

**AVON TOWNSHIP
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
433 E. Washington Street, Round Lake Park, IL 60073
Monday – September 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Trustee DeLaMar – present	Trustee McNeill – present	Trustee Larson – present
Trustee deGroh – present	Supervisor Rusch – present	<u>Quorum Met</u>

Also present: Clerk Kearby, Attorney Diet, Commissioner Kula and Robin Vidome-O'Donnell representing Assessor Ditton.

4. Approval of Minutes : Monthly

Motion was made by Trustee deGroh and seconded by Trustee DeLaMar to approve August 8, 2016 general meeting minutes.

Trustee DeLaMar –aye	Trustee McNeill – aye	Trustee Larson – aye
Trustee deGroh – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Carries</u>

5. Public Participation (on agenda items only) No Public Participation.

6. Reports:

Supervisor Rusch presented a report to the Board of Trustees highlighting the sponsors for Chili Supper, increased donations to the Diaper Program and the High School Transition program's visit to register to vote. She also noted her attendance for the Round Lake High School's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Assessor Ditton presented a report to the Board of Trustees that was read by Robin Vidone-O'Donnell.stating the number of appeals and the work in the office collecting evidence for those reviews.

Commissioner Kula presented a report to the Board of Trustees highlighting continued work on the roads, resurfacing project came in under budget less than 10%, and new projects of crack sealing and cost estimates to resurface Summit, Lake, Hickory and a part of Forest.

Clerk Kearby presented a report to the Board of Trustees highlighting her standard reports, attendance at a training for the upcoming elections, and the procedures established for the next election. She also solicited people to become mentors or presenters for the Round Lake High School Incubator Program.

Trustee deGroh attended the Hainesville Civil War Reenactment. George Duberstein did an excellent job organizing the event. She wanted to thank George, the Sportmans' Club and the City of Hainesville for an excellent program.

7. Setting the date for the Special Town Hall Meeting

Discussion was held on setting the Special Town Hall meeting to October 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. as well as the regularly scheduled meeting that will begin right after the Special Town Hall.

8. Transfer Resolution No. 2016-09-12 HWY

Motion was made by Trustee DeLaMar and seconded by Trustee Larson to approve Resolution 2016-09-12HWY.

Trustee McNeill – aye	Trustee Larson – aye	Trustee deGroh – aye
Trustee deGroh – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Carries</u>

Supervisor Rusch requested to move the discussion and action on salaries until after Bills. Moved without objection.

9. Bill Payment

Motion was made by Trustee deGroh and seconded by Trustee McNeill to approve the Prepaid Bills.

Trustee DeLaMar –aye	Trustee McNeill – aye	Trustee Larson – aye
Trustee deGroh – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Carries</u>

Motion was made by Trustee deGroh and seconded by Trustee DeLaMar to approve the Outstanding Bills.

Trustee DeLaMar –aye	Trustee McNeill – aye	Trustee Larson – aye
Trustee deGroh – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Carries</u>

10. Discussion and action on Salaries for 2017-2021

Board was presented with salary proposals suggested, a sheet from the Clerk with the percent increases or decreases from their current salary for each elected official.

Trustee deGroh noted that she recommended a cola added to each current salaries. Her numbers are not represented.

Trustee McNeill noted the insurance contribution from elected officials from 10% to 20%. We need to increase salaries to compensate for the increases in insurance.

Discussion was had on current salaries of elected officials.

Motion was made by Trustee DeLaMar and seconded by Trustee McNeill to adopt the ordinance to set salaries at Supervisor and Assessor at \$53,958 starting Jan 1 2017 for the Assessor and Highway Commissioner \$72, 500, Clerk \$20,348, Trustee’s \$100.00 per meeting with a max of \$200.00 per month. Then a 2% cost of living raise for all but Trustees.

Discussion was held on salaries. Trustee McNeill noted that Highway Commissioner is too high and the rest is too low. I suggest keeping the salaries flat or going up to \$57,000. Commissioner up a little higher.

Supervisor Rusch noted the concern of the budget. We are in the black and we are tightening our spending. We do not have the budget to increase. I come and do the job I am supposed to do and it is not about the salaries. I would be happy with this salary.

Trustee Larson noted that with these suggested salaries, we are expecting \$385,000 in additional guaranteed, required expenditures. That puts us at a total spend of 764,000 putting us \$100,000 in deficient spending. We may be in the black but we are spending our reserves. I am rounding so we could be \$140,000 to 150,000 in deficit spending. We can look forward to this much deficit spending for another two to four years. This would put us down to 500,000 or less in our reserves. To increase the salaries of elected officials when we are in a position to barely keep the lights on in three years seems incredibly irresponsible. We are looking at increasing our salary costs by a minimum of \$10,000 every year.

Trustee McNeill noted he requested to have the Assessor to give me the amount of money we would be getting next year and he did not give me the information. Robin Vidome-O'Donnell was asked to give the information as she is representing him at this meeting. She said Meijer's was millions but she could only say that we need to remember that we are the largest township and there are Deputy Assessors that are making way more than these figures the Board is discussing. Trustee McNeill wants to know what we bring in and he did not get one thing. Robin Vidome-O'Donnell said she could not estimate how much we would bring in.

Commissioner Kula was asked what he thought the job was worth. Do you think \$68,314 is a fair amount for four years? Commissioner Kula said 65,000 is not out of line with a cost of living.

Trustee McNeill – no	Trustee Larson – no	Trustee deGroh – no
Trustee DeLaMar – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Fails</u>

Motion was made by Trustee McNeill and seconded by Supervisor Rusch to adopt the ordinance to set salaries at Supervisor and Assessor at \$54,000, Highway Commissioner at \$65,000 and Clerk at \$21,000 Trustees at \$100.00 per meeting maximum \$200.00, Cola at 2%, 15% insurance contribution.

Discussion: Trustee DeLaMar thinks \$54,000 is too high with the 2% COLA each year. Trustee Larson says I wish I could give everyone what they deserve. That is not the promise he made to constituents. Trustee DeLaMar notes the boss should make less than the people working under him. Clerk Kearby noted one reality is we are the lowest salaries compared to Townships around us. The other reality is our money is our money is our money. I admire standing on principals and I have done so all my life, but we do need to come to an agreement.

Trustee Larson – no	Trustee deGroh – no	Trustee DeLaMar – no
Trustee McNeill – aye	Supervisor Rusch – aye	<u>Motion Fails</u>

Supervisor Rusch asked Trustee Larson and Trustee deGroh what are they looking for since they keep voting no. Trustee deGroh noted that she wanted to keep salaries flat so if we moved five thousand from the Assessor for example and gave it to the Commissioner than it would remain flat.

Supervisor Rusch suggested

Motion was made by Trustee Larson and seconded by Trustee McNeill to set salaries at \$60,000 for Supervisor, \$60,000 Assessor, Highway commissioner at \$70,000, \$23,000 for Clerk, Trustee get \$2400, 3% COLA, 10% contribution for insurance for four years.

Trustee Larson stated that this is what he would love to be able to do today. Give everyone what they are worth. Showing an appropriate amount given our financial situation and allowing for an unstable inflation over the next four years.

Trustee deGroh – nay
Trustee Larson – nay

Trustee DeLaMar – aye
Supervisor Rusch – aye

Trustee McNeill – aye
Motion Carries

Trustee Larson requests of the clerk to note in the minutes that based on my comments at a prior meeting that the Supervisor noted her desire previously stated in literature wanted to reduce the salaries of the elected officials and that she voted affirmatively to raise salaries. Let it further reflect that Trustee deGroh has voted to lower salaries as have I.

Trustee McNeill asked the record to reflect that Trustee Larson voted against his own motion. I think it was what it should be and we are at the low. I think the Township could be taking in additional \$50,000.

11. Old Business None

12. New Business None

13. Public Comment

Mr. Duby asked the Assessor's office that the assessed values have come out and that 931 people have appealed. Are there other ways to appeal than the property owner? Robin Vidome-O'Donnell stated that the Assessor has the right to reassess the value after the assessment is over. The Assessor has the right to reassessment to the Board of Review. The Assessor can make a change without being initiated by the property owner.

Mr. Duby asked because he cannot chase the sales, does that include the property of his associates.

14. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. was moved by Trustee deGroh and seconded by Trustee McNeill.

All in favor say aye. Opposed? Motion carries by acclamation.

Avon Township is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting of facilities, are asked to call the Township office prior to the meeting