the name of any other person, association, trust, or corporation, in any contract work, materials, profits for work or materials, or services to be furnished or performed for the township/road district or for any person operating a public utility wholly or partly within territorial limits of the township/road district.”*

Aguilar does not believe this is acceptable based on this statute. Anderson confirmed her beliefs. Aguilar asked the timing of the contract. Breecher believes it is until November, 2024.

Breecher believes there is no issue either way. He stated that South Moline Township Board gave the power to the cemetery board to act on this contract in the past. The cemetery board approved hiring him. Breecher stands by his statement that he does not believe it is an issue and it could turn into a lawsuit. Discussion ensued. Aguilar mentioned

that time sheets that were requested by the auditor have not been submitted by the cemetery board. The township board hopes things get straightened out soon. Further discussion is needed.

- c. **Youth** — A thank-you letter was presented by the YMCA for the township's previous donation. A report on individual children receiving each donation will be coming soon.

#### **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT —**

**G.A. Report** - Pending 2, Approved 1, Denied 2, Terminated 1, Sanctioned 1; Total 7.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS —**

**Jazzercise** – A monthly payment sheet going back to April of 2018 was presented. Monthly rent is \$1,650 a month. Temporary relief was provided due to state regulation on COVID, as well as the board's understanding of the situation. Over \$33,000 has not been paid. The normal payment schedule has been back on track since July of 2022. Aguilar asked the board if there was a solution they would like to see done. Should there be full repayment, partial with the circumstances, or some other solution? Anderson believes something needs to be done. This could be raising the rent for a time period or setting certain money in escrow, etc. Aguilar wants to present the tenant with options. It was the consensus of the board that we figure something out that is fair for everyone.

#### **NEW BUSINESS —**

- a. **Veterans Program Discussion** – Mr. Derrick Burton was introduced by Aguilar. Burton explained that he was approached by Aguilar in the hope of presenting some options for veterans in the community. He continued by stating his history and how he came to be in the situation of helping local veterans. He then stated how they came up with various ideas and possibly using the Senior Center to do so. He would like to organize a physical training session, provide organized rides to and from hospitals, provide community beautification activities, etc. He made clear that the goal of this program would be to give veterans an opportunity to occupy their time and give them something to look forward to. He emphasized how important it is for veterans, especially those with P.T.S.D., to have a mindful routine. It was agreed upon that hopefully things will get going soon. Anderson wanted to confirm that the township had enough staff and could be available. Aguilar does not believe it will be a conflict. Aguilar continued by stating he does not want to compete or take anything away from the Veterans Center of East Moline.
- b. **Efficiency Study** – A June 10 committee must be organized and written reports filed with the county. Aguilar listed requirements for the committee. Aguilar proposed a meeting be held on May 15.
- c. **Fire Protection Update** – All is complete. Letters will come to constituents soon.
- d. **Lot Sale** - Vyncke opened 1 bid. Pankey and Lee explained the contingency of tank removal. Pankey made it known that she believes this is an extremely fair offer, based on the recent appraisal. Anderson made a motion to accept the bid of \$116,000. Gripp seconded the motion, and motion passed with all voting in favor. Paperwork is pending for the sale.
- e. **Road and Bridge Budget** - Discussion ensued on various items, including a transfer possibility set at the Annual Meeting. It is in place for catastrophes. Anderson would like to ask a few questions of the road commissioner to see comparisons from previous years. Further discussion is needed.

**MEETINGS & EDUCATION —**

**Next Board Meeting: Tuesday May 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.**  
South Moline Township Hall, 2521 53<sup>rd</sup> Street, Moline, IL

**TRUSTEES APPROVAL OF BILLS BY FUNDS —**

- a. TOWN FUND
  1. TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
  2. ASSESSOR — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
  3. TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- b. TOWN FUND — FICA — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- c. TOWN FUND — IMRF — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- d. GENERAL ASSISTANCE — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- e. ROAD & BRIDGE / GENERAL FUND — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- f. ROAD & BRIDGE / IMRF FUND — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- g. ROAD & BRIDGE / FICA FUND — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- h. ROAD & BRIDGE / EQUIPMENT & BLDG — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- i. ROAD & BRIDGE / INSURANCE FUND — Motion by Anderson for approval; second by Gripp. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.
- j. CEMETERY — Motion by Gripp for approval; second by Anderson. Ayes: Anderson, Gripp, and Aguilar. Unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT** — Motion by Anderson, second by Gripp, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, with all voting in favor. Meeting adjourned @ 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Nicholas “Nick” Vyncke**  
South Moline Township Clerk