

MINUTES OF THE YORK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Call to Order: Supervisor Tim Murray called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM. Dyan Page led the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Gary Kleppe called the roll (at right); all members were present. Also attending: attorney Burt Odelson of Odelson, Murphey, Frazier, and McGrath, acting as legal advisor; Highway Commissioner James Kehring; and Assessor-elect for 2026-2029 Anthony Pacilli.

Trustee C. Joseph Amore	<i>Present</i>
Trustee Engy Sutherland	<i>Present</i>
Trustee Al Rago	<i>Present</i>
Trustee Ilse Messner	<i>Present</i>
Supervisor Tim Murray	<i>Present</i>
Quorum	<i>Met</i>

Minutes Approval: Trustee Amore moved to approve the June 10 Regular Meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Sutherland. Trustee Messner moved to amend the minutes by removing one specific bit of verbiage that did not reflect what was said at the meeting; Trustee Sutherland seconded. All voted in favor of the amendment and the main motion.

Public Comments: Liz Palmer, resident of Congress Knolls subdivision, said that problems with an area house reported at a previous meeting have not been solved. Supervisor Murray has already made numerous calls and will continue to pursue the matter. There will be a court hearing on July 17th.

Approval of Bill Payments: Trustee Messner moved to approve the payment of submitted bills. Trustee Rago seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Township Reports: We transported 391 people in June. Thanks to the Community Presbyterian Church for a donation of \$200. One General Assistance client left the program after finding gainful employment. This month the Senior Center celebrated the birthday of Jane who turned 101. We need volunteers to help with the transition from disposable styrofoam to reusable utensils and dishware, as the latter can make it harder for seniors to carry trays. Trustee Amore suggested having a designated day each month at the Senior Center to celebrate all birthdays that month. Trustee Sutherland asked how many passports were processed last month; Supervisor Murray said he will get that information.

Trustee Reports:

- **Trustee Amore** has been focused on the food pantry. More volunteers during the 8:30 – 12:00 opening time would be helpful.

- **Trustee Messner** is working on arranging a name change clinic and a possible tax assistance program for low-income families, and is also working on the auditing processes.
- **Trustee Rago** is focused on requests for a strategic plan proposal, the mental health board which is having a public fair in the fall, and a redesign of the Township web site. A test version of the latter will be provided before anything goes live.
- **Trustee Sutherland** is looking at youth services in other townships. She reached out to Maine Township where she grew up. She is also researching the possibility of library services for residents of unincorporated areas, as well as looking at social media and forensic audit.

Building cooling system: The existing system has a leak and has already fried two compressors. This is an emergency. The replacement cost estimate through Midwest Mechanical, with which the Township already has a maintenance contract, is \$399,716; they are a purchasing co-op, making a three-bid process unnecessary, and could get the work done by the end of this month. Trustee Amore, seconded by Trustee Sutherland, moved to allocate this amount of money and authorize the Supervisor or his designee to take all necessary and appropriate action to complete the installation without delay, commenting that this must be done because the township building is a needed refuge during heat emergencies. The state may be able to lend us cooling units to use temporarily while this work is being done, which would drop the cost. All board members voted yes on roll call, motion passed.

Kitchen Improvements: The price of the new walk-in refrigerator/freezer, authorized by the Board last month, will be \$35,650 plus \$10,000 for labor. Trustee Messner moved to ratify that amount and authorize the Supervisor or his designee to take all necessary and appropriate actions to complete the installation without delay, seconded by Trustee Rago. On roll call all Board members voted yes, and the motion passed.

Intergovernmental Agreement for Senior Lunch Program (walk-in refrigerator and freezer): An agreement has been drawn up to use DuPage County leftover funds to help pay for our needed improvements. Trustee Sutherland moved to enter into this agreement, seconded by Trustee Amore. All Board members voted yes on roll call, so the motion passed.

Driver Separation Agreement: The employment of driver Rich Hamlin has been terminated by mutual agreement between him and the Township. Trustee Rago moved to approve the agreement, seconded by Trustee Sutherland. On roll call, all members voted yes; the motion carried.

Sale of Surplus Vehicle: We have a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria with about 170,000 miles on it which we are seeking to sell. Trustee Rago moved that the vehicle be

declared surplus and its sale on an online auction platform such as eBay, Municibid, or a similar platform for a minimum price of \$500 be approved, and that the township supervisor or his designee be authorized to take all necessary and appropriate action to complete the sale on behalf of the township. Trustee Messner seconded. Trustee Amore asked whether the vehicle is in operational condition, which it is, and moves to amend the motion so that any funds raised from the sale be applied towards one of the currently pending emergency purchases, seconded by Trustee Sutherland. The amendment passes on roll call with four yes votes and Trustee Sutherland abstaining. The main motion passed on roll call with all five yes votes.

Strategic Plan: Trustee Rago reported that a draft of the RFP has been completed. Trustee Sutherland asked whether it would make sense for a professional firm to review the draft. The supervisor said that legal review will take place after Trustees have provided input, for which he will leave it open for fifteen more days.

Closed Session: No closed session.

New business: Attorney Burt Odelson spoke briefly about the process for mosquito abatement. The statute says that the Township may provide such services at the Board's discretion. The Township Act also allows for a public referendum to create a mosquito abatement district which would be a very small item on residents' property tax bills.

Emily Kluger, Entomologist and Key Account Manager for Clarke, presented at length. Clarke is a third-generation family-owned company headquartered in St. Charles. Mosquitos have a larva stage in which they are more easily controlled; the goal is to find and shut down breeding grounds. They only do adult mosquito control about six nights out of the year. Larva control may be done from bikes or helicopters, dropping tablets that dissolve and coat basins similar to how an Alka-Seltzer works. These work on the specific physiology of mosquito larvae and kills them with no effect on anything else. They also have traps and surveillance to monitor mosquito population levels and test for West Nile virus, producing data which are shared with public health agencies, used to decide where and when to spray. Sprays will not harm people, pets, pollinators, nor the environment when used correctly. Residents can call 800-942-2555 or visit www.clarkeportal.com/hotline to get information, register for notifications, report standing water, and/or get answers to questions.

Trustee Sutherland proposed getting new audio-visual equipment so that we can livestream meetings; the Supervisor will look into this. Trustee Amore proposed establishing a community garden, as food insecurity is approaching critical mass and many people like to garden.

Old Business: Attorney Burt Odelson thanked the Township for having confidence in his firm; he served as attorney for York Township beginning thirty-seven years ago and continuing about ten years under three different supervisors, and it's very nice to be back.

Trustee Messner moves to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Rago, approved by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM, total duration one hour thirty-nine minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Kleppe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Kleppe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kleppe".

York Township Clerk