

**PALATINE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
August 12, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Kalkounos called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Patriot Room of the Palatine Township Center.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Moran called the roll and the following members were present:

PRESENT IN THE ROOM:

Voting Members- Supervisor Kalkounos, Trustees Svenson, Bolanos, Freese, and Smolka

Non-Voting Members- Assessor Pohlman, Highway Commissioner Del Mar, and Clerk Moran

Other Invited Participants- Administrator Chychula, Asst. Administrator Veller, Food Pantry Director Westlund-Deenihan, and Attorney Airdo

Invited Participants- Dennis Manganello -*Strategic Benefits Advisors*, Aron Van Cleave -*Run The Hills 5k*, and members of the *St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church Greek Fest Committee*.

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Supervisor led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

A. Run The Hills 5K, Aron Van Cleave, Food Pantry Donation

Aron Van Cleave, *Run The Hills 5K* organizer and member of the sponsoring *The Presbyterian Church of Barrington*, gave a brief history of his father Donald Van Cleave's 28 years of volunteer service throughout the community and including the Township Food Pantry. The *RTH5K* raises money for various organizations and the Township's Food Pantry was once again a benefactor. A check from *The Presbyterian Church of Barrington* was presented in the amount of \$2,750.00, and photos were taken.

B. St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church, Food Pantry Donation

Supervisor Kalkounos noted that *St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church* is his family's church, and that he is proud of their continued generous support of the Township programs. One of the

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several members of the *St. Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church Greek Fest Committee* spoke and provided an overview of the work they do. Approximately 250 bags of groceries were donated earlier in the year, and tonight's donation was a check for \$5000 to the Township Food Pantry. Photos were taken of the check presentation.

C. Health Insurance Benefit mid-year review, Dennis Manganello, SBA Benefits

Supervisor Kalkounos introduced Dennis Manganello, with *Strategic Benefits Advisors* who reminded the *COW* that January 1, 2025 is the Township's renewal date for health insurance, with rates expected by mid-October 2024. He also distributed *Kaiser Family Foundation's 25th Employer Health Benefits Survey* handouts, providing valuable information on insurance premiums and current employer and worker contributions. He noted that the Township has only two current insurance providers who can quote for this type of insurance, Blue Cross and United. He reported that the current trends are seeing 7-10% increases, but noted that the new year could be completely different. The Board will consider this information in the months ahead.

ELECTED OFFICIALS ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Highway Commissioner

Highway Commissioner Del Mar reported that various road projects are going on in the Barrington area and that photos and information are being posted on the Road District's Instagram, along with weather alerts.

B. Clerk

No Report

C. Assessor

Assessor Pohlman reported that his office had finished 1000 appeals by the close of this appeals period, Sept. 7.

D. Supervisor

Supervisor Kalkounos report summary:

- The township was given information by Rep. Mary Beth Canty regarding a three million dollar grant opportunity for pedestrian infrastructure projects such as walking/biking trails, bridges, etc. in the area. The Administrator is investigating this option; a deadline of Sept. 30 was noted for submissions.
- The Township provided gift cards which went towards the purchase of snacks for the *ICompete Summer Camp 2024*. A nice note was received in gratitude for this sponsorship.

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BUSINESS

A. Patriot Room Wireless Audio System

Supervisor Kalkounos reviewed the COW Packet Insert, *AV Comparisons for Patriot Room 2024*, and its accompanying three submitted proposals. The Supervisor reminded the COW that the *Patriot Room Wireless Audio System Project* is part of an ongoing effort to professionalize the Township and provide transparency. Administrator Chychula noted that a deposit was made towards the \$21,435.52 total cost of the project, and that work on this project will begin later in the week, with an expected completion date prior to this month's Regular Board Meeting.

B. Better Together Community Resource Fair, 8-21-24

Administrator Chychula reviewed the COW Packet Insert, *Save The Date-Better Together*. The *Better Together Community Resource Fair* will be held at Falcon Park on August 21, 2024 from 6:00 -7:30 p.m.

C. Inverness Fire Department Annual Open House, 9-7-24

Supervisor Kalkounos reported that the annual *Inverness Rural Fire Protection District Open House* will be held on September 7, 2024 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Township will once again be providing bus transportation to this event. Highway Commissioner Del Mar invited the Board to attend and show their support. Administrator Chychula will email the Township Officials an invite.

D. Palatine Historical Society Hillside Cemetery Walk, 9 -22-24

Supervisor Kalkounos reviewed the COW Packet Insert, *Palatine Historical Society Hillside Cemetery Walk*. This event will be held on September 22, 2024 from 1- 4 p.m. Supervisor Kalkounos asked Administrator Chychula to inform the landscapers that they will need to seed the southeast portion of the cemetery that is in need of it.

E. Business Expo & Community Showcase 10-5-24

Administrator Chychula reported on the *Palatine Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo & Community Showcase*. The event will take place on October 5, 2024 at Falcon Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Township Officials are encouraged to attend and will be sent an email invite from the Administrator.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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OTHER BUSINESS

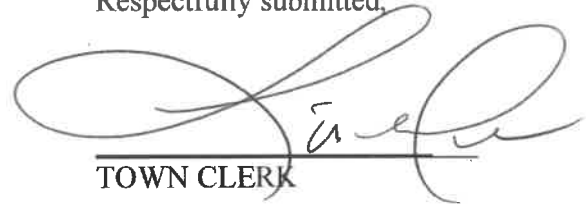
None

ADJOURN

MOTION by Trustee Svenson, seconded by Trustee Bolanos to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED by voice vote

Respectfully submitted,



TOWN CLERK