

GREEN GARDEN TOWNSHIP

January 8, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Don Murday.
2. Opening prayer-Pastor Dave Feddes
3. Roll Call by substitute Clerk Trustee Cherie Newton: Present: Supervisor Don Murday, Trustees Bill Wagner, Ralph Dietz, Mark Kovar and Cherie Newton, and Road Commissioner Jim Hilliard. Not present: Clerk Crissy Kraft and Assessor Jane Bushong.
4. Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2023 Regular Board Meeting prepared by Clerk Kraft. Supervisor entertained a motion to accept the minutes, motion made by Trustee Dietz and seconded by Trustee Kovar. All in favor, motion carries.
5. Approval of the Levy Hearing Minutes for the Township and Road District from December 11, 2023 Levy Hearing, as submitted. Supervisor Murday entertained a motion to approve the Levy Minutes for the Township and Road District, motion made by Trustee Wagner and seconded by Trustee Dietz. All in favor, motion carries.
6. Approval of Township Financial Report, as reviewed by the Trustees prior to the meeting start time. Supervisor Murday entertained a motion to approve the Township Financial report, motion made by Trustee Wagner and seconded by Trustee Dietz. All in favor, motion carries.
7. Public Comments
 - *Resident Buddy Shultz brought to the Board's attention his concerns with the road conditions on the east side of the Golf Course, Bruns Road and also on Stuenkel west of Center Rd.
 - *Resident Monroe Striggow expressed his concern with communications between GGT Planning & Zoning Commission and Will County Board in relation to solar farms.
 - *Resident Belinda Olszewski commented on: livestreaming monthly meetings, how many residents receive General Assistance through the township, when does the Decennial Committee plan on meeting; 6/23/23 Budget Ordinance/Park District Funds; 3/21/22 Treasurer's Report, different than published in newspaper.
 - *Resident Dean Christofilos commented on placement of Public Comments on agenda.
8. Introduction of Michael Vey, General Manager of Green Garden Country Club. The restaurant, club house and golf dome underwent extensive renovations, and planning a soft opening on Valentine's Day weekend. Upgrades made to the golf course with plans to renovate the paths. Addressed concerns with trees on 88th Avenue alongside the golf course, Comed will perform their work in the spring.
9. Planning Commission-Planning Chair Mark Sarkisian not in attendance, his planning update was read by Trustee Dietz: "In the past three months we have challenged two different solar proposals for our township at all three Will County review forums. These include reviews at Planning & Zoning, Land Use, and the County Board. With the support of the Green Garden

residents we won 6 of 6 challenges. Hats off to our residents, who traveled to Joliet, sat and listened quietly, and then one by one stepped up to the podium and delivered solid and fact-based objections. Everyone kept their cool. Everyone had a different aspect that they presented. We were firm and concise, and the County heard us. Will County has approved every solar application in other townships that I know about; yet they ruled in our favor every time. We told them that we are not anti-solar; rather, we oppose projects that violate our Comprehensive Plan. To keep from diluting that idea, I told the Will County Board at our last review that they would see me again early next year – in support of a solar facility which IS consistent with our Plan. This is a different applicant than the one we opposed recently, and this proposal is scheduled to appear at our Planning & Zoning meeting here in our Green Garden Town Hall on February 5 at 7pm. Thank you again to our residents – your voices matter.” Trustee Dietz stated that this matter has now has been moved to March. Supervisor Murday stated that the P&Z Commission is meeting in February, regarding a map amendment issue, unrelated to solar farms, Zoning Case ZC-23-121, Pin #18-13-26-200-018-0000, requesting a map amendment for 5.3 acres from A1 to E2, located at 8333 West Bruns Road, Monee, IL. Notice to be published in the Vedette and placards will be placed on the property.

10. Road Commissioner’s Report presented by Commissioner Hilliard: Issued 19 new home construction bonds for the year; trucks outfitted with plows and salters; equipment maintenance; ditch on 104th now moving water after JULIE contact; Scheer Road ditch moved, since road being widened, now about 90% complete; plow trucks inspected and new safety stickers applied; CDL certification-GGT Road District approved CDL test site/instructor; accident @ 88th Avenue, north of Pauling, Commissioner Hilliard will repair,awaiting driver’s insurance payment (culvert repair); ongoing tree trimming and touching up shoulder stone; Dralle Road widening project needs Army Corps of Engineers approval to replace culvert; 88th Avenue North of Dralle Road cross-culvert needed; and salt shed repairs to be performed.

11. Assessor’s Report-Assessor Bushong ill and not in attendance. Supervisor Murday reported that he met with Assessor Bushong who presented her budget, which he will forward to the Trustees.

12. Trustee’s Report-Trustee Dietz nothing additional to add. Trustee Kovar reported that he was unable to attend Will Ride meeting and sent Resident Belinda Olszewski in his place. Still looking to see if we can open up our program to more residents. Supervisor Murday looking for more ways to assist with transportation needs. Trustee Wagner responded to public comments, stating that it’s not always possible to answer questions without looking into the information prior to responding. He suggests emailing him questions so he can address the issues. Supervisor Murday reiterated that there is still time in our Fiscal Year for expenditures, the Board can not predict exactly what our “ending balances” will be.

13. Supervisor’s Report: Supervisor Murday mentioned that he met with Assessor Bushong to discuss adding her office space under the Town Hall Renovation Project. The architect’s reports will further update our status on the Project. Addressed General Assistance question regarding how many residents are receiving money from the Fund, the answer is zero. Did not levy for this, as we do not/have not utilized this Fund. Trustee Newton added that yes, this question has been asked-and answered-repeatedly, as recently as last month’s meeting. Per Supervisor

Murday, please email Trustee Wagner with financial questions, as this is not the type of information that is readily available without gathering the pertinent information.

14. New Business-None

15. Old Business-None

16. Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 pm with a motion by Trustee Kovar and seconded by Trustee Dietz. Motion carried. The next Board meeting to be held on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Cherie Newton (filling in for Clerk Kraft) for Green Garden Township.