

## **Annual Town Meeting April 10, 2018 at 6:00PM**

The Annual Town Meeting was held this year at the Groveland Township Office 173 Washington St, Groveland IL 61535.

The meeting was called to order by Town Clerk Pam Christianson at 6:00PM

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marvin Claassen.

Clerk Christianson then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Christianson read the legal notice published in the Pekin Times.

Clerk Christianson then opened the floor for nominations of Meeting Moderator.

**Nominations for Meeting Moderator:** Motion made by: Brian Manual to nominate John Shallenberger Second by: Dan McCormick. No additions, No Correction. Discussion: None. Motion carried with all in attendance voting "Aye".

**Oath of Office:** Administered by Clerk Christianson. John Shallenberger seated as Moderator.

**"Robert's Rules of Order"** Motion by: Raelyn McCormick, Second by: Dan McCormick. Motion carries with all in attendance voting "Aye".

**Approve Minutes of the April 11, 2017 Annual Town Meeting:** Motion by: Joe Hranka Second by: Roger Pentecost to approve the minutes as presented with no additions or correction. Discussion: None. Motion carries with all in attendance voting "Aye".

**Motion to set Annual Town Meeting: For the second Tuesday in April for the second Tuesday in April 2019.** Motion by: Roger Pentecost, Second by: Pastor Marvin to set the next Annual Town Meeting for April 11, 2019 at 6:00PM. Second by: John Shallenberger. Motion carries with all in attendance voting "Aye". Location will be held at the Groveland Township Office 173 Washington St. Groveland IL. 61535

Moderator Shallenberger then addressed the audience, especially those who may be attending for the first time, giving a brief overview of Townships in general but specifically Groveland Township which covers approximately 38 square miles. Areas within the Township include Marquette Heights, Creve Coeur other than the Homewood Heights area, Groveland to the Moose Lodge and down Sheridan Rd, about ½ of East Peoria and to the Woodlawn Edition of Morton. He goes on to say that there are 19 townships in Tazewell County and that Groveland Township is the third largest with a population of over 20,000 residents. He also says that township government is the most democratic form of government mandated by law and the closest form of government to serve the needs of the people. He then had the newly Elected Officials stand as he introduced each one. Supervisor John Shallenberger, Assessor

McCormick, Road Commissioner McCool, Town Clerk Christianson, and Trustee Hranka, Trustee's Lawson, Pentecost and Bresnahan were not in attendance.

#### **1. Supervisor's Report - Township Finances**

Moderator Shallenberger then offered the Township's Financial Report that will be voted on at the next Regular Township Meeting. He then briefly reviewed various fund items, Town Fund, General Assistance, Audit, Road & Bridge, and Insurance. He noted that the bulk of the township funds go towards maintaining 45 miles of roads. Overall this year funds are in good shape. Groveland Township has the second lowest corporate tax rate out of 19 townships and that rate has not increased since 1973. He then commented that one underlying thing that he is proud of is in the area of revenues and expenditures. Balances are important because they have to last until July. If balances are good we don't levy for more money, however we do have some concerns with the G.A./E.A fund. Prior administrations have levied too high but we are working on getting those lower, with no negatives and without asking the taxpayer to do more than needed. In response to some questions from the audience moderator answered questions about how G.A & E.A funds offered through the township, function. G.A. is a general assistance program offering a "workfare" program where if an applicant qualifies they are able to work for the funds they receive. Local Church's or even the Library has been able to offer hours of work that is then paid through G.A. funds. E.A. or Emergency Assistance is available one time in a twelve month period to individuals or families for shelter or utility assistance. To be eligible for cash assistance all other resources such as unemployment or public assistance must be exhausted. There are strict guidelines for eligibility in either of these programs that include a residency requirement and lots of documentation related to the applicant's circumstance. Prior administration expenditures exceeded \$3000.00 a month, but with the implementation of specified guidelines for eligibility we have been able to cut that amount by over 75%.

Barb Hart Scholarship given by the Township each year. Two Scholarships are each are awarded by the Township in her name and encourages anyone who may qualify to apply.

#### **1. Report of the Road Commissioner:**

Road Commissioner McCool thanked everyone who voted for him in the last election. He reports the Road Division has 2 full time employees and several part time employees that work two days a week. The road department maintains about 45 miles of roads providing snow removal, ditching and piping, tree trimming (where it affects a particular road) spray patching and equipment maintenance to name a few. He says that with some very large road projects behind us we still have a lot of road expenditures coming up this year, especially in the area of equipment purchases and building maintenance expenses. In an effort to save money the road

department does as much work as possible in house.

**2. Assessors Report:**

Assessor McCormick introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her work for this year and plans for next year. She notes that Groveland Township is the third largest township in the county.

1-1-12017 - Values for new non property placed on the assessment rolls for 2017 (property reviewed in 2017) was \$2,211,390.

1-1-12018 - The Assessor's Office reviewed properties and update photographs in the following areas during 2017: The remainder of Section 4 (Fahey Hollow, Terminal, Kerfoot, Sara, Sabrina etc.) , all of Pekin including Country, Club Estates, Sheham Addition, Hickory Hills and the remainder of Luttickens Cove, and Northern Oaks in Groveland for approximately 1600+ /properties:

1-1-2019 – The Assessor's Office plans to review properties and update photo in Sections 10 (Brentwood), Pinecrest, Glenview Hts.), Section 11 (Cloverdale and Hoffer Oaks).

Section 12 (Gardena, Woodlawn, Twin Oaks, etc.), and the reminder of Groveland proper this summer and fall. A; Lot of new starts. Very few starts for new construction.

January 1, 2018 there was a change on the income limit for the Citizen's Assessment Freeze. Please see the attached letter. If you know of someone that may now be eligible you might let them know.

**Motion to Adjourn made by:** Dan McCormick and second by Marilyn Stevens

Motion carried with all in favor voting "Aye" Meeting Adjourned at 6:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted; 4/10/2018

Pam Christianson Town Clerk