

State of Illinois

County of Will

Town of Crete

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CRETE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

April 28, 2025

The Budget Workshop meeting of the Crete Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Liccar at 4:00 PM.

Board members were Trustee Elton, Trustee Albrecht, Trustee Piacentini (Absent), Trustee Hawkins, and Supervisor Liccar. Assessor Tamez, Anthony Recupito, Trustee Elect Sterdivant were present. Clerk Buiter was also present.

A Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Supervisor Liccar mentioned that the budgets are based on past historical figures and nowadays inflation comes into play. Assessor Tamez's budget was discussed. Taxpayers do not understand what her office does. She has talked to at least 3000 people a year. She is involved in the assessor's association which runs around \$4000 but she tries to control her costs has put in only \$3000. Supervisor Liccar mentioned that if it does increase, we can increase later since it is immaterial to our budgets. She went over her line items. The software cost will be going up so we can't cut that. She is okay with all the other line items. She mentioned all the mailers are sent out by Will County, so she does not use a lot of the printing costs. She is also doing an outreach tent at the outdoor farmers' market.

Road and Highway Commission Anthony Recupito discussed his budget in a detailed manner. The \$50000 is from upgrading the truck he ordered. That will go away when he gets the truck delivered. His payroll reflects his merit raises and employees get more pay if they take on more responsibilities. People are confused about a driveway to a house that is not our responsibility. After a few years, he contacted an attorney to get something in writing that it is a driveway and not a road. The local judge agreed with us. The homeowner is appealing the judgement. This is a situation that we will go after them if it costs us money.

Trustees elected Sterdivant asked about Love's Lane and Highway Commissioner Recupito stated that it is University Park Road and they are not maintaining the road. The second item was about King's Road and Highway Commissioner mentioned that once a town/village annex a property or land, they are responsible for the roads. She also wants to set up a community cleanup event. She also mentioned that residents are confused. They think a road is there, but it turns out to be a driveway.

Supervisor Liccar went over the township budget. The revenue increased by inflation which is given to us by Will County via the tax Levy ordinances. We increased the mosquito abatement line by \$15,000 for the chemicals. Fay says she has another person in mind to replace her since she is the community center coordinator. We increase the youth committee. Tiffany will be handling the youth committee and Trustee Albrecht will run the community center. The paratransit services were included for three months. Hopefully we will not have to use since Will County has picked up all the costs for the last year. to have an inspection done and new zoning. There is a transfer of The inter transfer of \$100,000 to the

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capital improvement fund is for the improvements to our buildings. Trustee Hawkins was informed that she increased the senior fund to \$25,000. On the community center revenue will be usage fee and Supervisor Liccar did a best guess for each room. The payroll expenses went up since we hired a new community center coordinator. That person will be there every day so more expenses and get paid hourly. Maintenance and utilities are at best estimates. On the Move coordinator gets paid \$300 a week. The capital improvement fund is in US T-Bills right now and will be used to make changes to the community center. We must be careful how we spend money unnecessarily. Trustee Elton discussed that the HVAC system has 12 units which are separated from each since they service separate rooms. New alarms and security system in the center. We have repaired a lot of the equipment, including the floor scrubbers, which saved us a lot of money. The floors are very clean and shiny. We had got some ARPA money to help purchase the building. Supervisor Liccar mentioned he put in \$150,000 for capital outlays which included interior and exterior work and another \$15,000 for space planning and \$50,000 for equipment so in total he allocated \$215,000 for the building. Trustee Elton is getting a lot of seniors to volunteer to do a lot of work in the building. Supervisor Liccar and Clerk Buiter will be going down to Springfield for Lobby Days. He is trying to set up meetings with the three elected officials down there. He will keep us posted. General Assistance is based on individual cases. He talked to another supervisor at another township who uses some funds for senior events with the general assistance fund. He is still checking into this matter. Payroll was discussed and patty Hanus will get 3% raise which equates to her getting \$21.75 per hour and Pam Vazquez will stay the same per hour. Clerk Buiter suggested we must publish 30 days before the next budget meeting. Supervisor Liccar called a special meeting on May 5, 2025 at 4 PM.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Trustee Albrecht - yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes.

Meeting stands adjourned at 5:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Buiter, Clerk