

1. 2. 3. The January 14, 2025 Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kuper at 6:35 p.m. at the Community Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Johansen called the roll with Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho and Murphy present. Trustee Metzger was absent.

4. Reports:

Highway Commissioner – Sam Gallucci: Commissioner Gallucci’s report stated: **the Highway District performed the following tasks in Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills:**

- Snowplowed and salted all main roads on 12/19/24 and 12/20/24, as well as on 1/2/25.
- Turf damage repairs completed as needed on plow routes.
- Cold patching completed as needed along all plow routes.
- Tree trimming completed as needed along all plow routes.
- Crack sealing completed on Hanson Road, Denali Lane, and in the Dillonfield Subdivision.
- Applied shoulder gravel on Arbor Creek Road & Route 64, Hidden Oaks Road & Route 64, and LaFox Road and Campton Hills Road.
- Trash pick-up completed on Campton Hills, Beith, and Denker Roads.
- Installed Stop sign Ahead on Welter Road and Route 64.
- Installed snowplow markers on designated plow routes.
- Storm sewer drainage cleaning completed in the Fox Mill and Farmstead Subdivisions.
- Downed tree cleanup on Campton Hills Road, South Grand Monde as well as School Road and Town Hall Extension.

The Highway District performed the following tasks according to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Campton Hills in Plato Township:

- Snowplowed and salted all main roads on 12/19/24, 12/20/24 and 1/2/25.
- Turf damage repair completed on all Plato Township roads.
- Storm sewer drainage cleaning completed on all Plato Township roads.

The Highway District also performed the following tasks:

- Crewmen and staff attended the Annual Kane County Township Highway Commissioners Association (KCTHCA) holiday meal on 12/4. Hosted by the Sugar Grove Highway District.
- Crewmen completed Sexual Harassment Prevention training on 12/27/24.
- Crewmen completed snowplow training via video on 12/27/24.
- Checked Stop signs throughout Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills on a

- weekly basis.
- Assessed roadways for potential drainage and pothole issues.
- Checked for damaged or missing signs weekly; several reinstalled and replaced due to storm damage.
- Checked for 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 looking at data for 2025 assessments. There is a new subdivision in Elburn of 35 homes and 65 townhomes called Williams Ridge.

Solid Waste District – Bryan Kerwin, President: Solid Waste President Kerwin stated the District is looking to fill a vacant Trustee position. Elgin signed up with LRS too.

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

Town Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- Revenues received for the Town Fund this month totaled \$2,055.47, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$887,183.22 or 100.37% of the total budgeted revenues.

Expenditures:

- Maintenance Building, GL #1-5580 shows a credit of \$6,487.00 this month. The expenditure was moved to the correct budgeted account.

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 \$15,681.74, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$2,255,387.11 or 90.38% of the total budgeted revenues.

Open Space Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- Revenues received for the Open Space Fund this month totaled \$116,458.62, bringing the year-to-date revenues to \$6,025,100.52 or 119.52% of the total budgeted revenues. Wetland Revenue and the receipt of the Goldenstein West grant revenue has caused the revenues to

exceed the budget this fiscal year. Later this year, a budget amendment will take place to increase the budgeted revenues and expenditures to account for these additional receipts.

Expenditures:

- Open Space Bond Principal and Interest payments we made this month. Bond Principal payments for December were \$3,599,000.00 and \$185,538.50 for Bond Interest (page 12 of Revenue & Expenditure Report).

Additional Updates

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.

Work continues on the Goldenstein East (II) Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The first progress billing report for the Goldenstein East (II) Grant was submitted for all expenditures through December 31, 2024. Quarterly progress billing reports will continue until the purchase of the property takes place and all expenditures are completed.

Work also began on the Grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO). This grant is up to \$45,000.00 for the renovations at the Community Center. I have been working with the Assessor's Office to create a list of potential improvements as well as taking two training courses on how to do the application process for this grant. I hope to begin the application process next month.

I will continue to update the Township Board as new events or changes take place.

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

Operations Manager – Tom Serewicz: Operations Manager Serewicz stated:

Anderson Park: Snow plowed and ice control applied, flag retired for the season.

Whitney Park: Snow plowed and ice control applied, heat checked out in the house.

Community Center: Snow plowed and ice control applied, salt put in water softener, and furnace filter checked.

Gray Willows: Snow plowed and ice control applied, cleaned Gray Willows shop, picnic tables returned, heat checked out in the main house, broken window taped up in main house, and plumber contacted for the care-takers house.

Harley Woods: Snow plowed.

Corron Farm: Snow plowed and ice control applied, take down Christmas decorations, insulation added at big tool shed, bathroom heat vents cut in at the big tool shed, bathroom closet door adjusted, and flag retired for the season.

Town Hall: Snow plowed and ice control applied, ComEd replaced power line, quote obtained on upgraded electrical service.

Brown Road Gardens: No report.

Lily Lake: Snow plowed and ice control applied.

Headwaters Conservation Area: Snow plowed and ice control applied, Motz passed fire inspection, storage building organized, and flag retired for season.

Poynor Park: closed for the season on 12/1/24, flagpole installed, and flag retired for the season.

Goldenstein: No report.

In General: Safety meeting held, assisted office staff and Open Space Natural Resources, TOIRMA sheets started, met with Open Space Foundation, lettering done on truck #94 and SUV #96, barricades repaired and repainted, obtained estimate of value from dealer for SUV #35 & truck #56 (\$150 each), met Wasco Boys Baseball Re: Anderson Park grant.

Open Space Ecologist, Carter Dell: Open Space Ecologist Dell's report stated:

Natural Resources:

- Finished burn season with burns at Poyner and Gray Willows.
 - Every agency only got a couple burns in this fall. Tricky weather.
- Callery pear removal in the burn unit at Poynor Park.
 - Cut Stump with triclopyr.
- Cut stump on all woodies in the Gray Willows prairie.
 - High priority unit, taking out callery pear, cottonwood, poplars, etc.
- Maintained and repaired chainsaws in preparation for brush clearing season.
 - New chains, took off covers and cleaned filters, oil holes, etc.
- Started brush clearing season.
 - Saw bucking work.
 - High priority projects continuing from last year's brush clearing season: Opening more room around trail in back of Gray Willows, all of Harley Woods, and woodland unit north of the parking lot at Corron Farm.
 - Wood left scattered in prep for volunteer work days.

Professional Development:

- Attended Forest Preserve District of Kane County's Intergovernmental Seed Team potluck.
- Attended Fox River Ecosystem Partnership holiday party with Cheryl in show of support with the local players.

Miscellaneous:

- Sarah, Mark Rake, and I spent significant time getting GIS back online and adding to the data base to get a new Township acreage total.
 - Sitting at 1650 acres.
 - Interchangeable layers include Township property, Conservation Easements, FPDKC (Fire Protection District of Kane County) property, Highway District headquarters, and a few others.
- Created GIS map to be used for the referendum utilizing updated GIS data.
- Continued cleaning of office. Really coming together.
- Put up more plywood in garage.
- 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 new wood.

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

Monthly Newsletter: Went out 1/1/25.

Outreach:

Winter Critter Camp:

Week 1 (Dec. 23, 26 & 27): 11 campers.

Week 2 (Dec. 30 Jan. 2 & 3): 17 campers.

Winter Critter Camp was an incredible success! We spent plenty of time enjoying the great outdoors, while also diving into enriching discussions on conservation and the wonders of nature. We even explored important topics like Avian Influenza and how to respond if we encounter a sick or injured animal. Throughout camp, we met fascinating critters brought by our guests, played fun nature-themed games, crafted nature inspired projects, sipped hot cocoa, and even tried our hand at outdoor cooking. It was a truly memorable experience for all involved!

Senior Programs

Kaitlyn generated a list of local senior centers. I am working on designing workshops to present to the centers. Pam Otto retired and we may be able to fill the empty spot.

Newsletter

The newsletter will have a new look soon. I am working with Kaitlyn in revamping the layout to give it an updated look and flow.

Fox River Ecosystem Partnership (FREP) 12/12 Annual Holiday Party. It was a pleasure to be invited to an evening surrounded by like-minded professionals, where we had engaging and thought provoking discussions.

Campton Hills Christmas Parade 12/15

Kaitlyn and I along with Road District attended. This is a great give back to the community and such a joyful event – nothing but smiles from the public and the parade attendees.

Harvesting Sweetness Workshop 12/17

Mark did a fantastic job explaining the process of making syrup, from tapping trees, necessary equipment needed, to cooking and storing. It was a very informative and enticing workshop.

Nature & Wildlife Detectives 12/18

This month we dove deep into nocturnal sights, sounds and adaptations! We listened to some nocturnal sounds and had to guess the correct animal (it's harder than you think). After we explored our animal pelts and shared interesting facts about each animal, we went out for a night hike! We saw a raccoon, a squirrel, and even a tiny mouse! Once we finished our hike, we came in for a hot cocoa warm up and decorated wildlife ornaments to hang on our Christmas trees.

Referendum Task Support Week of 1/6

Site Reservations:

Coordinated with Rentals for the Tool Shed

Scent detection rentals continue through 2025. New inquiries coming in with meetings for walk throughs.

Cleaning up tool shed after winter critter camp. 1/7 – 1/10

Updated kiosks at all parks. 1/10

UPCOMING:

Planning future Scout workshops

Nature & Wildlife Detectives 1/15

Night Hike at Gray Willows Farm 1/16 – 6p.m.

Beginning Planning Stage of 2025 Summer Critter Camps

Continued support to Joe Garbarski for Referendum information.

Planning Commission Report – Jesse Varsho, Chairman: Plan Commission Chairman Varsho stated he is sending an email out to Plan Commission members alerting them to a Plan Commission meeting next month.

Supervisor Report – John Kupar: Supervisor Kupar stated:

- We completed the IDNR/NPS Preservation Covenant for the Goldenstein Farm East property. As you recall, the archeologist who surveyed the site found one area that could be of historical significance. Since we elected not to spend the \$100K to further quantify the site, we elected to put a covenant on this ¾ acre area. The State will not give us the money on the grant until a covenant is included on the property deed.
- We are working on the Open Space referendum for the April 1st ballot. The Township's role is to generate and provide factual information *to* the public. We have been working with:
 - Chapman and Cutler – Bond Counsel
 - Speer Financial – Issuer of Bonds, and
 - Campton Township Open Space Committee
 - Citizens Group working to promote the referendum.
- We received official notification from the IDNR that the Township was the recipient of an OSLAD grant for the Anderson Park improvements. The award is for \$1.3 million. This is a matching grant award. The State will provide 50% funding. Campton Township and the Baseball Leagues will fund the other 50%.
- The Township staff is working on budgets for the next fiscal year. We will start reviewing budgets in early February.
- The Township Officials of Illinois are offering seven \$2,000 scholarships to high school seniors. If you know of anyone that may be interested or know of high school counselors in the area, let me know and I will send them the required information.
- Finally, I wanted to wish everyone a safe and healthy new year.

5. Approval of Minutes:

a. Board Meeting December 10, 2024: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2024. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

b. Special Board Meeting December 19, 2024: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the minutes of the meeting of December 19, 2024. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

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

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

8. New Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Review and Act Upon Approval of Designating Open Space F150 Vehicle as Excess Property: E. Murphy moved the Board designate Open Space F150 vehicle as excess property. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

9. Claims and Demands Authorized for Payment:

a. Town Fund \$7,816.73: E. Murphy moved the Board approve payment of the claims and demands on the Town Fund in the amount of \$7,816.73. J. Varsho seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

b. Road & Bridge Fund \$36,668.89: J. Varsho moved the Board approve payment of the claims and demands on the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$36,668.89. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

c. Capital Improvement Fund \$0

d. Open Space Fund \$23,781.36: J. Varsho moved the Board approve payment of the claims and demands on the Open Space Fund in the amount of \$23,781.36. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

10. Executive Session – Review Executive Session Minutes of December 10, 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 December 10, 2024. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed and Executive Session began at 7:18 p.m.

11. New Business Continued: Supervisor Kubar reconvened the regular session.

aa. Review and Act Upon Whether to Approve Executive Session Minutes of December 10, 2024: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the Executive Session minutes of December 10, 2024. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed.

12. Adjournment: J. Varsho moved the Board adjourn the meeting. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kubar and Trustees Varsho and Murphy voted aye. Trustee Metzger was absent. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Johansen
Clerk

