

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

*Diane Wolfe Marlin, Chair*

**CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP**

*Phyllis D. Clark, Township Clerk*

**CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**Monday, June 15, 2020**

The Cunningham Township Board met in regular session Monday, June 15, 2020 at 6:30pm. Due to Governor and Mayoral Emergency Declarations this meeting was conducted by virtual attendance via Zoom.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:**

**Chair:** Diane Wolfe Marlin

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:**

**Trustees:** Bill Brown; Bill Colbrook; Shirese Hursey; Eric Jakobsson; Jared Miller; Dennis Roberts; Maryalice Wu

**Township Clerk:** Phyllis D. Clark

**Supervisor:** Danielle Chynoweth

**Assessor:** Wayne Williams

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Frederic Grosser, Township Attorney; Kay Meharry; Wendy Hundley

**1. ROLL CALL**

With a quorum present, Chair Marlin called the meeting of the Cunningham Township Board to order at 6:36pm, following a Cunningham Township public hearing.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Trustee Jakobsson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2020 meeting and May 26, special joint meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee Brown and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Jakobsson, Miller, Roberts, Wu.

Nay: None

**3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

**4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was none.

**5. COMMITTEE TO VERIFY BILLS**

The following items were presented in omnibus fashion:

1. Town Fund

2. General Assistance Fund

Trustee Roberts made a motion to approve the Town Fund expenses for \$88,770.55 and the General Assistance Fund expenses for \$107,655.56. Trustee Jakobsson seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Jakobsson, Miller, Roberts, Wu.

Nay: None

**6. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Supervisor Chynoweth announced the launch of Solidarity Garden CU, which provides seed and tools for people to grow food for themselves and neighbors in need: [www.solidarity-gardens-CU.org](http://www.solidarity-gardens-CU.org) is the website address.

Ms. Chynoweth announced the Covid Relief Assistance Fund is coming to an end. Families in need are now being directed to [www.helpillinoisfamilies.com](http://www.helpillinoisfamilies.com), which directs people to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) to get support for food, rent, utilities, mortgage assistance and prescriptions.

Township Assessor Wayne Williams spoke about property taxes and said in an effort to save money, Champaign County will not send out notices for property tax increases that are due to a multiplier increase. He said he is working with the county assessor to look for a way the township can notify residents of increases in property tax so they can appeal them if necessary. Mr. Williams said postcards would be the most cost effective way to send notices.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Ordinance No. T-2020-05-001:** An Ordinance Approving the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance (Fiscal Year 2020-2021)

Township Supervisor Chynoweth presented this ordinance. She said she decreased assistance funds from \$190,000 to \$175,000. Because of increased funds from the state for rental assistance, those funds have decreased from \$120,000 to \$100,000. There were calculation errors in health insurance and IMRF and those errors have been corrected.

Ms. Chynoweth said legal costs in the current fiscal year amounted to more than \$100,000 because of the Carle cases and a few real estate cases, and she is trying to think of ways to keep legal costs down for the upcoming fiscal year.

Township Assessor Williams said the personnel "other" costs will decrease when the digitizing is finished. He said he expects to use about 62% of the training budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Social service funds were discussed. Ms. Chynoweth said she would like to see some of those funds extend to helping very low income residents of Urbana.

When asked about the amount of funds left in township surplus, Ms. Chynoweth said there is about \$1.84 million. She said expenses, including assistance and rental assistance levels, have gone up in the past year, with total expenses at almost \$2 million for the year.

Trustee Jakobsson moved to approve Ordinance No. T-2020-05-001. Motion seconded by Trustee Miller and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Jakobsson, Miller, Roberts, Wu.

Nay: None

8. **Resolution No. T-2020-06-008R:** A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the County of Champaign for Geographic Information System Services (CCGISS)

Trustee Wu made a motion to approve Resolution No. T-2020-06-008R. Motion seconded by Trustee Hursey and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Jakobsson, Miller, Roberts, Wu.

No: None

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Cunningham Town Board, Chair Marlin declared the meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

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Kay Meharry  
Recording Secretary

This meeting was taped and broadcast on cable television.  
Website link for this meeting: <https://www.urbanillinois.us/node/8647>

Minutes Approved: July 13, 2020