

**MINUTES
AFTON TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Afton Township Board was convened at 7:03 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at the Elva Town Hall with Supervisor Randall Bourdages presiding.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Supervisor Bourdages requested all in attendance to stand for The Pledge of Allegiance to open the regular meeting of the Afton Township Board of Trustees.

ROLL CALL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

The roll call was conducted by Clerk Hellmuth; Supervisor Randall Bourdages, Highway Commissioner James Elliott, Trustees Julie Barr*, Craig Donnelly, Eric Christensen, Steve Schramm, and Clerk Sherry Hellmuth answered the call. *Trustee Barr attended the meeting remotely via cell phone. All elected board officials were present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The August 8, 2023, meeting agenda was provided, via email, to all members of the board on August 3, 2023 and was also available on the website and posted at the Elva Town Hall. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Trustee Christensen. The motion was seconded by Trustee Donnelly. Motion passed by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A draft of the July 11, 2023 regular meeting minutes was provided, via email, to all members of the board on August 3, 2023. A motion to approve the minutes of the regular township board meeting held on July 11, 2023, was made by Trustee Barr. The motion was seconded by Trustee Christensen. Motion passed by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Supervisor Bourdages provided copies of the August check register and the current month's expense report for the township and road district.

Highway Commissioner Elliott reviewed the Road District expense report. A motion to approve the Afton Township Road & Bridge District Fund Expense Report totaling **\$40,802.45** for the August, 2023, township meeting was made by Trustee Schramm. 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 Schramm	X	

Supervisor Bourdages reviewed the expense report and claims for the township. A motion to approve the Afton Township General Fund Expense Report totaling **\$16,250.42** for the August, 2023, township meeting was made by Trustee Christensen. 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 Schramm	X	

CEMETERY

Supervisor Bourdages reported that Hannah Surveyors will be at the Afton Cemetery in approximately three weeks to survey and place metal rods at the corners of each block. Once the blocks have been identified, it will be much easier to find individual lots.

PUBLIC FORUM

Notice of the Agenda was posted at the Elva Town Hall on Thursday, August 3, 2023, and was available on the township website at www.aftontownship.org.

None of those present wished to make a comment to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supervisor Bourdages explained the Local Government Efficiency Act passed by the Illinois legislature. Townships will have 18 months to develop a plan, and the strategic plan Afton Township will go through with the NIU Center for Governmental Studies will be key to satisfying the requirements of this legislation.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Supervisor Bourdages reported he had a conversation with Greg Kuhn from NIU's Department of Governmental Studies. Work will begin on the strategic planning process within 30-45 days. Notification of the township community of the reason and need for strategic planning will be the first step in the process.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Supervisor Bourdages – see above.

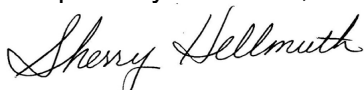
Highway Commissioner Elliott –reviewed progress on Waterman Road work between Keslinger Rd. and Elva Rd. Additionally, Commissioner Elliott commended Mr. Nelson Hillquist for his work on this project.

Clerk Hellmuth –reported that she will be attending a “Social Media Webinar” sponsored by Township Officials of Illinois.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Christensen to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Trustee Schramm, with all in favor. The Regular Meeting of the Afton Township Board of Trustees adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherry Hellmuth, Afton Township Clerk