

**MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THORNTON TOWNSHIP HALL
333 E 162nd St SOUTH HOLLAND, IL 60473**

April 12, 2022

Thornton Township's Supervisor Henyard, called the Thornton Township Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

PRESENT: Trustee's Gerald "Jerry" Jones, Darlene Gray-Everett, Joyce Washington, and Supervisor Tiffany Henyard.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Loretta Wells, Highway Commissioner Geary DePue, Assessor Cassandra Elston and Attorney James Vasselli

ABSENT: Christopher Gonzalez

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the first item on the agenda was Reports/Presentations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion for the acceptance of the Tentative 2023 Budget for General Fund, General Assistance Fund and Road and Bridge Fund. The motion was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Washington. There being no questions or comments Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard

NO: 0 None

ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez

There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held March 22, 2022, at 7:00pm. The motion was made by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Jones. There being no questions or comments Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard

NO: 0 None

ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez

There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to combine the Bills of the General Fund, General Assistance Fund and the Road and Bridge Fund as presented to the Board for payment. The motion was made by Trustee Gray-Everett and seconded by Trustee Jones. There being no questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve the Bills of the General Fund, General Assistance Fund and the Road and Bridge Fund as presented to the Board for payment. The motion was made by Trustee Gray-Everett and seconded by Trustee Jones. There being no questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve the Bills of the General Fund, General Assistance Fund and the Road and Bridge Fund excluding reference # 161 of General Fund Bills (Eaglewood Resort & Spa) as presented to the Board for payment. Supervisor Henyard gave an overview. The motion was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Gray-Everett. There being no questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve the Eaglewood Resort & Spa as presented to the Board for payment. The motion was made by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Jones. Trustee Jones explained he was aware after the fact, but to his knowledge the Management Team was allowed/given permission to utilize such services. We know that this shouldn't have happen and should never happen again, but the managers were invited on this Retreat and did what they were instructed to do, it's unfortunate what happened in the past, and "I definitely don't want to see this happen in the future, but at the same time, it happened already and we as a Township are responsible for this". Trustee Washington agrees, what's done, is done, but "in the future we cannot pay for spas, but I say we should pay the bill. Robert Hunt, Director

of Finance, explains that the bill is around \$14,000, the Board can decide to exclude the Spa portion since the “room & board” is also included in the total. Director Hunt highly recommends that as an option. There being no further questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 2 Trustee Jones and Washington
NO: 1 Trustee Gray-Everett
PASS: 1 Supervisor Henyard
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez

There being two affirmative votes, **the motion failed.**

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve the Eaglewood Resort with the Spa amount, excluded for payment. The motion was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Gray-Everett. Supervisor Henyard wanted everyone to know “from my mouth to your ears”, when the Board encounters such situations, “we will put it out to the public, so that you all understand that we are being transparent, and that sometimes we do not know, which no excuse, but the money was spent”. I have put a spending cap in place for anything over \$100, must have prior approval. We have checks and balances in place to keep this from happening in the future. Trustee Gray-Everett asked, “if there is a resolution to get the Spa portion paid”? Supervisor Henyard responded we currently don’t have a resolution, but we will come up with a plan to pay the Spa. Trustee Jones ask since there is a spending cap, what will happen in the future to prevent the management team from going somewhere and authorizing something like this? Supervisor responded, “everything will come before my desk, and I will sign off on it beforehand”. Supervisor Henyard also explained “no one can go spend any money, no one has credit cards, we cancelled all credit cards, we canceled anything dealing with Amazon, just so we can be transparent, and people can stop buying minute things”. Trustee Washington asked who authorized the Spa, Supervisor Henyard answered that it was an individual that no longer works here. Supervisor Henyard let Trustee Washington know that we can revisit this. There being no further questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 3 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 1 Trustee Washington
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez

There being three affirmative votes, **the motion carried**

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS:

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve Resolution 22-R-003 Township Board of Trustees 2022 amended meeting schedule. The motion was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Washington. Trustee Jones asks Attorney James Vasselli to read the resolution, Attorney Vasselli reads the resolution and gives an overview of the meeting times being changed to 6pm. There being no further questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve Resolution 22-R-004 authorizing signatories for Thornton Township. Supervisor asks Attorney Vasselli to give an overview. The motion was made by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Jones. Trustee Jones asks if this is for one signature or multiple? Attorney Vasselli answers, that there is just one Signatory. Trustee Gray-Everett asked, how much do you spend and verified on your own before you come to the Board? Supervisor Henyard responded saying, she hasn't verified or spent any money. Trustee Gray-Everett asked, what's the rules on spending? Supervisor Henyard directed the question to the Attorney, who then asked, Director of Finance, Robert Hunt to weight in and explain our spending policy. Robert, Finance Director explained that currently the spending limit is zero, unless it concerns Healthcare or Payroll, so nothing is spent prior to board approval other than the two; Healthcare (insurance) and employee payroll. There being no further questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS: None

PERSONNEL:

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/TERMINATIONS: None

TRANSFER/PROMOTION/STATUS CHANGE: None

APPOINTMENT/NEW HIRE:

CLOSED SESSION:

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to go into closed session at 8:05pm – To discuss the hiring, discipline, performance, compensation and the dismissal of certain personnel, legal counsel, acquisition of real property, matters pending, probable, or imminent litigation. The motion was made by Trustee Jones, seconded by Trustee Washington. There being no questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells called the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
NO: 0 None
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

The Board entered closed session at 8:05pm.

Closed Session ended at 8:24pm.

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to reconvene the Board of Trustees meeting at 8:24p.m. Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez

ACTION TO FOLLOW CLOSED SESSION:

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to approve the appointment of an Authorized Agent under IMRF. Supervisor asked Attorney Vasselli to give an overview. The motion was made by Trustee Jones, seconded by Trustee Washington. There being no questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells called the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustee Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

MISCELLANEOUS:

Trustee Jones wished all employees born in the month of March, a Happy Birthday and reads the birthday list for the month of April and wishes the employees a Happy Birthday!

Supervisor Henyard entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Trustee Jones, seconded by Trustee Washington. Trustee Gray-Everett asked the attorney if he will come back to the table next meeting with a possible solution, Attorney Vasselli answered, yes, Madam Trustee. There being no further questions or comments, Supervisor Henyard asked Clerk Wells to call the roll.

On the Roll Call, the vote was:

YES: 4 Trustees Jones, Gray-Everett, Washington, and Supervisor Henyard
ABSENT: 1 Christopher Gonzalez
There being four affirmative votes, **the motion carried.**

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees adjourned at 8:27pm.

X

Tiffany A. Henyard
Supervisor

X

Loretta Wells
Clerk

X

Joyce M. Washington
Trustee

X

Darelene Gray-Everett
Trustee

X

Gerald "Jerry" Jones
Trustee

X

Christopher Gonzalez
Trustee