

DRAFT

State of Illinois

County of Will

Town of Crete

CRETE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

November 13, 2024

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

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

A Pledge of Allegiance was given.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Directors meeting held on October 9, 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 TORMA insurance is \$5,000,000 which is minimal and will bump it up to \$10,000,00. Trustee Albrecht thought it should be insured up to 80% of the value. Trustee Elton thought it should be valued at \$10,500,000. A motion was made to make the building insurance with TORMA \$10,000,000 by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar discussed the solar farm issue. There are a lot of containments and there is a lot of noncompliance issues with the companies. Highway Commissioner Recupito mentioned that the solar farm companies are installing culverts wrong and not maintaining the farms. A group out of California called by Renewable Properties, LLC is interested in setting up a solar farm near East Beemes Road. Will County Land Use handles the permitting of such matters. They offered to donate \$30,000 to the township. A motion was to deny the community benefit zoning permit by Trustee Elton, Second by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar mentioned the building assessment of the new community center from Professional Building Services(PBS) from Crete, IL. They sent a letter that he read to the board and audience. They called this a preconstruction study, and it would be between \$12,000 to \$15, 000. Trustee Albrecht thought it was very expensive for this type of activity. This is the same group who built the building originally. A motion was made to approve this preconstruction assessment contract with PBS general contractor by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

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Supervisor Liccar discussed the staffing of the new community center. The person will have to be event coordinator. There will be a lot of scheduling. Trustee Hawkins has organized a morning event for coffee and doughnuts at 8 AM on November 22, 2024, for all residents.

Supervisor Liccar mentioned that the Crete Curves group is willing to donate the equipment to the new community center. They sent us a letter. The leader mentioned that they are willing to operate the room with the equipment and volunteer to help people to organize the classes and the appropriate equipment. Participants pay a monthly membership fee. The equipment is around 15 years old, and they are all hydraulic and the annual maintenance is very minimal. The membership fee is \$49 a month and they will have volunteers to run the classes and equipment maintenance. The group will move the equipment over to the new building from their current location located in downtown Crete. It was also mentioned that their hours are staggered between mornings, afternoons, and early evening. A motion was made to accept the donation of the equipment and volunteers from Crete Curves by Trustee Albrecht, second by Trustee Hawkins. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar discussed the Crete Connection newsletter with a calendar attached to it. It will include the all-township agencies. We would get a page in it. A motion was made to approve the agreement to be part of this newsletter with a quarterly cost of \$500 by Trustee Albrecht, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar has composed a usage agreement with several restrictions incorporated in the body of the agreement. The usage fee will be a nonresident and resident fee. The fee for a large room is \$500 and small rooms will be \$125. The use of the park area in the back is \$100 a day. A motion was made to adopt the Crete Township usage agreement and the Crete Township Community Center building usage policy and the Crete Township Community Center policies and procedures, by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar mentioned that the tax levy will be asking for 3.6% due to the new community center. It will be an increase of \$35 to \$40 per house. The Road and Bridge is asking for a 1.28% increase, which is very modest. A motion was made to publish the notice of the proposed tax levy increases for both Crete Township General Fund and the Road and Bridge fund by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Supervisor Liccar had a thorough discussion of the salary and benefits of all the Supervisor's office. A motion was made to make no changes in the salary and benefits of the Supervisor by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All the elected officials. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

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A motion was made to provide group health insurance to Clerk Buiter and his family and keep his salary the same amount by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Hawkins. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

A motion was made to keep the salary the same for all trustees elected by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. . All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Next discussion was about the Assessor's salary and benefits. Supervisor Liccar suggested we raise her salary by \$6,000 each year for four years. The reason is this increase will keep our assessor's salary and benefits in line with the local assessor's salary. A motion was made to approve this increase in the assessor's salary to \$58000 a year by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

Next discussion was on the Highway Commissioner's salary and benefits. Our Highway Commissioner and his assistant Tim Miller have done a tremendous job maintaining our roads. Supervisor Liccar recommended we raise his annual salary by \$2500 for the next 4 years. His health benefits are provided. A motion was made to increase his salary by \$2500 a year for the next 4 years by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

A motion was made to provide all employee's major medical and critical illness insurance at no cost to the township by Trustee Elton, seconded by Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

A motion was made to accept the New Star Sertoma offer of \$3000 a month usage fee and they will provide janitorial services to us by Supervisor Liccar, seconded by Trustee Elton. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

A motion was made to approve the building usage application for the: Crete Pantry Packaging and Distribution of Christmas Baskets December 12 through 14, 2024, All Day, Kitchen and meeting room by Trustee Elton, seconded Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

A motion was made to approve the Building Usage Application: Steger Sports Programs Banquet Community Center, November 23, 2024 Noon through 6 PM by Trustee Elton, seconded Trustee Hawkins. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

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A motion was made to approve the Building Usage Application: Robert Bartkowiak Event, Community Center, November 24, 2024, Noon through 6 PM by Trustee Elton, seconded Trustee Albrecht. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – yes, Supervisor Liccar – yes. Motion passes.

CLERK: Clerk Buiter – We had almost 2100 voters came through the door for early voting.

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 Rzymski reported about the solar farm properties are installing the solar panels on the Goodenow Road property. There was a public hearing about the I-57 access study was held at the Will County Fairgrounds. There was a complaint about a property. One was 902 Windsor Heights, Balmoral Heights with overgrown weeds and some tree samplings. Clerk Buiter had sent a certified letter and was waiting to receive the green card back stating they had received the letter. There was a general discussion about the tiny house on Beemes Road. Will County does not have an ordinance on these types of structures. Supervisor Liccar will ask John Ryzmanski about the status of this matter with Will County Land Use department. The concern is that the buildings have zero feet of access to the properties from the roads over there. They are trying to put a RV on the site. Supervisor Liccar they can't do it. NO knows if anyone is living there. Assessor Tamez saw some lights and there was an activity

Liaison Property Code Report – No report

Building and Grounds – Trustee Elton mentioned Town Hall had its sump pump replaced. The new community center building was being excavated in the parking lot so the water flow in the parking lot goes into the drainage ditch. The chairs and tables will be delivered the week of November 18, 2024.

Senior Transportation – Trustee Piacentini was absent and had no report.

Youth – Trustee Albrecht stated that she is moving the Christmas toys to the conference room around December 15, 2024. She will be a will have Christmas present. store where each child gets 5 presents.

Mosquito Abatement – Fay Kiaurakis stated the pickup is all winterized and just waiting for next spring. She plans on bringing her tools to the basement in the beginning of November.

Senior – Trustee Hawkins mentioned she is organizing senior breakfast/coffee meeting on November 22, 2024 at 8 AM at the new community center. She also mentioned that we will have a bus trip to Drury Lane in Oak Brook December 5 It will be lunch and a show, and the cost is \$67. Leaving the Town Hall at 18 AM and coming back around 3 PM.

Special Events – No Report

OLD BUSINESS –

NEW BUSINESS –

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD –

DRAFT

CORRESPONDENCE –

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

APPROVAL OF Town Fund Bills – Motion to approve the Town Fund bills for payment as presented 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 – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, 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 Albrecht, seconded by Trustee Hawkins. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken as follows: Trustee Elton – yes, Trustee Albrecht – yes, Trustee Piacentini – absent, Trustee Hawkins – 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 8:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Buiter, Clerk

**Crete Township
Cash Balances for Meeting on
Wednesday, November 13, 2024**

Town Fund Checking - Old Plank Trail	24,036.30	0.00%
Town Fund Master Money Market - Old Plank Trail		0.20%
Town Fund	298,551.89	
Town Fund Insurance	37,320.13	
Town Fund Retirement	66,778.84	
General Assistance	16,543.07	
Town Fund US Treasury Bonds		
01-09-25 Maturity	157,086.58	4.445%
Cash	505.67	
Town Fund Retirement US Treasury Bonds		
Cash	101,183.65	
Town Fund Insurance US Treasury Bonds		
Cash	50,595.22	Invest in 3-6 month T-Bill
Capital Improvements Fund - Old Plank Trail	110,446.12	0.20%
Capital Improvements Fund - US Treasury Bonds		
11-14-24 Maturity	403,947.48	5.00% Invest in 3-6 month T-Bill
01-09-25 Maturity	50,639.43	4.43%
Cash	45.66	
Combined Insurance Acct - Old Plank Trail	34,565.66	0.00%
General Assistance Checking - Old Plank Trail	4,536.50	0.00%
General Assistance US Treasury Bonds		
02-20-25 Maturity	107,681.10	4.681%
01-09-25 Maturity	71,490.96	4.417%
Cash	525.19	
Road & Bridge Checking - Old Plank Trail	22,740.64	0.00%
Road & Bridge Master Money Market -Old Plank Trail		0.20%
Road & Bridge Fund	732,029.68	
R&B Insurance	85,062.05	
R&B Retirement	155,956.26	
Road & Bridge - US Treasury Bonds		
01-09-25 Maturity	579,871.12	4.461%
Cash	130.97	
Total	<u>3,112,270.17</u>	

TOWNSHIP OF CRETE

Office of the Assessor
Mary Margaret Tamez

November 13, 2024

Township Meeting Notes:

- We are still receiving exemptions and renewals. As of today, we have filed 1,139 exemptions in our office. To give you the amount of workload change, in 2015 we had 402 filed, in 2019 we had 874 filed. It has almost tripled in the last 9 years.
- Leigh is drawing the field staff work, entering permits, and exemptions.
- Paige is doing all the deed work and exemptions.
- Appeal season is completed. I had 51 hearings filed and of those, 17 I was able to settle prior to going to the hearing. It is a very busy time of the year.
- We are no longer able to submit corrections for the 2023 property tax bill.



CRETE TOWNSHIP ROAD DISTRICT

WILL COUNTY

ANTHONY RECUPITO, Highway Commissioner

25405 S. STATE STREET • CRETE, ILLINOIS 60417

708-672-7732 • FAX: 708-672-9487

CRETETOWNSHIP.COM

HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER'S

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 13TH, 2024

1. EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE IS ON- GOING.
2. DITCHWORK COMPLETED ON BENDING CREEK TRAIL.
3. SIGN REPAIRS/REPLACEMENTS-COTTAGE GROVE AVENUE (SOLAR STOP BATTERY).
4. LANDSCAPE RESTORATION AROUND NEW CULVERTS.
5. APPLIED SHOULDER STONE ALONG NEWLY PAVED ROADS.
6. TREE TRIMMING/REMOVAL COMPLETED ON CARRIAGE LN., RICHTON RD., AND BEMES RD.
ALSO, REMOVED DOWNED TREE FROM STATELINE ROAD ON 10/31.
7. COLD PATCH ROADS-MATERIAL USED 1.08 TONS.
8. ALL TRACTORS AND MOWER DECKS HAVE BEEN SERVICED AND STORED FOR WINTER.
9. ALL TRUCKS HAVE BEEN SAFETY INSPECTED.
10. WORK AT COMMUNITY CENTER WHICH INCLUDED REMOVING THREE TRUCKLOADS OF DIRT FROM THE PARKING DRAINAGE AREA AND SPILLWAY, REMOVAL OF TREES IN DITCH, MOWING, REWORK DITCH AREA, AND BLOW OFF PARKING LOT.
11. REQUESTING BOARD ACTION TO DECLARE THE SURPLUS OF TRUCK #27-1996 INTERNATIONAL CAB AND CHASSIS VIN TH257973.

Anthony Recupito

Highway Commissioner