

State of Illinois

County of Will

Town of Crete

CRETE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 8, 2025

The regular board meeting of the Crete Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Liccar at 7:00 PM.

The board members present were Trustee Elton, Trustee Albrecht, Trustee Piacentini, and Supervisor Liccar. Trustee Hawkins was absent. Clerk Buiter was also present.

A Pledge of Allegiance was given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the Town Fund Tax Levy Meeting on December 11, 2024, was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Road and Bridge Tax Levy Meeting on December 11, 2024, was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Trustees Meeting on December 11, 2024, was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS:

Supervisor Liccar mentioned that the special use permit for the electronic sign we are putting out is in progress. We are also interviewing architects and planners to help us to utilize the building to its fullest potential. They will come up with a plan to help us in this area. We would like to develop a senior center. We would like to establish a commercial kitchen in the big back area. We will work with the Crete Historical Society to display historical artifacts in the front vestibule area and a room to house some of their artifacts a room. Crete Creative is interested in setting up an area for art classes and studio. The former owner still occupies three of the offices. Trustee Albrecht found recently that Cook County CEDC has a block grant program, and she wrote them today requesting information and application. He mentioned that Trustee Hawkins and Supervisor Liccar are having a meeting on January 17, 2025, with the Age Guide, which is the federal program for seniors' programs. Pam Schilling donated her equipment from Curves to the community center and now is called on the Move. He and Trustee Elton met with the janitorial services and a fresh new coat of paint will be put in the highly visible areas in the center. He also put together a volunteer waiver release and indemnification form for on the Move volunteers. He also sent release and hold harmless form application and On the Move membership application. A motion was made to approve these aforementioned documents by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee

Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absent, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar has scheduled for Sean Richardson, who is trained in providing CPR training. The training is for volunteers on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 6 PM at Town Hall.

A motion was made to assess an annual \$240 membership for both residents and nonresidents by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absent, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar will work with the community center coordinator to see who should have any access to the community center. It was also mentioned that volunteers can send their background and experience, and he will circulate to the board members. On the Move program can open on January 20, 2025. A volunteer, Marlyn Thiebalt, stated that she has had many surgeries done on her body and a lot of rehabilitation. She is very thankful for hosting the old Curves program, now On the Move. She is very appreciated for the ability to do physical therapy to keep limber and active.

A motion was made to approve the Building Usage Application: Angels on Assignment, Meeting Room, Feb 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3, 2025, 5:00 – 8:00 PM by Trustee Elton, seconded Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absence, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

CLERK: Clerk Buiter – None

Supervisor Liccar - Financial Reports. See attached.

Highway Commissioner – See Attached Report from Highway Commissioner Recupito.

Assessor: See Attached Report from Assessor Tamez

Plan Commission – John Rzymiski - Supervisor Liccar mentioned that the board vehemently opposes the solar farm expansion in our township. He has filed a letter with the Will County Land Use Department that states this objection and the reasons why. The Crete Township Board is opposed to any further solar farm developments in our area for several reasons, including the following: 1. The locations of sites of proposed solar farms appear to be chosen haphazardly with little or no regard for the residences in proximity to the proposed site. We are opposed to a patchwork of these sites popping up throughout our Township, particularly as they come closer to residential areas. 2. There does not appear to be enough data over an appropriate time frame to alleviate possible environmental concerns including soil, air and ground water pollution, which is particularly concerning as many homes rely on well water in Crete Township. 3. The operators who have been previously granted permits for solar farms have a history violating the conditions of their Special Use Permits such as properly maintaining the buffer areas as well as vegetation growth around the solar panels themselves. Crete Township has no authority or infrastructure to enforce the conditions against violations. 4. In many cases, it appears that many of these are operated by collapsible limited liability companies with no large, capitalized business guaranteeing their activities. 5. We are concerned that such projects in proximity to residential

properties would cause a reduction in property values. Please note that as an incentive, the Applicant offered Crete Township a "Community Benefit Agreement" which included a donation of \$30,000 to Crete Township provided "The Township agrees that it will not object to the Company's request for zoning entitlements (including but not limited to a special use permit, rezoning, or variances) related to the Project before Will County's Planning and Zoning Committee, County Board or any committee thereof." On November 13, 2024, the Crete Township Board unanimously chose not to accept the Community Benefit Agreement from the Applicant. This decision had been previously communicated to the Applicant. A motion was to approve this letter of correspondence by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absence, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

The tiny home was discussed. The temporarily permit was approved by Will County Land Use. Supervisor Liccar composed a letter of correspondence stating many objections, but it fell on deaf ears. We feel that the land use committee can approve these temporary use permits without full board approval. He is asking why the issues like no water hookup or septic as well that there is a shed on property that can be served as a community center. A motion to approve this letter of explanation be sent to the Will County Board by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absence, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Liaison Property Code Report – No report

Building and Grounds – Trustee Elton mentioned that the furnaces and water plumbing are all repaired. Rooms will be painted over the next two weeks.

Senior Transportation – Trustee Piacentini - No report.

Youth – Trustee Albrecht stated that TOI is giving several \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors. She will distribute the applications to all public and private schools in the township. She is orchestrating with Fay Kiaurakis to put up a program for your youth for fishing. That will start in the spring. She also stated 99 families participate in the Christmas gift distribution program. Congratulations Trustee Albrecht. She will be looking for volunteers to help her out next year.

Mosquito Abatement – Fay Kiaurakis stated the pickup is all winterized and just waiting for next spring. She needs a budget by March 2025. Supervisor Liccar informed her the budget gets approved in April time frame, but she can give us her dollar amounts anytime, and they will be incorporated.

Senior – Trustee Elton stated that there will be a St. Patrick's Corned Beef lunch on March 13, 2025, at the Community Center. is the senior lunch.

Special Events – No report

OLD BUSINESS –

NEW BUSINESS –

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – A resident wanted a referendum question added to the April 1, 2025, Consolidated ballot. This is related to the property tax relief fund. It is a non-binding referendum.

The 2019 legislation was to bring property tax relief to over 3 million homeowners that will be affected. Supervisor Liccar mentioned that they will take under advisement and will reach out to the township attorney to see if we have time to put on ballot. The referendum states as follows: "Shall the State of Illinois, which has the second highest property taxes in the nation, deliver annual property tax rebates to more than three million residential property taxpayers in Illinois, as provided for in the Illinois Property Tax Relief Fund Act of 2019?"

CORRESPONDENCE –

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

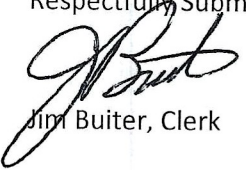
EXECUTIVE SESSION –

APPROVAL OF Town Fund Bills – Motion to approve the Town Fund bills for payment as presented was made by Trustee Piacentini, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absence, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Town Fund Bills stand approved for payment as submitted.

Road and Bridge Fund Bills – Motion to approve the Road and Bridge Fund bills for payments as submitted was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Hawkins – excused absence, Trustee Piacentini – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Road and Bridge Fund Bills stand approved for payment as submitted.

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Adjournment passes. The meeting stands adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted


Jim Buiter, Clerk

Approved 2/12/2026