

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COW) MEETING

Ela Township – Lower Level Board Room
1155 East Route 22, Lake Zurich
Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at 8:30 am

MEETING MINUTES

This meeting will be conducted by audio or video conference and may not have a physically present quorum of the Ela Township Board because of a disaster declaration related to COVID-19 public health concerns affecting the Township. Pursuant to Section 7(e)(2) of the Open Meetings Act, the Supervisor has determined that an in-person meeting at the Township building with all participants is not practical or prudent because of the disaster. Township officials, legal counsel, and the Township Manager will not be physically present at the Township Hall, if that is unfeasible due to the disaster. Since physical public attendance at the Township Hall may be limited or not feasible, alternative arrangements for public access to hear the meeting has been made available by contacting the Supervisor's Office at (847) 438-7823 for the Zoom meeting link or the phone number to call into the meeting prior to 8:15 a.m. on June 1, 2022.

1. Call to Order: Supervisor: Supervisor Palmblad called the June 1, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
2. Board Roll Call: Present were Supervisor Palmblad, Trustee Sikes, Trustee Ufodike, Trustee Wilhoit, Assessor Herr, Deputy Clerk Case, Highway Superintendent DePouw, Community Programs Director Dillon, Health & Wellness Director Marx, Assistant Director Dalbec, Youth Coordinator Cacciatore. Management Assistant Snyder was present via Zoom. Trustee Bowman and Clerk Prouty were absent.
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Palmblad led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Discussion – Updates by Chair:
 - a. Community Center Committee – Chair/Trustee Ufodike
Members: Supervisor Palmblad, Trustee Wilhoit, Director Dillon, Assistant Director Dalbec, Youth Coordinator Cacciatore: Director Dillon reported that she accompanied 44 seniors on Danube River cruise. Six travelers from the group contracted Covid-19 while overseas. Two seniors had to stay until they tested negative permitting them to travel back to the USA. The 55+ ladies trip to Door County went very well. 55+ hired a new employee who will head up lunch and learns and day trips, Director Dillon is still searching for a chef, and has enlisted Management Assistant Snyder to help with re-working the job description and posting. The youth department has started summer camp training. Summer camp registration numbers are up, some weeks even have a wait list.
 - b. Communication Committee – Chair/Supervisor Palmblad
Members: Interim Assessor Herr, Director Dillon, Director Marx, Assistant Director Dalbec, and Staff: Supervisor Palmblad reminded the committee of the upcoming ribbon cutting event at Knox Park playground. She also invited the board and staff to attend a celebration prior to the board meeting on June 9 in recognition of a staff member passing their citizenship exam.
 - c. Health & Wellness – Chair/Trustee Wilhoit
Members: Supervisor Palmblad, Trustee Sikes, Director Marx: Director Marx informed the committee that client load has slowed down a bit. She has an interview for a full-time clinician on June 3. IGA's have been signed by the Villages of Kildeer and Lake Zurich. She has also sent one to Hawthorn Woods Police Department. The 15th anniversary party for Charity Knit and Crochet went very well. Staff attended a virtual AITCOY workshop that was very beneficial. The next Health & Wellness committee meeting will be on June 3 at 8:30.

- d. Parks & Recreation Committee – Chair/Trustee Bowman
Members: Supervisor Palmblad, Trustee Ufodike, Highway Superintendent DePouw, and Highway Foreman Meyer: Supervisor Palmblad and Highway Superintendent DePouw updated the committee in Trustee Bowmans absence. Knox Park has been prepped and is ready for the upcoming playground ribbon cutting. Supervisor Palmblad attended a Peace Pole meeting with members of the Village of Lake Zurich and the Lions Club. The location of the pole may have to be moved due to grading and a lightening issue.
- e. Highway Committee – Chair/Trustee Sikes
Members: Supervisor Palmblad, Trustee Bowman, Highway Superintendent DePouw, and Highway Foreman Meyer: Highway Superintendent DePouw updated the committee on progress at Knox Park getting the park ready for the ribbon cutting event. The department is short staffed and they are having a very hard time finding employees. He hopes to have information from the engineer regarding the fitness pad very soon. Forest Lake subdivision resurfacing will begin June 3, and Echo Lake will follow.
- f. Bus Service – Board Liaison – Supervisor Palmblad: Ela #2 broke down due to a bad fuel pump. The Highway Department had repairs complete, and the bus was back in service in two days. Ridership is steady with a slight increase.
- g. Assessor: Assessor Herr was pleased to say that the department is close to having the 2022 books complete. Staff are working diligently on wrapping up outstanding projects. 22 new home permits have come in. The department is still having IT issues that they are working to get resolved.
- h. Historic Society: No report.

5. Topics for Discussion

a. Old Business

- 1. Budget – FY ending 3/31/2023: Supervisor Palmblad reviewed some budget increases and line-item changes that had to be made due to the current the state of the economy with the pricing of materials and services all going up.
- 2. Whistleblower Protection Policy: The whistleblower protection policy was reviewed, and it will be on the agenda for board approval at the June board meeting.
- 3. Peace Pole: Supervisor Palmblad attended a Peace Pole meeting with members of the Village of Lake Zurich and the Lions Club. The location of the pole may have to be moved due to grading and a lightening issue.

b. New Business

- 1. Upcoming Parades: A parade list will be provided to the board, and Ela Township shirts will be ordered for those in need. The group will either take an ET bus or some will walk in front of the ET bucket truck.

6. Set Date of Next COW Meeting (June 29, 2022 @ 8:30 AM)

7. Executive Session: None at this time.

8. Adjourn: Supervisor Palmblad adjourned the Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Deputy Clerk Case

Ela Township

May 23, 2022

Trustee Larry Bowman

Supervisor Gloria M. Palmblad
Trustee Joel Sikes

Clerk Lucy A. Prouty
Trustee Tosi Ufodike

Trustee Laurie Wilhoit