

1. 2. 3. The December 10, 2024 Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kuper at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Johansen called the roll with Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger present.

4. New Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Presentation from the Campton Citizens 4 Open Space: Members are Barb Wojnicki, Jerry Johnson, Neal Anderson, Rolf Fredrick, and Joe Garbarski who spoke for the group stating: this is to educate the public, and preserve and increase Campton Township’s facilities for active and passive recreation. The Campton Citizens 4 Open Space committee was formed to explore the future needs for capital improvements, maintenance, and land acquisitions for Campton Township. The Open Space Plan was created in 2000, and the Township has had two previous successful bond referendums; \$18.7M in 2001 passed by 54%, and \$28.2M in 2005 passed by 77%. Properties purchased include Corron Farm, the Headwaters Conservation Area, and Poynor Park among others. These bonds will be retired by 2027, and the Township needs to create the next funding source to improve and maintain the existing facilities along with land acquisitions that further promote the Campton Township citizens way of life. The Township has been able to acquire 1662 acres of parks, open space and conservation easements over the past 25 years and the residents want to continue this program. With the update to our Open Space program, this will be accomplished and supported by our citizens. Our committee recommends a bond referendum of \$17.2M and believes this will be passed on the April 1, 2025 election date. Supervisor Kuper added as Township officials we cannot push for a referendum. This has to be done by our residents.

5. Reports:

Highway Commissioner – Sam Gallucci: Commissioner Gallucci stated the Highway District performed the following tasks in Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills: cold patching, crack sealing, damaged mailbox repair, dead animal removal, downed tree removal, gravel work on driveway edges, installation of rumble strips, pick up of downed trees, application of shoulder gravel, snow plowing, tree trimming, and installation of road signs. The Highway District performed the following tasks according to Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Campton Hills in Plato Township: cold patching and tree removal on McDonald Road. Stop sign and cross traffic sign installation on Lenz Road. The Highway District performed the following tasks according to Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Lily Lake: installation of Golf Cart signs throughout the Village. The Highway District also performed the following tasks: road crew members attended fire prevention and safety training on 11/5/24; road crew members attended live wire training at KDOT (Kane County Department of Transportation) 11/6/24; road crew members attended the Annual Snow Plow meeting on 11/14/24; plow markers were installed along snow plow routes; the stair well was back filled at the Assessors office; storm drains were cleaned out; stop signs were checked throughout

Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills on a weekly basis and damaged or missing ones replaced; checked for other damaged or missing signs weekly; assessed roadways for drainage and pothole issues; checked for the issuance of culvert permits throughout Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills; performed ongoing maintenance in-house on Township vehicles and equipment.

Assessor – Alan D. Rottmann: Assessor Rottmann stated he is continuing to review real estate sales to determine whether to do reassessing this year; he attended the Assessors meeting and replaced the fire extinguishers in the Community Center.

Solid Waste District – Bryan Kerwin, President: Solid Waste President Kerwin stated Trustee Tim Hanson moved out of the District so they will need a new Trustee. They will have a year end fund balance of \$17,500.

Financial Report – Rebekah Flakus, Finance Director: Finance Director Flakus's Financial Report stated:

Town Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- Revenues received for the Town Fund this month totaled \$16,493.61, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$885,127.75 or 100.13% of the total budgeted revenues.
- The Town Fund also received \$5,449.80 in interest this month between operating and investment accounts (GL Accounts #1-4060 & #1-4061).

Expenditures:

- Maintenance-Building, GL #1-5580 is over budget due to building tests and replacing the roof at Town Hall.

Parks

Expenditures:

- Maintenance -Sites, GL #1-5610 on page 5 is over its budget due to the demolition of the garage at Whitney Park as well as a use of a dumpster to complete the cleanup.

Road District Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- Revenues received for the Road District Fund this month totaled \$22,491.10, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$2,238,777.62 or 89.72% of the total budgeted revenues.

Open Space Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- Revenues received for the Open Space Fund this month totaled \$113,175.41, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$5,908,641.90 or 117.21% of the total budgeted revenues. The revenues are over budget due the \$750,000.00 grant for Goldenstein West (I) that was received last month.

This grant is through Illinois Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Additional Updates

As mentioned previously in this report, the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Audit is still underway. I just received some final outstanding requests this week. I will be working with Sikich, LLC over the next few weeks to finalize the requests and create the final documents necessary to prepare and file the final Audited Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. I will continue to update the Board as I get tasks completed.

Corron Farm Preservation Society update – Rhonda Acitelli, President: Absent.

Operations Manager – Tom Serewicz: Operations Manager Serewicz stated:

At Anderson Park snowplow markers installed, the parking lot regraded, and port-o-lets returned for the season.

At Whitney Park snowplow markers installed, quotes on building upgrades received, a boiler repaired, plastic sheeting placed around school house, and dumpsters removed.

At Community Center snowplow markers installed, salt added to softener, and ice control applied.

At Gray Willows snowplow markers installed, main house boiler/radiator repair, quote on barn lights, assist in purchasing heater for open space garage.

At Harley Woods snowplow markers installed, split rail fence repaired.

Goldenstein no report.

Town Hall snowplow markers installed.

Christmas at Corron Farm

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible effort with parking that everyone put into making this year's Christmas at Corron Farm. First and foremost a special thanks to Jason, Jimmy, and Franz (who came out of retirement) to assist with cars and parking. Your dedication ensured that everything ran smoothly, even with the heavy traffic we experienced. By 11:20 we had over 200 people show up, and the show, which started at 11:00, kept us busy from 11:45 to 2:15. All our backup parking lots were in use, and thanks to everybody's hard work, we had no parking problems or incidents. Lastly, I want to acknowledge Mark Metzger, our Village Trustee, for his invaluable help with parking throughout most of the event. His assistance was crucial in maintaining order and ensuring a smooth experience for our guests.

I also want to extend my gratitude to Carter and Sarah for their diligent work at the meet and greet station, counting the attendees. We had a record-breaking total of 762 people attend the show, making it the most attended event at Corron Farm to date.

A special thank you goes to Joni Kubar for running and organizing the show. Her efforts ensured that this event was the best one we've had all year.

Thank you all once again for your hard work and effort.

Corron Farm snowplow markers installed, set up Christmas at Corron Farm, take down Christmas at Corron Farm, repair main house plumbing, repair main house window, and repair frozen pipe in big tool shed.

Brown Road Gardens closed for the season, dumpster to be hauled away 12/6/24, and port-o-let to be removed 12/6/24.

Lily Lake ice control sidewalks.

Headwaters Conservation Area snowplow markers installed, flagpole installed, Motz burn pile and tree debris cleaned up, and fire inspection 12/6/24.

Poynor Park closed for the season 12/1/24, gate repairs made, and hole for flagpole dug.

In General: super tanker winterized, D.R. brush cutter repaired, truck #85 given new tires and transmission repair, starting winter storage of equipment, working on truck lettering vehicles #94 & #96, assisted office staff, ordered and installed Christmas show banners on Burlington Road bridge, Torma building site tour, and met with the Open Space Foundation.

Open Space Ecologist - Carter Dell:

Natural Resources

- Burn weather not cooperating.
 - We've gotten the volunteers rallied up, mowed burn breaks, fixed all equipment just for the correct conditions to never appear.
 - For reference, Kane County Forest Preserves only did 3 small unit prescribed burns.
 - Cook County Forest Preserves have not burned at all this fall.
- Callery pear removal in the burn unit at Poynor Park
 - Cut stump with triclopyr

Professional Development

- Attended quarterly Kane County Advisory Council meeting hosted by The Conservation Foundation.
- Signed up for 2 conferences.
 - Illinois Association of Conservation Districts.
 - We attend every year. Sending the whole team.
 - Talking with Ryan Solomon from St. Charles Park District about joining the IACD as a committee member.
 - Wild things 2025
 - 1 day conference that occurs every 2 years. Huge event.

Miscellaneous

- Assisted setup, parking, smores station, and cleanup of Christmas at Corron Farm event.
- Tried to fix broken gutter over front side of Open Space office.
 - Unable to fix due to rotting wood on the fascia ripping off the building.
 - Nothing to screw gutter into. Need wood fixed.
- Continued work on garage organization.
- Repaired brush saw blades.
- Received 4 new red burn helmets for the Natural Resource staff to differentiate us from volunteers and because we ran out of helmets at our last burn due to overwhelming volunteer turnout.
- Ordered office supply revamp for better planning.
 - Were completely out of printer paper!
- Put in all new smoke/Co detectors as all of ours were about expired.
- Reorganizing conference room as a more useful meeting and training center.

- The decorations are more uniformly placed. Looks really
- nice.
- Reorganizing all sorts of messed up files on the computer server.

Outreach Program Manager – Cheryl Smith: Outreach Program Manager Smith stated:

Monthly Newsletter: Went out on 12/1/24

Outreach

Christmas at Corron – November 23rd - 11 am – 3 pm

Kaitlyn and I had the pleasure of assisting with the setup and managing of the Township table, where we organized a variety of engaging activities for the children. Throughout the event, we had the opportunity to connect with many new members of the community, while also encountering familiar faces, including several children from local camps and programs. Afterward, we helped with the teardown process. Overall, it was a well-attended and successful “give back” event.

2024 Fall Critter Camp – 18 campers – Thanksgiving Break November 25th – 27th

Kaitlyn and I have once again received incredibly positive feedback from both campers and parents. We pour so much effort into these camps to foster a love for the outdoors, and hearing such uplifting responses reassures us that we are on the right path.

2024/2025 Winter Critter Camps – Registrations are coming in!

We are well in to the planning phase for winter Critter Camp, reorganizing after fall Critter Camp. We are scheduling speakers, designing projects and planning activities to create meaningful, nature-based camp weeks.

ECC Connections/Partnerships

I reached out to ECC and met with a student who is enthusiastic about assisting us with media content for our parks. We toured Gray Willows, and I shared some of the projects we have been working on. He expressed a particular interest in the salamander study that Josh started and has assembled a team to support his research. I was excited to see his eagerness to take over the project, as his findings could lead to potential future grants. While our small departments cannot tackle every initiative on our own, partnering with students allows us to expand our efforts and undertake more projects that benefit both the Township and their academic growth. I will connect him with Carter, and together, with the support of ECC students we can hopefully advance this study for 2025.

Senior Programs

Reaching out to area senior centers and groups for future programs/workshops starting in 2025.

Fall Night Hike – 11/14 – At Gray Willows Farm 6 pm

We had 7 registrations and ventured into GW in search of nocturnal animals, focusing on both their sights and sounds. Night hikes provide a unique experience especially since many first-time visitors are introduced to our parks through these events. Parks are typically closed at night, so these hikes offer a rare chance for the community to explore the dark. They also serve as an excellent opportunity to invite participants back during daylight hours to discover the park in a different light. Many of our night hikers return for daytime hikes or Township programs and events. These individuals, who might not have otherwise considered our parks, are drawn in by the allure of the night hikes.

Nature and Wildlife Detectives – 11/20 – 7 registrations

It was a cold, windy evening, but our dedicated detectives were ready for the night hike challenge. We trekked along the wooded trail at historic Corron Farm, then moved indoors for some fun nocturnal sensory activities and games. One of the highlights was learning how our eyes adapt to darkness-a glimpse into the world of nocturnal vision. Did you know that during the golden age of pirates (1600's), there was no electricity, and lighting a torch below deck was strongly discouraged, especially near gunpowder storage? Pirates used eye patches to keep one eye dark adapted, allowing them to see better in the dark when they needed it most.

Harvesting Sweetness – Maple/Walnut Syrup Workshop 12/2 – 12/4 Coordinated with Mark Metzger

At Campton Township Community Center on 12/17 – Designed flyer, registration form created and social media posts shared. Registrations are coming in.

Site Reservations:

Booked future dates for Scent Detection at historic Corron Farm. Tree dedication plaque designed/created and ready to place at historic Corron Farm.

Upcoming:

Planning future Girl Scout Workshops with Troop 2175

Planning Senior Programs

Meeting with Campton Citizens 4 Open Space in regard to the Referendum.

Campton Hills Christmas Parade – 12/1- Kaitlyn and Cheryl are attending with SUV decorated.

Harvesting Sweetness Workshop – 12/17- Mark Metzger at Campton Township Community Center-7:00 pm

Nature and Wildlife Detectives- 12/18- at Historic Corron Farm

Winter Critter Camp – WEEK ONE 12/23, 12/26, & 12/27

Winter Critter Camp - WEEK TWO 12/30, 1/2, & 1/3

Planning Commission Report – Jesse Varsho, Chairman: Chairman Varsho stated nothing to report this month.

Supervisor Report – John Kupar: Supervisor Kupar stated:

- The revised Archeological survey for the Goldenstein Farm East has been completed. The protected area considered significant by the state has been delineated and will be part of the protected covenant of the deed.
- Campton Township and V3 Companies have been notified by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois that we have won the ACEC Illinois 2025 Engineering Excellence Award – Special Achievement Award for the design and operation of the Gray Willows Wetlands Mitigation Bank. This award recognizes projects that have unique or exceptional engineering aspects that do not typically fit into standard award categories. The award will be presented at the annual Engineering Excellence Awards Gala on Thursday, February 27, 2025.
- Campton Township's Report for Compliance with the Decennial Committee's on Local Government Efficiency Act has been completed and has been filed with the Kane County Clerk's Office on Monday, December 9th, 2024. The final report provides a very good overview of the Township's roles, responsibilities, activities, and value to our Township residents. While putting this document

together, it was eye-opening to see how far we have come over the last ten years and the accomplishments we have achieved.

- Over the last few weeks, we have been assisting the Campton Township Open Space Foundation in their efforts to place a question on the April 2025 ballot for a referendum to support maintenance and development of our open space properties. The Township cannot participate in this effort because state law clearly states that it is a citizen initiative. However the Township can provide factual information in support of the citizen initiative.
- Last week we gave a presentation of the Township's open space program to Emy Brawley, who is the Great Lakes Director of the Conservation fund. The Conservation Fund buys and holds undeveloped land for Open Space which is critical to wildlife or critical ecosystem preservation. They also have a mission to protect farmland. The Conservation Fund is another avenue the Township can utilize to acquire open space. Emy indicated there are several areas in the Township that would fit their criteria for acquisition. We will be having several more meetings with the Conservation Fund over the next year to see how we can leverage their funds for additional acquisitions.
- I had several conversations with the IDNR (Illinois Department of Natural Resources) grant staff over the last week. They confirmed the amount of the grant we will be getting is \$915,000 for Goldenstein Farm East. I submitted the revised archeological survey map to them this afternoon. They sent the preservation covenant to the Township this afternoon. I forwarded this to the Conservation Foundation to ensure that they modify the deed to Goldenstein Farm East property. The State has uploaded all of our grant documents into their system. They would like to get everything done by the end of this year. They want to be in a position to give us a check in January.
- We had a very successful Christmas at Corron Farm two weeks ago. We had over 762 residents attending the event. Everyone had a great time. We had Carolers, Santa Claus, Elves, Crafters, and an awesome food truck. We ran out of doughnuts (25 dozen), and s'mores (500 sets). I think we are going to have to plan for more next year. The Township staff did an outstanding job helping to support the event. Hats off to Carter, Tom, and Cheryl and their staff for their support and help. We could not have made this without our volunteers who planned, organized, and set up the farm with decorations. A shout out to Joe Garbarski who was our Hot Chocolate runner. Barbara Wojnicki and Betty Murphy manned the cider doughnut table. Mark Metzger helped with the parking. I also want to thank Joni Kubar for months of planning to make this a success.
- Finally, I want to wish everyone a merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a safe, healthy and prosperous new year.

6. Approval of Minutes:

a. Board Meeting October 15, 2024: E. Murphy moved the Board approve the minutes of the Board meeting of October 15, 2024. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

b. Board Meeting November 12, 2024: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the minutes of the Board meeting of November 12, 2024. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

7. Citizens Comments (comments to be kept to a maximum of 3 minutes): Rob Linke said there are complaints about the lights at Gray Willows being too bright. J. Kubar said we will adjust the lights. T. Serewicz said he will take care of it. Jerry Johnson said Open Space is the best tax cap for Township residents. Al Rottmann said the Township can put out information about the Referendum only. It cannot advocate for or against.

8. Old Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action: None.

9. New Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action Continued:

a. Review and Act Upon Proposed Dates for 2025 Board Meetings: J. Varsho moved the Board approve Meeting Dates for 2025 revising the beginning time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

b. Review and Act Upon Approval of Designating Assessor's Old Explorer as Excess Property: A. Rottmann stated you designate it as excess property, get it off the Township's inventory list, and then you can sell it. E. Murphy moved the Board designate the Assessor's old Explorer as excess property. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

c. Review and Act Upon Resolution in Support of Open Space Plan III, an Amendment to the Original Campton Township Open Space Plan: J. Varsho moved the Board remove this item from the Agenda. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

d. Review and Act Upon Approval of the Engagement of the Law Firm of Lauren E. Jackson, LLC (Kathleen Judy). Kathy Judy stated you recommend by Resolution to put the question on the ballot. You don't need to amend the original plan. J. Varsho moved the Board approve the engagement of the law firm of Lauren E. Jackson, LLC (Kathleen Judy). E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

e. Review and Act Upon Approval of Setting Public Hearing for January 7, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. Regarding Open Space Plan 3: E. Murphy moved the Board remove this item from the Agenda. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

f. Review and Act Upon Approval of Setting Special Meeting for January 7, 2025 at 7:30 P.M. regarding Open Space Plan 3: J. Varsho moved the Board remove this item from the Agenda. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

10. Claims and Demands Authorized for Payment:

a. Town Fund \$5,565.66: M. Metzger moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Town Fund in the amount of \$5,565.66. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

b. Road & Bridge Fund \$26,079.67: M. Metzger moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$26,079.67. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

c. Capital Improvement Fund: \$0

d. Open Space Fund \$30,947.86: M. Metzger moved the board approve the claims and demands on the Open Space Fund in the amount of \$30,947.86. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

11. Executive Session – Review Executive Session Minutes of November 12, 2024; Land Acquisition;

Personnel Issues; Legal Issues: J. Varsho moved the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Executive Session minutes of November 12, 2024, and personnel issues. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed and Executive session began at 8:25 p.m.

12. New Business Continued: Supervisor Kubar reconvened the regular session at 8:35 p.m.

aa. Review and Act Upon whether to Approve Executive Session minutes of November 12, 2024: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the Executive Session minutes of November 12, 2024. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

13. Adjournment: J. Varsho moved the Board adjourn the meeting. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Johansen

Clerk