

1. 2. 3. The December 13, 2023 Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kuper at 7:38 p.m. at the Community Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Johansen called the roll with Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho and Metzger present. Trustee Murphy arrived after roll call.

4. Reports:

Highway Commissioner – Sam Gallucci: Commissioner Gallucci stated his weather reports say not to expect snow until January. Snowplows and salt spreaders were installed on all trucks in preparation for the 2023 – 2024 winter season. Campton Township Highway crewmen attended a snowplow meeting on 11/06/23. Snowplow markers were installed on all designated snowplow routes. Per Intergovernmental Agreements, tree trimming was completed for the Village of Campton Hills in Plato Township, and the Village of Lily Lake in Campton Township. Excess soil and debris was removed from ditches and a small berm was built on Old LaFox Road. Brush and weeds were cleared to improve the line of site on Lookout Lane. Gravel was applied to repair road edges on Beith, Campton Hills, Swanberg, and Townhall Roads, and Laurel Drive. Shoulder gravel was applied on Paddock Lane to repair a washout. All grates and storm drains were cleared of debris throughout Campton Township and The Village of Campton Hills, over hanging trees along plow routes were trimmed throughout the Township and Village, wing mowing was completed throughout the Township and Village, roadways were snowplowed and salted on 11/26 throughout Campton Township, the Village of Campton Hills, and Campton Hills in Plato Township, snow drifts were cleared on 11/26, 11/27, and 11/28 throughout the Township and Village, roadways were assessed for drainage and pothole issues, potholes were repaired with cold patch and cracks were sealed throughout the Township and Village, stop signs were checked throughout the Township and Village on a weekly basis and damaged or missing signs replaced, and we checked for the issuance of culvert permits throughout the Township and Village. Ongoing maintenance on Township vehicles and equipment was performed in-house.

Assessor – Alan D. Rottmann: Assessor Rottmann stated they are looking at property sales in 2023. He thanked Operations Manager Serewicz for putting in the new stairs at the Community Center. We are having issues with the bathrooms when the scouts are here. They need to clean up. The EAV (equalized assessed valuation) is not final until the end of March. It's tentative for now. The County got a multiplier of one (1). Assessor Rottmann provided the Board with a report from the Illinois Department of Revenue entitled "Tentative Abstract of 2023 Assessments" that stated the value of real property in Campton Township is \$996,730,599, or just under one billion dollars.

Solid Waste District – Steven Cartwright, President: Solid Waste President Cartwright stated they will

meet with waste hauler LRS on January 9th regarding the next contract.

Financial Report – Rebekah Flakus, Finance Director: Finance Director Flakus stated she was on the IMRF website today and saw a lowered rate down to .0469%.

Town Fund

Administrattion

Revenues:

- The 8th disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received for Town #4000. \$7,024.52 was received for the Town Fund in total this month, which includes interest accrued over the year.
- Total revenues for the Town Fund are at 102.65 % of the total revenues budgeted. Revenues have exceeded their budget due to the conservative amount budgeted for property tax revenue.

Expenditures:

- Office Supplies - #5650 is over budget. Several items including equipment, Postage and other items need to be reclassified into the appropriate accounts. This will take place for next month's financial report.

Road District Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- The 8th disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received this month #4000. \$12,876.14 was received for the Road Fund this month, which includes interest accrued over the year.
- Revenues received for the Road & Bridge tax per the IGA with the Village of Campton Hills is currently at 76.27% of the total budgeted.
- Total revenues for the Road Fund are at 87.95% of the total revenues budgeted.

Expenditures:

- Computer Software Subscriptions #5325 includes Microsoft 365 and malware for computers that weren't budgeted.

Open Space Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- The 8th disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received this month #4000. \$40,899.24 was received this month, which includes interest accrued over the year.
- Total revenues for Open Space Fund are at 145.94% of the total revenues budgeted. The revenues exceed the budgeted amount due to the grant proceeds received that were used to purchase the Goldenstein West property.

Maintenance

Expenditures:

- Contractual Services – Natural Areas #5350 has \$10,465.00 for a portion of the V3 payment for the maintenance on Headwaters. This will be reclassified to Contractual – LT Maintenance Wetlands #5355 and it is funded by the Headwaters Wetlands funds.

Additional audit work is required for leases due to a change in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). GASB 87 requires this additional accounting to be implemented beginning with fiscal year 2023. The change order was signed this week and the work on that is being completed now. Once finished, I will receive any final adjustment entries and can reconcile the trial balances to what the audit shows. That final review should happen within the next couple weeks. Once finalized, I will work with the auditors to prepare the necessary documents for the year 2023 Audit reports.

Corron Farm Preservation Society update – Laurel Garza, President: Absent.

Operations Manager – Tom Serewicz: Operations Manager Serewicz stated:

At Anderson Park snow was plowed, core aeration was done, the parking lot was barricaded for winter, snow plow markers were installed, and branches were cut up and hauled away.

At Whitney Park snow was plowed, the house was checked for heat (ok), core aeration was done, leaves were trak vaced, and branches were cut up and hauled away.

At the Community Center snow was plowed and ice control applied, the cement stairs replaced, LED lights were installed, out door bulbs replaced, and branches were cut up and hauled away.

At Gray Willows snow was plowed, the brush pile burned, leaves were trak vaced, radon, mold, and asbestos tests were ordered for the main house, ceilings were painted in the main house, broken glass and boiler heat was repaired in the main house, and heat was checked in the main house (ok).

At Harley Woods snow was plowed.

At Corron Farm snow was plowed and ice control applied, the big tool shed boiler and pumps were installed, core aeration was done, leaves were trak vaced, snow plow markers were installed.

At Town Hall snow was plowed and ice control applied.

Brown Road Meadows closed for the year.

At Lily Lake Blue Park ice control was applied at the office.

At the Headwaters Conservation Area snow was plowed, trees were pruned and the branches hauled away, snow plow markers were installed, the horse trail was closed, and a fire inspection was done at Motz (passed).

At Poynor Park new parking lot bumps were installed, and the park was closed for the season.

In General: office staff was assisted, Open Space Outreach staff was assisted, Open Space Natural Resources staff was assisted, the Open Space Foundation meeting was attended, water was shut off for the season at Anderson Park, the Headwaters Conservation Area, and Corron Farm, Z traks and the tractor were serviced, and reflector tape was installed to all swing gates.

Open Space Ecologist – Carter Dell: Open Space Ecologist Dell Stated:

Natural Resources:

- Burned units at Corron Farm, Poynor Park, Anderson Park, and Harley Woods.
 - Drew Frasz and Matt Zerby had very consistent volunteer support.
 - Cheryl and Kaitlyn assisted with one of the Corron Farm burns.
- Built bridge for trail towards back of Gray Willows.
- Devised plan to open said trail involving widowmaker removal and a slight reroute.
- Cleaned volunteer burn equipment.
- General equipment maintenance and repair.
- Partially insulated Open Space office garage.

Professional Development:

- Sarah Williams accepted full time restoration technician position: start in May. She is concerned about programs moving forward next year. She needs to meet with Finance Director Flakus to plan budget for next year.
- He is working on a seasonal offer for Nick Overstreet.

Miscellaneous:

- Assisted with Christman at Corron Farm.
- Assisted with fall critter camp.
- Cleaned and repaired various elements of Gray Willows house.

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

11/1 Monthly Newsletter went out.

Programs/Events

11/14 Preschool Pals – 1 registration. Kaitlyn ran the program; she did a great job.

11/15 Nature and Wildlife Detectives Club – 9 registrations. Lesson Plan was scat and habitat. We had the pelts, skulls, scat, and tracks of animals on display. We touched upon mammal adaptations, hiked while looking for habitat and scat, made poop and ate it and went on a night hike, and saw a FLYING SQUIRREL glide from one tree to another!!! Gallucci chicks made an appearance as a special treat at the end!

11/18 Christmas at Corron – Outreach helped with planning, setup, and teardown at Christmas at Corron. We manned a Campton Township table at the event. We received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback about our department and programs from families. They are thrilled about having so many programs in the Township. The word about Critter Camps is spreading throughout the Township and so many say that they have heard so many great things.

11/20 – 11/22 Fall Critter Camp – 22 campers. Held at Gray Willows Farm white house (resident home). The space worked well for us as far as maneuvering campers and having a space to come in to warm up, do crafts, prepare food for the outdoor fire, washing up, and having some of the guest speakers with animals. Gray Willows is the ideal property for camps as it offers consistent wildlife sightings (besides what they see in their yards), diversity in trails (woods, savanna, prairie, wetland for education).

Planning Ahead

12/14 – Night Hike at Gray Willows 5 p.m. Fox River Ecosystem Partnership.

12/19 – Preschool Pals. Will be all about tracks (story time, craft and adventure looking for tracks).

12/20 – Nature and Wildlife Detectives Club will also be about tracks and the story they tell about the animals that passed through there (more in-depth look for this group).

12/27 – Senses Night Hike – 6 p.m. at Gray Willows Farm, we will be doing night senses activities along with listening and looking for nocturnal animals.

1/3 – 1/5 – Winter Critter Camp – 22 campers – (location to be determined) Switching gears to adjust to Corron Farm as the location. We closed registration due to uncertainty of location and logistics with campers. We are in the process of rewriting the curriculum for camp to ensure that it can be the best experience we can offer at this time.

1/14 – Girl Scouts Workshop – Snow adventure – currently planning.

We are planning programs and dates for 2024 starting now. Four to five weeks of Summer Critter Camp, Maple Fest, All Wheel Show, Creatures of the Night, etc.

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

Supervisor Report – John Kupa: Supervisor Kupa stated:

- On November 16th, 2023, we were notified that Campton Township will be awarded the LAWCON (2021) grant. It appears we will be awarded the full amount of \$750,000.00. The grant agreement paperwork was also sent, and I sent it to both the Township's Attorney and our grant writer, Uplands Design, for their review and comment. They had no comments on the grant agreement and advised for us to sign. The grant agreement was signed and sent to the IDNR (Illinois Department of Natural Resources) for their signature.
- The Conservation Foundation closed on the Goldenstein Farm – East, during the second week of December. We are now part of TCF's buy and hold program.
- IDNR is reviewing Campton Township's application for the 2024 OSLAD grant. The IDNR has indicated they will announce Grant winners on December 15th.
- The event "Christmas at Corron Farm" was a major success. We had over 500 people attend the event. Santa was there along with Carolers, Holiday Market with Craft vendors, and Children's games. Visitors were treated to hot chocolate, hot cider and cider donuts, s'mores and cookies. I want to thank the Campton Township staff and volunteers who made this event a great success.
- We have set the date for Campton Township's Maple Festival. It will be held on March 16th, 2024.
- Finally, I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a great new year.

5. Approval of Minutes:

a. Board Meeting November 14, 2023: E. Murphy moved the Board approve the minutes of November 14, 2023 with the typo on the bottom of page one corrected to read "Groot". M. Metzger seconded the

motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

6. Citizens' Comments (comments to be kept to a maximum of 3 minutes:): None.

7. Old Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Review and Act Upon V3 Discussion on Gray Willows and Headwaters Wetland Mitigation: J. Kuper stated we got a revised proposal at less cost – an a-l-cart proposal. Carter supports the proposal if we need extra help to maintain the Headwaters. E. Murphy asked what do we do this year to maintain the Headwaters? Answer was they dropped their pricing. Carter is using some of his workers on this. J. Varsho asked are both wetlands past their five year window? Answer was yes. Do we do monthly inspections? Answer was V3 looked at Gray Willows and it looks good. Not so for Headwaters. J. Varsho moved the Board approve the updated V3 wetland proposal dated 10/27/2023. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

8. New Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Review and Act Upon Proposed Dates for 2024 Board Meetings: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the Campton Township Board Meeting DATES for 2024, but change the meeting TIME from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

9. Claims and Demands Authorized for Payment:

a. Town Fund \$7,201.36: E. Murphy moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Town Fund in the amount of \$7,201.36. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

b. Road & Bridge Fund \$36,145.53: M. Metzger moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$36,145.53. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

c. Capital Improvement Fund \$0

d. Open Space Fund \$24,086.48: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Open Space Fund in the amount of \$24,086.48. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

10. Executive Session – Review Executive Session Minutes of November 14, 2023; Land Acquisition; Personnel Issues; Legal Issues: E. Murphy moved the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Executive Session minutes of November 14, 2023, land acquisition, and legal issues. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed and Executive Session began at 8:35 p.m.

11. New Business Continued: Supervisor Kuper reconvened the regular session.at 8:45 p.m.

aa. Review and Act Upon Whether to Approve Executive Session Minutes of November 14, 2023: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the Executive Session minutes of November 14, 2023. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

12. Adjournment: J. Varsho moved the Board adjourn the meeting. M. Metzger 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 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Johansen

Clerk

