

**MINUTES – PERU TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING / JANUARY 9, 2017**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS, }**

**LASALLE COUNTY, } ss.**

**TOWN OF PERU, }**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Peru Town Board was called to order by Township Supervisor Michael Hocking at 4:30 p.m. on Monday January 9, 2017 at the Peru Township offices, 1009 Peoria Street Peru, IL.

Peru Township Officers and Trustees present were Supervisor Michael Hocking, Clerk Steve Weberski, Assessor Douglas O. Biederstedt, and Trustees Art Rigby, Douglas Bernabei, Eddie Mitchell, and Chuck Studer. Also present was Township Attorney Jonathan Brandt.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Supervisor Hocking led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Stephanie Kennedy of the LaSalle County Assessor’s Office provided a presentation describing the duties and responsibilities of Township Assessors. Ms. Kennedy also informed the board of system upgrades to the county database and other improvements that provide better access for office personnel as well as the general public via the LaSalle County website.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no motion to enter into Executive Session.

**MINUTES**

Supervisor Hocking requested the board approve previous meeting minutes.

Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Trustee Rigby. Second by Trustee Studer .

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Supervisor Hocking reported Real Estate and Replacement taxes received as follows:

Real Estate Taxes / Town Fund received \$8,141.22 Road Fund received \$4,497.45

Replacement Taxes / Town Fund received \$2,864.49 Road Fund received \$11,517.35 from which the City of Peru will receive \$2,303.47 and Peru Township shall retain \$9,213.88

Current Fund balances are as follows:

Town Fund / \$160,770.97

Road & Bridge / \$12,650.15

General Assistance / \$57,226.18

Total of all Funds = \$232,647.30

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Trustee Bernabei. Second by Trustee Mitchell.

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

#### **BILLS TO BE AUDITED**

Supervisor Hocking instructed the Trustees to audit the bills and consider approval of all expenditures.

**Town Fund \$23,771.96**

Motion to approve expenditures by Trustee Rigby. Second by Trustee Mitchell.

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

**Road & Bridge Fund \$19,129.08**

Motion to approve expenditures by Trustee Bernabei. Second by Trustee Studer.

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

**General Assistance Fund \$376.17**

Motion to approve expenditures by Trustee Mitchell. Second by Trustee Rigby.

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

#### **TOWNSHIP OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Township Supervisor** / Supervisor Hocking provided a report on General Assistance activities during the previous month which included eight applications for assistance taken out and four returned for processing. Mr. Hocking stated assistance with utilities were becoming more common.

**Township Clerk** / Clerk Weberski informed the board they will be receiving the Statement of Economic Interest from the LaSalle County Clerk which will need to be filled out and returned to the county.

**Township Assessor** / Assessor Biederstedt reported Homestead Senior Exemptions are running late this year. The Township Assessor's office has been working updating pictures and property cards and working with some industries located outside Peru corporate limits to determine what their taxes would be if they were to annex into Peru.

**Highway Commissioner** / Highway Commissioner Debo was absent.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Discuss City Township Meeting held in December /

Board members briefly discussed the joint meeting held in December. Trustee Mitchell pointed out discussion that took place regarding Township Assessor duties and the cost of assessing property if the city was to undertake those responsibilities if Peru Township were dissolved. Assessor Biederstedt mentioned several articles in area newspapers on the subject of township consolidation or dissolution. Trustee Rigby read a recent article in the News Tribune from a recent LaSalle County Board meeting in which county officials and other township officials stated they have no interest in assuming township roads or any other township responsibilities. The next meeting of the joint committee will be February 15, 2017.

Discuss Loan from Town fund to Road Fund /

Board members discussed the outstanding loan of \$50,000 from Town Fund to Road Fund. Trustee Studer stated he has brought up the issue of Road Department spending in the past and now there is a lack of funds on hand to pay the loan off. Possible remedies to pay off the loan were discussed and the board decided to table the matter until next month's meeting when Road Commissioner Debo will be present to answer concerns and provide some input.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT** / Motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Peru Town Board by Trustee Studer. Second by Trustee Mitchell.

Yes: (5)

No: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion Carried 5/0/0

The Regular Meeting of the Peru Town Board was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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**Steve Weberski / Township Clerk**

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**Michael Hocking / Township Supervisor**

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**Trustee Bernabei**

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**Trustee Studer**

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**Trustee Rigby**

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**Trustee Mitchell**