

1. 2. 3. The October 10, 2023 Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Kupa at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Clerk Johansen called the roll with Supervisor Kupa and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger present.

4. New Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Review and act Upon Presentation by Kyle Harding – Chapman and Cutler LLP and Anthony Miceli – Speer Financial: Anthony Miceli stated the Township's existing debt consists of four current bond issues. Buying open space is a capital improvement. We need a strategy to finance the open space long term. Now is the time to do it because the debt service is falling off. Kyle Harding said the Township has three borrowing alternatives. First is General Obligation Bonds by Referendum approval. Second is Alternate Revenue Bonds by Public Hearing where the Board adopts an Authorizing Ordinance and completes a 30 day backdoor referendum. Third, the Township issues Debt Certificates that are a general obligation of the Township that the Township budgets funds annually to make payments. No referendum or Public Hearing is required.

5. Reports:

Highway Commissioner – Sam Gallucci: Commissioner Gallucci stated brush removal is done on the north side of Route 64. Next is the south side of Route 64. We expect to finish next week. The County is trying to update road districts in regard to the tonnage allowed on roads. They can't find their records so they are asking Township Highway Districts to see what records they have. That is the reason for the Ordinances we have in tonight's packet. The roads did have a weight restriction. We just don't know when this was done. The Highway District did cold patch repair of roadways, wing mowing and downed tree removal on Dittman and Lenz Roads, and disposal of a dead deer on McDonald Road in Plato Township in compliance with our intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Campton Hills. Gravel recovery was completed on Ridgeline Road. We installed Private Drive and No Parking sign on Winchester Way.

All grates and storm drains were cleaned of debris throughout Campton Township and the Village of Campton Hills, shoulder gravel was applied throughout the Township and Village, extensive tree trimming and ditch mowing was completed throughout the Township and Village, wing mowing was completed throughout the Township and Village, weeds were trimmed at intersections in the Township and Village to enhance safety, roadways were assessed for drainage and pothole issues throughout the Township and Village, and potholes were repaired with cold patch throughout the Township and Village, stop signs were checked on a weekly basis throughout the Township and Village 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 we had 34 residential and 10 commercial appeals filed. Our hearings start next month. Campton Township's total assessed valuation will be over the one billion mark in 2024.

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

- the cart at Headwaters has never been used for manure. He recommends LRS take the manure cart away at the end of the season.
- The ball park recycling is not working because the public mixes everything in the recycling carts. The question is how many sites do we continue recycling? The ball parks definitely do not use the carts for recycling. John said let's approach the ball leagues coaches to explain the use of the recycling carts. If the recycling is contaminated, it contaminates the whole load on the recycling truck. Ruth was directed to contact the ball league's coaches to explain the correct use of the recycling carts and the contamination of the whole load on recycling trucks if recycling rules are not followed.

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

Town Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- The fifth disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received for Town #4000. \$256,424.42 was received for the Town Fund.
- Total revenues for the Town Fund are at 87.10% of the total revenues budgeted.

Expenditures:

- Auditing Service #5210 is at 110.61% of it's budget due to an unbudgeted fee for audit confirmations and an increase in the auditing fee.
- Office Supplies #5650 is over budget due to supplies needed for new employees as well as a new computer for the Administration Office.

Road District Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- The 5th disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received this month #4000. \$469,973.39 was received for the Road Fund.
- Revenues received for the Road and Bridge Tax per the IGA with the Village of Campton Hills is currently at 76.27% of the total budgeted. The next invoice for funds due will go out next week.
- Total revenues for the Road Fund are at 78.19% of the total revenues budgeted.

Maintenance

Expenditures:

- Building & Improvements #5290 exceeds it's budget by \$344 due to additional costs for the new Building B.

Open Space Fund

Administration

Revenues:

- The 5th disbursement of the Kane County Property Tax Levy was received this month #4000. \$1,492,993.38 was received this month.
- Grant monies from the Illinois Clean Energy Grant were received for the \$1,608,979 and used to purchase a Property. These funds are located as a revenue in #4050.
- Total revenues for Open Space Fund are at 131.32% of the total revenues budgeted. The revenues exceed the budgeted amount due to the Grant proceeds received.

Maintenance

Expenditures:

- The purchase of the Property is coded to #5555 Land Acquisition for \$2,167,692.57. The grant proceeds as well as a \$600,000 transfer from the funds saved in the Capital Improvements Fund were used to make this purchase.

Outreach

Revenues:

- As of September 30th, Outreach Department has generated revenues totaling \$20,101.40.

Additional Updates

Work with Sikich, LLC on the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Audit continues this month. The auditors were on-site Wednesday, August 30th, but continue to send requests for additional documents and information. As soon as all outstanding items are completed and any adjustments have been entered on my end, a final review of Fiscal Year 2023 will take place.

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

Operations Manager – Tom Serewicz: Operations Manager Serewicz's report stated:

At Anderson Park mowing and weed whacking was done, gravel trails were regraded, and I met with the league about a batting cage.

At Whitney Park mowing and weed whacking was done.

At the Community Center mowing and weed whacking was done.

At Gray Willows mowing and weed whacking was done, a porch post was repaired, and turf was built around the parking lot.

At Harley Woods mowing and weed whacking was done, and trails were mowed.

At Corron Farm mowing and weed whacking was done, branches were cut off and hauled away, trails were cut, a material quote for heat in the big tool shed was obtained, and we helped set up events.

At Town Hall mowing and weed whacking was done.

At Brown Road Meadows mowing and weed whacking was done, unused plots were mowed over, and the water tank filled.

At Lily Lake Blue Park mowing and weed whacking was done at Blue Park and the cemetery.

At the Headwaters Conservation Area mowing and weed whacking was done, trails were repaired and mowed, trees on the trail were pruned, storm damaged trees were cut up and hauled away, turf was added around the east side on the dog pen.

At Poyner Park mowing and weed whacking was done, trails were mowed, fallen branches were cut up and hauled away, sand was added to ballfield #3, we re-mowed for the All Wheel Show.

Goldenstein has no report.

In General office staff and outreach staff were assisted, we assisted with Open Space natural resources, we prepared, set-up, and tore down the All Wheel Show, truck #57 was emission tested, Z-track #13 and #52 were taken in for repairs, truck #51 was taken in for repairs, and we attended the Open Space Foundation meeting.

Open Space Ecologist – Carter Dell: Open Space Ecologist Carter Dell stated:

Natural Resources:

- Callery pear management @ Corron Farm.
- Weekly seed harvests with consistent volunteer turnout ... (thank you, Cheryl/Kaitlyn!)
 - Headwaters Conservation Area – Silphiums
 - Gray Willows Bee balm
 - Gray Willows – Dark green bulrush/woolgrass
 - Corron Farm – Tall ironweed
- Girl Scout seed harvest @ Gray Willows
- Attended 4 Kane County Forest Preserve seed harvests as part of interagency seed team.

Community Engagement and Professional Development

- Completed job posting for full time restoration technician.
 - Posted at All Wheels Show, Facebook, Loyola University Chicago Alumni Network, Conservation Job Board, other locations.
 - Candidate interviews scheduled for the next two weeks.
- Weekly manager meetings on Monday mornings.
- Assisted Outreach Staff with critter detectives and other events.
- Assisted in set-up/execution/teardown of All Wheels Show.
- 2 day training: How to Communicate with Tact and Professionalism.
- Coordinating with Outreach staff for new dedication trees and benches.
- Coordinating with Matt Zerby (Wasco Nursery) on burn plans regarding oak regeneration at Corron/Gray Willows.

- Coordinating with Jason and Robb Cleave (Kane County Forest Preserve) on interagency prescribed burn training and assistance.
- We will be doing a lot of burning this year into the winter.
- Coordinating with Monica (Kane County Forest Preserve) on proper seed harvest and mixing.
- Coordinating with Mark Rake to organize servers and Joshes files, set up printers, manage old email contacts, manage GIS licenses, Adobe licenses, other licenses and accounts.
- Coordinating with David Paluch to set up a new Dialpad number.
- Coordinating with Brooke Thureau (The Nature Conservancy) in the Volunteer Stewardship Network.
- Coordinating with Beth Laubach on Corron native prairie garden.
- Coordinating with Monika Lasota on horse manure delivery to community garden.
- Coordinating with John Kubar and Brad Hanzel (Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation) for grants.

Miscellaneous:

- Filled community garden water tanks.
- Ops crew repaired the base of the skid pump unit ... (Thank you, Ops Crew!)
- Started cleaning Open Space Office garage and creating improvement plan to increase its useability.

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

Social Media: From Sept. 4 – Oct. 1 our Facebook page likes rose to 87.1% higher than from Aug. 7 – Sept. 3. As of 10/1 we have 1,033 followers on Facebook, we are working hard to gain more followers.

Monthly Newsletter: Goes out to roughly 1100 people. We are averaging 700 people actively opening and looking at the newsletter. Before June, the average was 500, since June we have been above 700 each month and growing engagement with each newsletter.

Dedication Trees/Bench: This past month I have had 5 dedication trees/plaques and one bench.

- 3 trees at Corron Farm
- 2 trees and 1 bench at Poynor

9/20 – Nature & Wildlife Detectives Club – 13 Clubbers in attendance.

9/21 – Girl Scout Seed Harvest evening – 30 attendees.

9/30 – Wasco Nursery Fall Fest – Brought Barred Owl and 2 Red-tailed Hawks.

Weekly Seed Harvests: Promote on socials, constant contact newsletter, e-blasts, signage, snacks/water, and sign in all participants. We have been receiving lots of positive feedback in regards to social media and programs from volunteers during seed harvests.

Weekly Sunrise Hikes: These have been great opportunities to talk about our open space sites. We will switch over to night hikes at the Friday the 13th hike. Night hikes will continue through fall with some specialty hikes mixed in. (i.e. Scavenger Hunt Hikes and Scat, Tracks & Habitat Hikes).

All Wheel Show: 1,088 spectators – 125 cars - sponsor revenue \$3,400 + cash donations \$1,078 = \$4,478 – \$1,821.88 expenses = \$2,656.12 profit. Spectators & car registrants and vendors were all extremely complementary of the event. Many saying it was the best car show they have attended. Tom did a great job on the parking map. Extra sales vendors were appreciated by families. Extra food trucks were a big hit. Tayler Street said their sales rose exponentially, even with more food vendors present. Next year we plan on having a kids area and keeping the same set up. I will focus on securing more sponsors and fine tuning a few details.

Friday the 13th Hike & Creatures of the Night: Working with Emily Varsho with the Girl Scouts (we combined our Friday the 13th events). Creatures of the Night is coming together.

Meetings: Met with Sgt. Levand for upcoming events. Campton Hills Police remain very supportive of Campton Township Parks & Open Space. They will assist for the Friday the 13th hike and October 20th Creatures of the Night event. Met with the CRC – Community Relations Commission for the Village of Campton Hills. I was invited to attend their Board meeting on 9/26. We are looking to attend a community event at Gray Willows barn in the spring.

Fall Critter Camp: November 20 – 22. Current registrations 12.

Winter Critter Camp: - January 3 – 5. Current registrations 2. (still early).

Girl Scout Workshops: - (6 hours of workshops). October 15th Trail Adventure Badge.

Barn Bingo: - Moved to Sunday, October 22nd. Not sure if it will live there, we may change to Friday night, depending on attendance.

Reservations: Met with two photographers. Both using the “white truck” for Christmas photos at Corron Farm tool shed. Scouts using camp grounds, Poynor Park and Gray

Willows barn for badgework and outings. All scouts are logging service hours in lieu of payment.

New Idea Proposals

Senior Service Projects: Met with volunteer at her home. Coordinate with Scout groups to help seniors with natural landscapes at their homes.

Corporate Lunch & Learn and Corporate Volunteer days

Planning Commission Report – Jesse Varsho, Chairman: Plan Commission Chairman Varsho stated the Commission meets the third Wednesday of October. We had discussions with the horse riding people. Our decision to have the horse trails separate from the people trails is the right one.

Supervisor Report – John Kupa: Supervisor Kupa stated:

- Campton Township's All Wheels Car Show was held on Saturday September 24th, 2023. It was a great success. We had over 1088 people attend the event and over 125 vehicles at the show. The new configuration of the show allowed for more room and better viewing of the event. I want to thank the staff and volunteers for putting on a great event.
- Again, I met with the property owner of the land we have been considering for the last three months. We will be discussing next steps forward with her at Executive Session.
- Both the IDNR (Illinois Department of Natural Resources) OSLAD and LWCF grants were submitted Friday September 15th for another property under consideration for acquisition. The IDNR OSLAD grant application was submitted for \$750,000.00, and the LWCF grant was submitted for \$900,000.00. Our attorney reviewed a lease purchase agreement on this property and found it acceptable. We will be discussing this land acquisition in Executive Session tonight.
- We still have not heard from the IDNR on the current LWCF grant application. They promised an award in September. It is now October.
- Carter Dell and I met with Brad Hanzell of the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation last Thursday, October 5th. We toured the Goldenstein West farm property, both north and south parcels. We all showed him the next potential acquisition property. He was very much impressed with these properties as well as Corron Farm and Gray Willows. I will be meeting with him, and other members of his staff next week to discuss other avenues of funding for our land. As an example, they have grants for alternative energy development on sites. They also have development grants for open space lands.

6. Approval of Minutes:

a. Board Meeting September 12, 2023: E. Murphy moved the Board approve the minutes of the Board meeting of September 12, 2023. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

7. Citizens' Comments (comments to be kept to a minimum of 3 minutes):

8. Old Business – Presentation and Discussion for Action:

a. Review and Act Upon V3 Discussion on Gray Willows and Headwaters Wetland Mitigation: J. Varsho moved the Board table Agenda item 8. a. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a voice vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

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

a. Review and Act Upon Approval of 8 Resolutions for Weight Restricted Roads: J. Varsho moved the Board number the Resolutions 1 through 8. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed. J. Varsho moved the Board approve Resolutions 1 through 8 regarding Weight Restrictions of Campton Township Roads and Streets. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The 8 Resolutions passed.

10. Claims and Demands Authorized for Payment:

a. Town Fund \$4,771.32: E. Murphy moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Town Fund in the amount of \$4,771.32. 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 \$31,610.96: M. Metzger moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Road and Bridge Fund in the amount of \$31,610.96. 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 \$25,057.14: M. Metzger moved the Board approve the claims and demands on the Open Space Fund in the amount of \$25,057.14. E. Murphy seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

11. Executive Session – Review Executive Session Minutes of September 12, 2023; Land Acquisition; Personnel Issues; Legal Issues: M. Metzger moved the Board go

into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Executive Session minutes of September 12, 2023, land acquisition, and legal issues. J. Varsho 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 9:25 p.m.

12. New Business continued: Supervisor Kuper reconvened the regular session at 10:00 p.m.

aa. Review and Act Upon Whether to Approve Executive Session Minutes of September 12, 2023: J. Varsho moved the Board approve the Executive Session minutes of September 12, 2023. M. Metzger seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Supervisor Kuper and Trustees Varsho, Murphy, and Metzger voted aye. The motion passed.

13. Adjournment: M. Metzger moved the Board adjourn the meeting. J. Varsho 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 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Johansen

Clerk