

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY OF
BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021; 5:20 P.M.

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington convened for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022 Budget Amendment in the Osbourne Room of the Bloomington Police Department at 5:20 p.m., Monday, August 2, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Trustee Mwilambwe.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll and the following members of the Board answered present:

Trustees present in-person: Donna Boelen, Sheila Montney, Julie Emig, Nick Becker, Mollie Ward, Jeff Crabill, Tom Crumpler, and Mboka Mwilambwe.

Trustees absent: Jamie Mathy and Jennifer Carrillo.

Elected officials present in-person: Deborah L. Skillrud, Supervisor, and Steve Scudder, Assessor.

Staff present in-person: Leslie Yocum, Township Clerk.

Deborah Skillrud, Supervisor, stated the budget amendment had been available to the public for thirty (30) days. Budget amendments included the following additions to the Town Fund: \$300,000 to the Community Emergency Response Program (CERP) and \$317,514 to the Building Repairs line item. The top priority was parking lot improvements.

No individuals registered to speak live or had submitted emailed public comment.

Trustee Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 5:23 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021; 5:30 P.M.

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington convened for a Regular Session in the Osbourne Room of the Bloomington Police Department at 5:30 p.m., Monday, August 2, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Trustee Mwilambwe.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll and the following members of the Board answered present:

Trustees present in-person: Donna Boelen, Sheila Montney, Julie Emig, Nick Becker, Mollie Ward, Jeff Crabill, Tom Crumpler, and Mboka Mwilambwe.

Trustees absent: Jamie Mathy and Jennifer Carrillo.

Elected officials present in-person: Deborah L. Skillrud, Supervisor, and Steve Scudder, Assessor.

Staff present in-person: Leslie Yocum, Township Clerk.

Action and Approval of Minutes of the June 28, 2021, Board Meeting, as presented.

Motion by Trustee Boelen, seconded by Trustee Crabill, that the Minutes be approved as presented.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Trustees Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: none.

Motion carried.

Action and Approval of the Monthly General Town Fund, General Assistance Fund and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery Audits of June 2021 accounts as presented.

Motion by Trustee Boelen, seconded by Trustee Crabill, that the Monthly General Town Fund, General Assistance Fund and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery Audits of June 2021 be approved as presented.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Trustees Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: none.

Motion carried.

Approval of the General Town Fund, Anticipated Expenditures as presented and certified.

Motion by Trustee Boelen, seconded by Trustee Crabill, that the General Town Fund's Anticipated Expenditures be approved as presented.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Trustees Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: none.

Motion carried.

Approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 – 2022 Amended Budget Ordinance.

Deborah Skillrud, Supervisor, stated the budget amendment had been available to the public for thirty (30) days. The Town Fund budget amendments included an additional \$300,000 for the Community Emergency Response Program (CERP) and \$317,514 to the Building Repairs line item. The top priority was parking lot improvements.

Trustee Becker requested additional information on the approximate \$1 million increase from the approved budget estimated balance to the actual balance for the General Town Fund. Mrs. Skillrud would consult the Comptroller and provide a detailed answer to the Board.

Trustee Crumpler requested additional explanation regarding CERP. Mrs. Skillrud would provide new Trustees with the written CERP proposal. She explained General Assistance programs had statutory qualifications. CERP was more flexible to provide aid to residents in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. CERP is located in the General Town Fund which allows more flexibility.

Trustee Ward questioned if applicants must have had COVID-19 to qualify for the CERP. Mrs. Skillrud responded negatively. She provided multiple qualification examples. CERP was able to provide aid for utility billing where most funding sources were unable.

Trustee Crabill confirmed CERP funds were awarded after federal and state funds. Mrs. Skillrud responded affirmatively.

Trustee Crabill noted the City Council considered possibilities to aid those affected by COVID-19. Mrs. Skillrud agreed a partnership between the Township and City would be beneficial.

Leslie Yocum, Township Clerk, stated the City, through Executive Order, recently finalized a repayment plan for past due utility bills. The previous procedure required fifty percent (50%) of the past due balance be paid with the remaining balance, and any additional monthly charges, paid over six (6) months. The new process required twenty-five percent (25%) of the past due balance be paid with the remaining balance paid over six (6) months. Residents could apply once in a twelve (12) month period. The City streamlined the process.

Mrs. Skillrud discussed payment pledges and questioned the effect on the City's utility repayment plan. Mrs. Yocum stated August would be used as a notice month, listing the various ways the plan has been advertised, with no water shut offs until September. Residents would have approximately a month to enter a repayment plan or pay off their outstanding balance. The average past due balance on accounts was \$500.

Trustee Mwilambwe requested Mrs. Yocum send the Board the repayment program information. Mrs. Yocum would provide the information to Tim Gleason, City Manager, who would provide details to City Council.

Motion by Trustee Crumpler, seconded by Trustee Ward, that FY 2021 - 2022 Amended Budget Ordinance be approved and passed.

Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Trustees Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: none.

Motion carried.

Deborah Skillrud, Supervisor, addressed the Board. The Cemetery experienced a few issues because of the storm flooding. Cemetery staff was working with Township Officials of Illinois Risk Management Association (TOIRMA), to fix same. She added the number of General Assistance (GA) applications had increased.

Trustee Emig questioned if Mrs. Skillrud continued to meet with the Housing Coalition. Mrs. Skillrud had not attended the last few meetings due to scheduling conflicts. She has spoken with Coalition representatives to continue their working relationship.

Trustee Ward inquired if individuals within the homeless encampment were eligible for GA. Mrs. Skillrud responded affirmatively with limitations.

Trustee Ward questioned the possible barriers for those individuals or possible limitations on assistance. Mrs. Skillrud cited various qualification requirements and stated GA cannot provide medical assistance.

Trustee Ward confirmed with Mrs. Skillrud the homeless encampment residents would not be turned away from applying to Township services. Mrs. Skillrud added the Township office's address may be used for homeless GA applications and to receive mail if the individual was qualified for GA.

Trustee Ward questioned if Township staff went to homeless encampments to encourage participation in their programs. Mrs. Skillrud stated Township staff did not go into the field. They worked with other local referral organizations.

Trustee Crabill requested additional details on the anticipated General Assistance Fund balance. Mrs. Skillrud stated the tax levy had not been increased. She would provide clarification between estimated verses actual Fund Balances across all Township Funds. As a result of COVID - 19 and the additional federal and state assistance programs available, the Township had not seen the number of applicants anticipated, the result being an increased GA Fund balance.

Steve Scudder, Township Assessor, addressed the Board. His report covered the Illinois Department of Revenue's property tax exemptions. Exemptions affected property taxes. He reminded seniors how to apply for the Senior Exemptions. There were periodic audits to determine if the program's participants qualified or continued to qualify for the program.

Trustee Mwilambwe opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. Leslie Yocum, Township Clerk, stated that no one had registered to speak live or had submitted emailed public comment.

Motion by Trustee Boelen, seconded by Trustee Becker, that the meeting be adjourned.

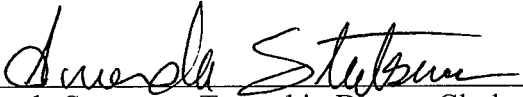
Trustee Mwilambwe directed the Township Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Trustees Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: none.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.


Amanda Stutsman, Township Deputy Clerk