

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at the River Forest Civic Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Carla Sloan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll called:**

Present: Supervisor Carla Sloan, Trustees Mark Kelty, Mary O'Brien, and Veronica Belmonte

Absent: Anna Romeo

Also present: RFCC Executive Director Dick Chappell, Jane Schlichting, Helene Connolly, Assessor Kende, Mental Health/GA Administrator Avis Rudner, and Clerk Karen Taubman

Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular April 14, 2015 meeting, Trustee Kelty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Participation**

- Supervisor Sloan presented trustees with a draft of the budget to be presented at the June budget hearing and voted on during the June meeting. Sloan explained that the Township fund balance is on the high end, so this past year our goal was to allow expenses to exceed revenues, enhance the Township's programs and services, and reduce the fund balance by roughly \$40,000. In 2015-2016, the goal is to further reduce the fund balance by approximately \$30,000. Administrative costs will be kept relatively flat, additional funds spent from the fund balance and savings on the building manager salary will be spent on programming. State legislation has proposed levy freezes, so we need to plan carefully. Trustees provided feedback on the organization of the budget line items, including the further division of administrative expenses into compensation, contracted services, and operational expenses.

**Assessor**

**Pamela Kende**

- The office continues to work with construction permits.
- The office is assisting homeowners with applying for senior exemptions or senior freezes, which require a certificate of error at this time.
- Assessor Kende continues to attend the monthly meetings of the Cook County Assessor's Office.

**Mental Health Committee (MHC)/General Assistance (GA)**

**Avis Rudner**

- The first Sibshop was this past Saturday, with 5 attendees. Families were pleased with the program, and the program seems to be working well.
- We have one current GA recipient. We continue to have a lot of inquiries, but not applicants, for GA. Avis Rudner continues to refer individuals to Prevail's job readiness program.

**Youth Services Committee (YSC)**

**Carla Sloan**

- The monthly YSC meeting was on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Oak Park Township Youth Services is using a software consultant to assist in updating their software program to provide better tracking.
- RFPD and the Rotary will hold the Rotary Day Rally on August 29<sup>th</sup>, to replace the Clear Sky Festival.
- The District 200 Board voted for OPRF to bring social worker/substance abuse program positions back in house on a full-time basis, rather than contract with an outside agency.
- The YSC voted to support a new program, a Robotics camp at Concordia this summer. Discussion focused on launching this new program to ensure the most effective use of funding.
- Supervisor Sloan attended the OPRF resource fair in an effort to promote Sibshops.

## Senior Services

Carla Sloan

- The last Senior Health Series talk was held on April 20<sup>th</sup> with Dr. Vicky Brander to discuss arthritis care; it was a well-attended event.
- The closing lunch of Celebrating Seniors Week is on Thursday. Sloan thanked the staff of the RFCC for their flexibility in hosting numerous events during CSW, and noted the value of the recent Township purchases of new chairs and AV equipment.
- A senior dine out option, Robinson's Ribs, is closing in November, so the Township Senior Center is expanding lunch hours. Age Options is interested in funding alternative lunch sites, so we will consider using the RFCCA building as a catered lunch site once per month.
- Supervisor Sloan visited the Lifelong Learning Center at the Oak Park Arms building. The Center teaches a wide range of arts including weaving, pottery, and woodworking, in addition to foreign languages and bridge. There is a lot of potential for joint programs for RF seniors but Supervisor Sloan recommends that the Center first make some space improvements, such as painting and carpeting.

## Supervisor's Comments

Carla Sloan

- Please join the Township in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday!
- Supervisor Sloan set up the Township brochure rack at Village Hall.
- Supervisor Sloan distributed revised Township office hours.
- Supervisor Sloan discussed options in mailing Township brochures (as printed by OP Township). A decision was made to not mail brochures to each household since they are not River Forest specific, but to have 500 extra brochures available for distribution. Sloan is working on a two page pamphlet to mail in September that specifically pertains to River Forest.

## Approval of Bills

- Trustee O'Brien made a motion to approve bills for April 30, 2015 in the amount of \$13,252.91. See enclosure. Trustee Belmonte seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees, Kelty, O'Brien, and Belmonte  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Belmonte made a motion to General Assistance for April and May 2015 in the amount of \$700.18 See enclosure. Trustee Kelty seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien, and Belmonte  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

## Unfinished Business

Carla Sloan

- Supervisor Sloan will interview 5 potential candidates for the Senior Outreach Coordinator Position. All are well qualified in different ways.
- Re-design of the Township website is not yet underway, due to higher priorities; this will be addressed later in the summer.
- Supervisor Sloan presented trustees a proposal for a new auditor. A request for proposal was made to 4 firms for the Township's auditing services for the three fiscal years FY15, 16 and 17. Three are unable to complete services in the timeframe required or within our budget. Knutte and Associates, however, prepared a very solid proposal for \$5000 and can complete the work in the timeframe we require.
  - Trustee Belmonte made a motion to accept Knutte and Associates as the new Township auditor for the 3-year period, for a fee of \$5000 in the first year, increasing by \$200 each year thereafter. Trustee O'Brien seconded. Roll called.  
Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Kelty, O'Brien, and Belmonte  
Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

- Supervisor Sloan reminded trustees and staff of the May 27<sup>th</sup> River Forest Council of Governments Meeting. Trustees were provided an agenda and outline of the event.

## **New Business**

**Carla Sloan**

- The White Paper on youth substance use in OP and RF has been distributed to all of the key stakeholders. The first meeting of the stakeholders was held last night where the lead researchers presented a topline report of research methods, data and policy recommendations. The group will meet next on June 8 to prioritize policy recommendations and discuss implementation and resource allocation.
- Supervisor Sloan distributed to trustees the new insurance rates for the FY16 from Schulz-Brundage. Overall the net change was a 7% increase.
- Supervisor Sloan made a request to change the date of the July meeting to July 7<sup>th</sup>.

No executive session was held, minutes will be held for a future meeting.

Trustee Belmonte made a motion to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Trustee Kelty seconded, the motion was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned immediately.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Taubman, Clerk