

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES-BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES  
OCTOBER 19, 2018**

STATE OF ILLINOIS            }  
MCHENRY COUNTY            } SS  
ALGONQUIN TOWNSHIP        }

3:30 P.M. – Lutzow called the regular meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Roll Call:** Victor, Shea, Lutzow, Lawrence and Chapman were present. Also in attendance were Attorney Kelly and Clerk Lukasik.

A motion was made by Victor, seconded by Chapman to enter into closed session for the reasons of pending litigation involving Kirk Allen and the Edgar County Watchdogs vs. Algonquin Township and Road District. Roll call vote: Victor, yes; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, yes; Shea, yes; Lutzow, yes. Motion failed.

**New Business:**

**Transfer of Appropriation – Town Fund:** A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Lawrence to transfer funds for legal expenses for the Clerk in the amount of \$25,000 and for cemetery expenses for tree removal in the amount of 6,000 total transfer amount of \$31,000. Discussion ensued by Lawrence asking the Clerk to be aware of any unnecessary attorney bills. Chapman asked that next budget the Clerk be part of the Township budget and not have her own as this is not necessary. Roll call vote: Victor, yes; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, yes; Shea, yes; Lutzow, yes. Motion carried.

**Transfer of Appropriation – Road & Bridge Fund:** Each appropriation was separated to vote on individually.

A motion was made by Lawrence and seconded by Chapman to transfer for additional legal expenses in the amount of \$8000.00. Discussion ensued. Lawrence was not in support of any more legal expenses for Gasser. She and Victor both agreed that he should have allowed himself enough legal expenses when the budget was created. They both agreed that the legal expenses are becoming uncontrollable and they do not feel it is a necessary transfer. Shea felt that he should not be allowed any more legal funds since the lawsuits continue. All of the trustees expressed discontentment that they could not ask Gasser about this transfer since he did not attend the meeting. Roll call vote: Victor, no; Chapman, no; Lawrence, no; Shea, no; Lutzow, no. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Chapman, seconded by Shea to transfer for additional training in the amount of \$2000.00. Discussion ensued: Lawrence again expressed her disappointment that Gasser did not attend the meeting nor did he back up any proof he needed more funds for training. Shea commented on Gasser’s absence of the meeting. Chapman expressed his desire to

train people as necessary and he felt that this was explained previously to him by Mr. Gasser in hopes to have more employees cross trained in the department. Victor expressed that this should have been considered earlier when the budget was being created and that she could not support the transfer due to Gasser's disregard to attend the meeting to explain why he needed the funds. Roll call vote: Victor, no; Chapman, abstain; Lawrence, no; Shea, yes; Lutzow, yes. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Chapman to approve transfer of funds in the amount of \$9000.00 for training. Discussion ensued: Lawrence did not support this and could not ask questions as Gasser was not in attendance. Victor agreed and did not think it was necessary to spend any more money on training. Shea questioned why this was necessary as he felt the employees already know how to operate chain saws. Chapman supported the training of employees. Roll call vote: Victor, no; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, no; Shea, no; Lutzow, no. Motion failed.

#### **Audit of bills and treasurer's report:**

A motion was made by Lutzow and seconded by Shea to approve and consider separately a bill for reimbursement in the amount of \$80.00. Roll call vote: Victor, yes; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, yes; Shea, yes; Lutzow, abstain. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Lawrence to approve the audit of the bills in the town fund in the amount of \$ \$2,878.03. Roll call vote: Victor, yes; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, yes; Shea, yes; Lutzow, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lawrence, seconded by Victor to remove a \$40,000.00 settlement bill for Edgar County Watchdogs from the Road and Bridge audit. Roll call vote: Victor, yes; Chapman, yes; Lawrence, yes; Shea, yes; Lutzow, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lawrence and seconded by Chapman to approve the \$40,000 settlement bill to Edgar County Watchdogs. Discussion ensued: Lawrence was appalled that she was misled to believe that this was a court order and not an agreement that Gasser, Hanlon and Edgar County Watchdogs entered into on their own. Victor expressed her discontent with Gasser expecting to agree to pay this money when he does not have enough in his line item to spend. She also expressed the same disappointment as Lawrence. Shea shared his extreme aggravation of Gasser's actions and that he is entering into agreements without any conversations with the board. Chapman also shared disappointment that Gasser did not attend the meeting expecting the trustees to approve without any explanations. Victor, no; Chapman, no; Lawrence, no; Shea, no; Lutzow, no. Motion failed by unanimous vote.

**Public Comments:** There was no public comment

**Adjourn the Meeting:** A motion was made by Shea, seconded by Chapman to adjourn. All ayes, motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

**Attached are additional comments verbatim that were added from the Trustees.** Draft  
10/30/2018

We approached Andrew with a potential solution to resolve both the Road District and the Township FOIA case with Edgar County. Andrew agreed to consider the option presented. Andrew talked with Supervisor Chuck who spoke with Attorney Kelly to pass our idea to Attorney Hanlon and I was not pleased with the negative accusatory reply from Andrews Attorney. We appreciate Andrew working with the Township.

Trustee Dave Chapman

Copy/pasted:

I would like to make one last statement:

As we're all probably aware by now, Andrew Gasser has made a press release regarding a purchase of salt that may not have been in compliance with law,

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, I was tipped off by anonymous whistleblowers to an unusual and abnormal six-figure transaction within the Road District. That same day, I sent Commissioner Gasser an email requesting the documents detailing that transaction, to ensure compliance with bidding laws.

Because the Highway Commissioner failed and/or refused to supply that information, or answer phone calls over several days, and with documents obtained by Clerk Lukasik and other sources, I turned over said documents to law enforcement and requested a proper investigation by the authorities to ensure full compliance with the law, as is my duty as an Algonquin Township Trustee. I have faith that law enforcement will detect what, if any malfeasance took place, and take appropriate action, again-if any.

Lastly,

WE, the board of Trustees, ARE the watchdogs of Algonquin Township, and I do not regret taking the appropriate and responsible actions that I was elected to do. I will continue to do my duty as a Trustee of Algonquin Township, without regard for politics, current or previous friendship, or bias.

Thank You.

Rachael Lawrence  
Algonquin Township Trustee