

MINUTES – TOWN MEETING

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
McHenry County, } ss.
Town of Nunda, }

At the Annual Town Meeting, held in said Town and County in the State of Illinois at Nunda Township on April 13, 2010, the meeting was called to order by Bridgett Provenzano, Town Clerk. The following official business was transacted:

The Annual Town Meeting of Nunda Township was called to order by Township Clerk Bridgett Provenzano at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Clerk Provenzano.

Motion by Brent Smith and second by Mary Donner to waive the reading of the financial report. Copies of the report are available on the bulletin board at the back of the Hall.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Don Kopsell and second by Jim Schlader to set the Moderator's salary at \$150 for the meeting.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by John Heisler, second by Mary Donner to nominate John Horeled for Moderator. There were no other nominations. Motion by Kathy Bergan Schmidt and second by Kevin Sarnwick, to close the nominations.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Don Kopsell and second by Mark Daniels to cast a unanimous ballot for John Horeled for Moderator of the meeting.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

John Horeled was elected Moderator for the 2010 Town Meeting. The Clerk then administered the oath to Mr. Horeled.

The Moderator announced that only qualified legal residents (voters) would be recognized by the chair, and only such subjects can be considered that the Electors are empowered to regulate, direct or authorize by law.

The Moderator introduced the Township Officials who were present at the meeting, including John Heisler, Supervisor; Donald Kopsell, Highway Commissioner; Dennis Jagla, Assessor; Bridgett Provenzano, Town Clerk; and Trustees Lee Jennings, Tom Palmer, James Schlader and Joni Smith.

Moderator Horeled asked Supervisor Heisler to make his remarks at this time.

Supervisor Heisler started with introducing Pat Morris representing the Cemetery board.

Pat Morris reported that improvements in our four cemeteries continued to be in process, including, but not limited to, some new fencing. She also reported this past year we had six interments.

Supervisor Heisler then introduced Ders Anderson from the Planning Commission.

Ders started by explaining that the commission meets monthly and reviews new development in the township. Sometimes they review development in municipalities within the township. He reported that ground water seems to be an issue and they have asked County representatives to come in and educate the commission and also they are reviewing the 2030 plan closely.

Supervisor Heisler continued with his own remarks regarding the financial report. Cash reserves are low side because of the C.P.I. being lower this year. New Construction in the township is down from 36 to 17 million resulting in lower tax revenues. He also explained that I.M.R.F., the township pension fund has increased its employer contribution from 2.1% to 8.6%, and this will affect the township budgets. Health

insurance costs have risen on average from 12 to 15%. He also reported that the General Assistance fund will run out of money by November, due to the increase of applicants in the current state of the economy.

John concluded his remarks with good results from the Gypsy Moth Spraying, saying we may not need as much this year. He also reminded residents to call if they have an area that needs to be treated for mosquitoes with a larvacide. This includes such areas as standing water.

Agenda Item #10 concerns a petition submitted to the Nunda Township Supervisor's office in accordance with statutory requirements to place on this agenda the following question. **"Do you authorize the following advisory question of public policy to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the township?"**

**Shall the Nunda Township Open Space Plan which was adopted in April
of 2007 be repealed?**

Yes _____ No _____

Motion by Douglass Mann, seconded by David Gerholdt.

Moderator Horeled open the floor for discussion.

Kevin Sarnwick asked if the Open Space Plan cost the township anything. Supervisor Heisler explained that it does not, and said that it is a voter approved plan providing certain opportunities to acquire property outlined in the plan to stay open space. He added that the township can not purchase this land without passing a referendum for financing. Mr. Sarnwick also asked about ground water supply. Heisler explained that the County has spent ten's of millions of dollars on groundwater supply. Nunda is in the "yellow", which is on the cusp of having to draw water from another township. He added that groundwater is the only source of water in the county.

Doug Mann spoke and suggested that the Nunda Township Open Space Plan is anti-growth, a 316% tax increase, and that voters turned down the financing three times. He also suggested that pg. 13 from the plan is fatally flawed and urged people to vote yes to eliminate the plan.

Lori McConville, member of a private citizen group formed to support the Plan emphasized that water is the major part of the plan, and that the plan would save money in the future. She also reminded everyone that the last increase placed on the ballot was a \$34 per household increase. She also stated that if they did rescind the plan they could acquire no land. She stated she has spoken to many residents who support the plan and that they are concerned with the groundwater issue.

David Gerholdt questioned why we couldn't work with the MCCD and felt this was what they were responsible for and the plan was a duplication of services.

Gerry Walsh stated that Nunda Neighbors, the committee formed to promote the plan had campaign violations filed against it. He agreed that groundwater was in fact a pertinent issue, but felt that the County was handling it.

Another elector commented that his well went dry at 250' and that the springs at Sterne's Woods were gone. He recommended keeping the plan.

Kathy Bergen-Schmidt was in attendance for the groundwater meetings and mentioned contamination is an issue. Recommended we calm down and carry on.

Bob Armstrong recommended we keep the plan.

Michelle Mann said she feels the plan needs to be revamped. She said she doesn't think it is a bad idea but that the plan could be better if it were amended.

Jim Militello, Township Attorney didn't think that the plan could be amended. You would have to rescind, rewrite, and then put it to the voters again.

Mike Walkup reminded the town that it is just an advisory referendum, and even if it were to pass tonight, it would still be up to the board whether to repeal it or not. The Township code does not provide for the electors to repeal the Plan.

Another elector spoke and explained the water issue in depth as this is his line of work.

Ders Anderson said it was better to have the plan in place to be prepared for future growth, instead of doing the wrong thing and ending up in a crisis.

Doug Mann said he was tired of being taxed and did not want another tax increase.

Marsha Millman stated that it was a serious issue and recommended we keep the plan.

Moderator Horeled ended the comment time and called for a vote. Again the question before the electors is, "Do you authorize the following advisory question of public policy to be placed on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election in the township?"

Shall the Nunda Township Open Space Plan which was adopted in April of 2007

Be repealed? Yes _____ No _____

The Motion was denied by a vote of 31 ayes, 47 nays.

Moderator Horeled asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on April 14, 2009 and to accept as submitted.

Motion by Jim Schlader, seconded by Tom Palmer.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathy Bergen-Schmidt and second by Kim Platt to set the fiscal year for the Township from April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Pat Morris and second by Brent Smith to set the fiscal year for the Cemetery Fund from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Kim Platt and second by Jim Schlader to hold the 2011 Annual Meeting on Tuesday April 12th, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

The following resolutions and items of business were presented by Moderator Horeled for approval:

Motion by Brent Smith and second by John Heisler to approve a RESOLUTION requesting the Highway Commissioner be granted authority to purchase and sell SAND/SALT to other units of government in Nunda Township.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wendy Valzano and second by Kim Platt to approve granting the Nunda Township Board of Trustees authority to hire a Certified Public Accountant for fiscal year 2010-2011 to audit the Nunda Township Books.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Lee Jennings and second by Wendy Valzano to approve a resolution authorizing the sale and disposal of surplus Road District equipment during the 2010-2011 fiscal years.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried.

There being no other business to be brought before this meeting, a motion was made by Don Kopsell, second by Jim Schlader to adjourn the meeting.

All voted "Aye"; there were no "Nay" votes. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridgett Provenzano, Town Clerk

John Horeled, Moderator