

**RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 5, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of the RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP Board of Trustees took place on Tuesday, December 5 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 Karen Taubman and Holly Economos and Mark Kelty. Trustee Helene Connolly was absent.

Also present: Clerk Abby Schmelling, Senior Outreach Coordinator Cathaleen Roach, RFCCA Administrator Dick Chappell, and Judy Smith, recently past Project Coordinator for the Senior Services Committee.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2017 was made by Trustee Taubman and seconded by Trustee Kelty. The motion passed. A second motion to approve the minutes of the November 21 minutes was made by Trustee Economos and seconded by Trustee Taubman. The motion passed.

Public Participation -- Judy Smith gave summary reports for Referral Line and Reach Out!, the two projects she has been leading on behalf of the Township Senior Services Committee. Discussion followed. Judy is taking a new position with H.O.M.E., a senior services agency in Chicago, and will no longer be coordinating the projects. The Board thanks Judy for her commitment to effectively moving the projects forward and wishes her well.

Reports

Assessor

Pamela Kende

Clerk Abby Schmelling read aloud the Assessor's December 2017 Report:

Phone calls were answered regard what the first installment tax bill will be, which is 55% of last year's tax bill; Questions were fielded regarding what the Board of Review reduction means and how it will affect their tax bill and when it takes effect (second installment of 2018);

New homeowner letters were sent out;

Village permits for the year are being completed; and

Cook County township Assessors Association meetings were attended.

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

Avis Rudner (absent)

- Carla attended a meeting hosted by Riveredge Hospital regarding the telehealth/telepsychiatry program they are introducing as well as offering to other agencies. It is a way to improve access to mental health care and a tool which supplements other means of mental health assessment. People can get care more quickly and the program allows them to be assessed where they are.

Youth Services Committee (YSC)

Carla Sloan

- Carla met Ron Orzel and Bakahia Madison from IMPACT to discuss our work with them going forward. They will not be rehiring a director, but will continue to sponsor and host educational forums similar to the recent “Sex, Drugs and Snapchat” program. They also will be working with a small force of volunteer board members and people willing to take on various projects. Carla said that the Township would continue to fund those types of activities. IMPACT is seeking grant funding from the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation for both opioid and marijuana prevention programs. Carla told Ron that since the Positive Youth Development grant clearly covers alcohol prevention only, there is room for IMPACT to take the lead on work with marijuana, prescription drugs and opioids. Carla mentioned the need to especially focus on the three middle schools.
- The Youth Services Committee next meets on December 6 with Karen Taubman as our new liaison.

Senior Outreach Coordinator

Cathaleen Roach

- Coffee Monday was held December 4. Librarian Dana Janisch spoke about the Library’s new status as a State of Illinois Libraries Services “Talking Books Ambassador,” enabling the library to facilitate access to free services for the visually impaired and physically handicapped.
- A one-page summary of the many upcoming CSAYL programs scheduled from December 2017 to May 2018 was handed out. The schedule for Celebrating Seniors Week, April 26-May 3, 2018, is forthcoming as plans for that week are formalized.
- On December 2, we hosted “Holiday Gadgets” with a representative from a tech company “Very Smart People“. Upcoming programming for December and January include a retrospective look at Marshall Field’s and Christmas memories and a WWII Radio Hour presentation.
- We have received inquiries from Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest, Loyola/Gottlieb, and Arbor West Neighbors asking for partnership and outreach opportunities with River Forest Township.

Supervisor’s Comments

Carla Sloan.

- Carla attended the PlanItGreen sustainability breakfast with a sharing of community success stories.

Approval of Bills

- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve bills as of December 31, 2017 totalling \$10,195.93. It was seconded by Trustee Economos. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman Economos and Kelty. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.
- Trustee Taubman made a motion to approve General Assistance bills as of December 31, 2017 in the amount of \$282.98. It was seconded by Trustee Kelty. Roll was called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman, Kelty and Economos. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Carla reviewed details of the Annual Town Levy for the Town of River Forest for 2017 Tax Year to present to the board for approval.
- A motion was made by Trustee Economos and seconded by Trustee Taubman to approve the Tax Levy for the Town Fund in the amount of \$591,896, the Tax Levy for the General Assistance Fund in the amount of \$8,000; and a Grand Total Township Tax Levy for 2017 of \$599,896. Roll was

called. Ayes: Supervisor Sloan, Trustees Taubman, Kelty and Economos. Nays: None. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Carla Sloan

- Carla reviewed the list of River Forest Township Board of Trustees Meeting Dates for 2018. A motion was made by Trustee Economos and seconded by Trustee Kelty to accept these dates. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the River Forest Township will be on Tuesday, January 16 at 6:00 pm. Trustee Economos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Taubman seconded, the motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Abby Schmelling, Clerk