

**MINUTES
AFTON TOWNSHIP MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
May 11, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Afton Township Board was convened at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at the Elva Town Hall with Supervisor Randall Bourdages presiding.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Supervisor Bourdages requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The roll call of members was conducted by Clerk Hellmuth; Supervisor Randall Bourdages, Highway Commissioner Elliott, Trustees Julie Barr, Craig Donnelly, Eric Christensen, Steve Hilleson and Clerk Sherry Hellmuth answered the call. All elected officials were present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Trustee Christensen. The motion was seconded by Trustee Barr. Motion passed by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular township board meeting held remotely via Zoom on April 13, 2021, was made by Trustee Christensen. The motion was seconded by Trustee Donnelly. Motion passed by voice vote.

PUBLIC FORUM

Notice of the Agenda was posted at the Elva Town Hall on Thursday, May 6, 2021. Supervisor Bourdages requested a change to the meeting order. In addition to guests listed separately below, Mr. Steve Schramm, newly elected Afton Township Trustee, was present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Bill Nicklas, DeKalb City Manager, provided an update on the Facebook Development. The New Afton Road design is finished and waiting for the State. He expects the bid process in July and final surface to be done next year. Also, plans for the Gurler Road and State Route 23 intersection are complete and awaiting IDOT processing. Highway Commissioner Elliott asked about the Crego Road cul-de-sac, which Mr. Nicklas indicated was Facebook's responsibility.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kevin Adelman, Senior Project Development Manager for Leeward Renewable Energy, LLC, provided an overview of the Red Maple Solar project that is planned for Afton and Pierce Townships. Also present for this discussion Dennis O'Sullivan with Leeward Renewable Energy, Karen Cribben, DeKalb County Board representative for Afton Township and Afton Township resident, Charles Barr. Discussion ensued about the hearing process, zoning requirements, maintenance, construction, project life, tax revenues, etc. Mr. Adelman stated that an estimate of approximately \$200,000 in property tax revenue could come to the township.

Supervisor Bourdages presented the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Road District to mow the Afton Cemetery. After discussion, the agreed-to transfer from the Afton Township General Fund to the Road District Fund will be \$5,800 annually. A motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Cemetery Mowing was made by Trustee Christensen. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bourdages. Motion passed by voice vote*.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Supervisor Bourdages provided, a copy of the check register and the current month’s expense report for both the road district and township.

A motion to approve the Afton Township Road & Bridge District Fund Expense Report totaling **\$5,472.00** for the May, 2021, township meeting was made by Trustee Hilleson. The motion was seconded by Trustee Donnelly. Motion passed by roll call vote.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Supervisor Bourdages	X	
Trustee Barr	X	
Trustee Christensen	X	
Trustee Donnelly	X	
Trustee Hilleson	X	

A motion to approve the Afton Township General Fund Expense Report totaling **\$14,816.10** for the May, 2021, township meeting was made by Trustee Christensen. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Bourdages. Motion passed by roll call vote.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Supervisor Bourdages	X	
Trustee Barr	X	
Trustee Christensen	X	
Trustee Donnelly	X	
Trustee Hilleson	X	

CEMETERY

No Report.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Supervisor Bourdages reminded everyone that the Town Hall would be opening for rentals beginning June 1. He is in the process of hiring individuals to clean the building. Additionally, he will bring cost information for putting in a cement slab and heavy-duty picnic tables as well as information from TOI regarding risk assessment. It was suggested that planning include for a covering to provide shade for the tables.

The audit will be coming up soon and within the next two weeks information will be provided to the accountants.

Lastly, Mr. Bourdages reminded everyone that he will be sending out the draft budget via e-mail for review. The budget will be approved at the regular June Board Meeting.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Highway Commissioner Elliott made a statement regarding the fact that his house is up for sale at this time. He indicated that he intends to remain as Highway Commissioner and is, indeed, living at his home on State Route 23. He also discussed upcoming plans for road maintenance within the township. Lastly, a large plastic tank that had been sold via online auction in December was stolen last week. The buyer had not picked up the tank. The sheriff and police both were called and made reports regarding the theft. TOIRMA was called. There is no loss to the township.

Clerk Hellmuth stated that the Oath of Office for all newly elected officials was ready for signing at the conclusion of the meeting. She will file the signed statements with the DeKalb County Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Bourdages presented to Mr. Steve Hilleson, a plaque in appreciation and recognition of his 40 years of service as an Afton Township Trustee. Mr. Hilleson received a standing ovation and round of applause.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Hilleson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Trustee Christensen, with all in favor. The Regular Meeting of the Afton Township Board of Trustees was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherry Hellmuth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Sherry Hellmuth, Afton Township Clerk