

PALOS TOWNSHIP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

JANUARY 20TH, 2009

ROAD AND BRIDGE DISTRICT MEETING

The Road and Bridge District Meeting of the Palos Township Board was called to order by Highway Commissioner Adams in the Township Hall, 10802 S. Roberts Road, Palos Hills, at 7:01 P.M. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by the Clerk of the Township, Jane Nolan. Present were Trustees Conway, Morrissey, Panos and Ryan. Also present was Road and Bridge District Attorney, Erik Peck, and Administrative Assistant, Mary Wallenberg.

Absent: Supervisor Schumann

Highway Commissioner Adams stated that a quorum of elected officials were present for voting purposes.

Trustee Panos made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 15th, 2008, Road and Bridge District Meeting. **Trustee Ryan** seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Highway Commissioner Adams stated that audience comments would be limited to five minutes from this time forward. Mr Zyck, Palos Park resident, addressed the Board with several questions and problems concerning snow

removal, ownership of streets in his subdivision (Suffield Woods), no homeowners association, and various ways he will deal with this situation.

Mr. B.J. Elson, Palos Park resident, has problems with snow removal in Suffield Woods. His main concern was his driveway being plowed in during snow plowing as far as snow drifts landing in front of his driveway.

Mr. Garcia, Hickory Hills, has no questions.

Ms. Garcia, Hickory Hills, has no questions.

Ken Nolan, Palos Hills, has no questions.

OLD BUSINESS:

Highway Commissioner Adams informed the Board that the Road and Bridge District is very close to accepting the roads in Suffield Woods. At this point the Road and Bridge District is about to sign an order that states the Road District has what it needs to accept the streets. Mr. Gallagher has been very forthcoming, and has complied with every request of the Road and Bridge District. A turn around has been completed at the end of Grandview Drive. Gallagher and Henry have done crack filling and re-paving. The Road District has a letter from Gallagher and Henry stating that the brick paving in front of the model homes will be replaced. The Road District required a letter and a \$20,000.00 bond concerning the moving of the dirt hill which may cause damage to the streets in the subdivision. Gallagher and Henry have complied and the Road and Bridge District now has the letter and the bond in its possession. The Road District required that asphalt sidewalks be placed in front of the vacant lots in the subdivision. This has been done. Highway Commissioner Adams asked for stop signs to be removed in the subdivision because their stop signs did not comply with what the Township wanted. Those signs have all been removed. Highway Commissioner Adams required that the street signs be changed to highly reflective signs. Gallagher and Henry have complied. There is nothing that Gallagher and Henry has not complied with at this point. There is a form letter being completed at this time by the Road and Bridge District stating that the Palos Township Road District is accepting the roads in the Suffield Woods subdivision. When the Highway Commissioner hears back from the county, the roads will be taken over by the Road and Bridge District.

NEW BUSINESS:

Highway Commissioner Adams read a letter from a resident in Orland Park which praised him for his quick response to a rain and sleet storm that flooded his street with more than a foot of water. At one point in the article Mr. Kusulis stated "..... I called Highway Commissioner Gene Adams about this problem, and he sent someone out within a half hour. I believe Mr. Adams was more helpful than any other public employee that I have seen in my 73 years....." The entire article is attached to the minutes. This article appeared in the Southdown/Star in January.

Highway Commissioner Adams stated that this month the bills are the highest he has ever had as the Highway Commissioner of Palos Township. He doesn't know how municipalities and townships can live with the 7% tax cap. The price of salt is up 300 % and the price of asphalt over 200%. He cannot exceed his budget more than 5% without having a public hearing. The cost of operating snow plow vehicles could have reached \$500.00 per unit. There have been 45 weather events since the beginning of this winter season. Cook County is spending \$123. 00 a ton for salt as the Highway Commissioner is doing. This will cause problems for projects for Palos Township in the spring and summer. Attorney General Lisa Madigan has determined that there was no price fixing concerning the salt situation. The Highway Commissioner does not understand how this is so.


Trustee Panos left the meeting at 7:31 P.M. for another meeting.

Highway Commissioner Adams stated that there will have to be a public hearing before the next Road and Bridge District budget because of the shortage of money.

The bills of the Road and Bridge District were passed for approval by the Board.

Trustee Morrissey made the motion to approve the audit of the Road and Bridge District bills. **Trustee Ryan** seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Ayes: Trustees Conway, Morrissey and Ryan. Nays: None. Motion carried 3-0.

Trustee Conway made the motion for adjournment at 7:33 P.m. **Trustee Ryan** seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.


Jane A. Nolan

Clerk

Palos Township