In The Matter Of:

BEFORE THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 19, 2020
REGULAR MEETING

BOSS REPORTERS
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THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

GARY, INDIANA

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the meeting before the Calumet Township Board, reported by Kristen K. Stokes, CSR, Notary Public in and for the County of Lake, State of Indiana, taken at 610 Connecticut Street, Gary, Indiana, on October 19, 2020, scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. in the evening.

BOSS REPORTERS
& VIDEOCONFERENCING
GARY * MERRILLVILLE * VALPARAISO, INDIANA
(219) 769-9090

APPEARANCES:

Darren Washington, Board Chairman
Jacqueline Holmes, Board Secretary
James Piggee, Board Member
Kimberly Robinson, Township Trustee
Sherita Smith, Chief Deputy
Romeka Bonds, Executive Secretary
Deidre Monroe, Board Attorney
Rinzer Williams, III, Township Attorney
Steve Dalton, Financial Advisor
and
Members of the Public

* * * * *

(BOARD MEETING COMMENCED AT 6:03 PM.)

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to the Calumet Township Board Meeting. Let's stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(STOOD FOR PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.)

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Good evening. May we have a roll call, Ms. Bonds.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Present.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Present.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Present.

With three present, we have enough to have our forum for the meeting this evening.

We have Item No. 2, approval of the minutes for September 21st, 2020.

Board members, did you get a chance to review the minutes?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. The Chair would like to make a motion to approve the minutes --

MR. PIGGEE: So moved.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: -- for the September 21st, 2020 meeting. Is there a second?

MS. HOLMES: I second it.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: It's approved and seconded. Roll call?

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

With three yeas, the approval of the minutes for September 21st has passed.

Item No. 3, Resolution No. 2019-05, amendment to the 2020 salary budget.

Madam Trustee?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: This is an amendment that we are making to the salary budget due to the fact that, once again, I am trying to help my employees as we navigate our way through this difficult and most different time. And initially, the conversation came up is that we were trying to see how we could give longevity pay, like they do sort

of in the county, and we just didn't have enough time.

So in speaking with Mr. Dalton, we were able to provide, granting the board approves, a -- what we would consider a bonus pay for this year. And it has to be taxed. So we would go between $500 and $1,000, and it would be based on basically the longevity of the person and the department or the positioning, whether it's manager or general service worker. It's just something that I think I can do on behalf of our office and administration.

I can't get anything as the elected official. You guys can't get anything as elected officials. I'm sorry. But when you do that -- and we are just going to -- if you guys say okay, because I read -- this started also where I saw that 1.3 percent of a raise was going to be given to Social Security recipients. So I just said -- I saw that in the news. And I said, let me see what I can do for the staff or -- you know, they have been most helpful, most diligent in their work throughout

everything. We've been able to stay well -- knock on wood -- and still come to work every day and do what we do for our constituents. So it's just something I wanted to do.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Mr. Dalton, do you have anything?

MR. DALTON: I can only add, Mr. Chair, this is not an additional appropriation. This is not dollars that will be spent beyond the budget that you've already approved. These will be dollars spent within the budget, transferred from existing lines where savings have been created this year.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any questions by board members?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes, I have a question.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Mr. Piggee.

MR. PIGGEE: Tell me this: What precipitates a person receiving a bonus? Is there a criteria? Is there that type of thing to receive a bonus?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Employment. Employment. And just that you have worked

here for at least 6 years that I've been here and you are either in management or, you know, supervisory underneath, you know. Just that depends on the amount, but no one will receive over $1,000, and no one will receive less than $500, and it has to be taxed, so they may not get the complete $500. That's why we made the range, so then you'll get something, you know.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay. Since our attorney is not an elected official, would she be able to receive it?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: No, because she's on contract.

MR. PIGGEE: Oh, okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: It's for those employees that are on the salary ordinance that needs to be passed.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay. Thank you.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Thank you.

MS. HOLMES: No questions.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. I've got a few questions. What I'm looking at before me is a resolution, and I like the fact that you have on here a Covid-19 hazardous bonus.

That was not articulated. So are we still keeping with the hazardous bonus for the Covid-19? Because if that's the case, we need to say that. So is that -- that's the first question. Are we keeping with this Covid-19 hazardous bonus?

MR. DALTON: You're looking at me, and I did help draft this document.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes, that's what it would be, if I misspoke, yes.

MR. DALTON: That was an important part of the conversation.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes.

MR. DALTON: Many communities are providing hazard pay bonuses to staff that worked during this tumultuous year. That was the concept here.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. And I'm glad you said that because the Covid-19 is very, very tedious. And people -- we don't know what people's situation is, but we know anything can help.

Now, I'm with, actually, Mr. Piggee again. Since this is a hazardous Covid-19 bonus, I guess I want a little bit more

clarification on how it will be determined because you have people that have worked here longer than you've been the Trustee. So I'm trying to figure out what is going to be the metric put in place to make sure that -- because when I look at a Covid-19, I'm looking -- I'll be honest with you, I'm looking at everybody getting the same thing.

So when it comes to trying to differentiate between who gets five, six or a thousand, I want to make sure that if it's a Covid-19, which I agree with, that everybody gets the same thing. So if -- what metric is going to be used? Because I know there are people that have been here longer. I know that there are people here that make more than others.

And looking at some of the stimulus packages based on what our President did, a lot of people were not even eligible for that. I think it's a great thing, but I just want to make sure, since we have to approve this, that it's something fair across the board for everybody.

So I want you all to understand I'm for

it, and I think it should be a Covid-19, but I just want to make sure that every -- how it's going to be implemented.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: It's going to be implemented, again, based on -- everyone who is here is going to get an amount. Now, I think we really put the amount in there because we had like the lines of management.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: We have eight managers. They would probably get, because of more work that they do and more responsibilities that they have. And anyone else just on the baseline entry level will at least get the 500.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: I can give you a breakdown of employment. I can give you a work chart and show you what we had in mind.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Or if you want to amend it to say that everybody gets $800, if that's a fair in-between, we can do it that way. It's just however we can get it passed.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: You all tell me what would be the fair thing because, again, I'm not the one to say who's doing more than somebody else. Because what I believe is that somebody in their job responsibility, whether they just be an hourly employment and not management, it doesn't say that that person works just as hard fulfilling their duties than somebody who's the manager.

MR. PIGGEE: Exactly.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And so if we have the money to say 800 and everybody gets it, then let everybody get 800. I just have a problem with -- and I'm not saying this is going to happen -- but because somebody's classification is less and they're not in management, they may get less than somebody because of the perception that because they're a manager, they work harder than the janitor who works just as hard.

So we're going to pass this tonight. I just want us to come to some kind of number that is fair and equitable for everybody to get that, Steve, won't mess with our budget, that's in the lines of our budget.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes, sir.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS: Attorney Rinzer. Yes, if I may, Madam Trustee, we'd like to amend the amendment as presented. I will read for the record, and we will reproduce later.

We're only amending the third section to read as follows: "Be it resolved that the Calumet Township Board, Lake County, Indiana, for the 2020 salary resolution be amended to provide Covid-19 hazard bonuses to be paid to all employees of the Township in the amount of $800. Further, no elected officials will be eligible for the bonus."

That is the amendment that we would like to present that would, of course, have to be accepted by the board.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: There's a motion on the table for Resolution 2019-05 where the Calumet Township Board approves the amendment to the salary budget. And whereas, at this time there was no way of knowing that within the future months that there would be a global pandemic that would

affect all township operations and facilities. Be it resolved by the Calumet Township Board of Lake County, Indiana, that the 2020 salary resolution be amended to provide a Covid-19 hazard bonus to be paid to all employees of the Township in the amount of $800.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS: Period.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Well, of $800, period. All the rest we can scratch out.

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS: Right.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right. That's the motion. Is there a second?

ATTORNEY WILLIAMS: And just to be clear, just the remaining of that section you will scratch out. We're going to keep the language, "Further, no elected officials will be eligible for the bonus."

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes, that's right. Let me add to that. "Further, no elected officials will be eligible for the bonus." Is there a second?

MS. HOLMES: I second.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right. There's a second.

Any discussion by board members?

MR. PIGGEE: Mr. Chair, I think it's very fair that all of them get an equal amount of $800. I think that's very fair.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Holmes, do you have any questions?

MS. HOLMES: No. Where I work at we do it by seniority.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Huh?

MS. HOLMES: I said, where I work at, my other job, we go by seniority, but this is fine. I agree.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call?

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With three yeas, the amendment passes, Resolution 2019-05, amending the 2020 salary budget.

MR. PIGGEE: Mr. Chair, may I?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

MR. PIGGEE: Madam Trustee, how soon will they get this bonus?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: It will probably be submitted somewhere within the December pay.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay. Like a Christmas present.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: You don't get nothing.

MR. PIGGEE: I know it.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right. Item No. 4, Resolution 2020-07, appropriations and tax rates, Budget Form 4.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Mr. Dalton.

MR. DALTON: As you might imagine, Items 4 and 5 are connected at the hip. Item 4, which is Resolution 2020-7, is your formal approval of the 2021 budget we will ask you to sign if you do adopt it. And Item 5 is Resolution 2020-08, which happens to include a lot more detail.

I think it's sometimes frustrating to boards when they don't get much detail in the document they're signing. So the second resolution has the detail that adds up to those same exact numbers, no changes from what we looked at in the public hearing, and those numbers are broken down by fund.

You'll notice on Resolution 2020-7 we are only budgeting four funds. We're no longer going to budget the Recreation Fund. It will -- the expenses that used to live in the Recreation Fund are not going away. They are being moved to the Civil -- the Township Civil Fund. So that we have one Civil Fund instead of having what used to be three totally separate funds paying some people and some expenses. Now they'll be tracked in one Township Civil Fund.

The four funds that are being budgeted are: The Rainy Day Fund, the General Civil, the Township Assistance Administration and Township Assistance Benefits.

And as you know, because we've talked about this in previous years, these levies and tax rates are advertised high. Quite often, when it's all said and done and the calculations are run by the State, they shrink -- the amount of tax rates that we have available to us, according to the statute, they shrink the amount of levy available to us.

So when you finally see your adopted

budget published in January by the State, it will probably be a little bit less than this for the levy and tax rate portion. But the budget piece, that's the amount you're allowed to spend, will be these numbers because the only thing the State does is determine if you have enough money. If you have enough money, you can spend it.

And I can assure you, you have enough money because you have been building up reserves for the last couple of years and kudos for having done so. So I would ask respectfully, after you have questions, that you adopt both 2020-7 and 2020-8.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Are there any questions right now by any board members regarding Resolution 2020-7 and Resolution 2020-8?

MS. HOLMES: No.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: No.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right. Chair makes a motion for the approval of Resolution 2020-07 and Resolution 2020-08. Is there a second?

MR. PIGGEE: Second.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: May we have a roll call, Ms. Bonds.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. Three yeses --

Attorney asked me, and I think I was correct. If I'm wrong -- we already had the public hearing at the last meeting, so we didn't have to do that this time?

MR. DALTON: That is correct, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: With three yeses and zero nays, the resolution passes.

For clarification, where did you put the Recreation? Did you put it in General or eliminate it totally?

MR. DALTON: General.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: General. Okay. Thank you.

MR. DALTON: Those expenses were rolled into the General Fund.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. The motion passes three/zero.

Item No. 6, Resolution 2020-10, temporary loan extension.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Mr. Dalton.

MR. DALTON: And my final request of the year, as typically this is our last meeting unless there's an emergency in November and December, is Resolution 2020-10, which is our annual trek through the temporary loan process. You recall that we borrowed money from Rainy Day in February, and we put those dollars into the General Fund to help the General Fund get through the year through its cash curve, because we run low on cash right before the June distribution of property taxes, and we run low in cash again right before the December distribution of property taxes.

That fund, by the way, is balanced. So that fund is not spending in deficit. It is balanced. It just doesn't have enough cash to carry all the expenses for six months at a time while it waits for property taxes.

We're asking by way of this resolution

if you will let us wait again until February to repay that loan. It helps us close the year out, clean books, and then in February repay the loan. And no doubt we'll be back here asking again for another temporary loan for 2021.

My current projection is good news, is that that next temporary loan will be smaller again. We are continuing to build up reserves in each fund, so that the eventual goal will be no temporary loans at all, that the General Fund will have enough to get through the whole year without even having to borrow from Rainy Day. I can't promise that next year, but I think it will be smaller than the 700 when we discuss it again in February.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Thank you, Mr. Dalton.

MR. PIGGEE: Chair?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

MR. PIGGEE: How much do we owe on this temporary loan?

MR. DALTON: $700,000 is what was borrowed.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay.

MR. DALTON: It was taken from Rainy Day and put into the General Fund. It helps us operate for the year. We will pay back $700,000, and no interest was paid. We borrowed from ourselves.

MR. PIGGEE: Oh, we borrowed.

MR. DALTON: We didn't borrow from the bank. We borrowed from ourselves.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay.

MR. DALTON: So each fund is operated like a little business, and it needs to have its own revenue and its own expenses. And if it starts to dip towards the zero line, it needs to borrow until it gets some more revenue. You're not allowed to end the year with a negative balance. So we need to keep a positive balance, and each year we've been borrowing less and less and less to get through those cash troughs.

MR. PIGGEE: So you don't have to be bothered with any interest?

MR. DALTON: No interest at all. We're borrowing from ourselves from our Rainy Day Fund, which is why you built it up. That's

why you have reserves. Thank goodness you did, with Covid.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay. I'm good with that.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Holmes, do you have anything?

MS. HOLMES: No, I don't. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Chair makes a motion for approval of Resolution No. 2020-10, temporary loan extension. Is there a second?

MR. PIGGEE: Second.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: With a second, may we have a roll call, Ms. Bonds?

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With three yeas, Resolution 2020-10 is approved.

Item No. 7, Resolution No. 2020-11, 2021 holiday schedule.

Madam Trustee?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes, Mr. Chair, this is just our usual holiday schedule that we

have set to begin January 1st of 2021, and it's before we have another meeting. So we have the same 13, almost 12, because we have every Friday off, so those are days that I just mentioned, but we already had them, but we have them in here. Nothing's changed. We haven't removed any or added any. We ask that you please accept this for the calendar year 2021.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Thank you, Madam Trustee.

Any questions or comments by board members?

MS. HOLMES: No questions.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: No.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Chair makes a motion for the approval of Resolution 2020-11. Is there a second?

MS. HOLMES: I second.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: With a second, may we have a roll call, Ms. Bonds?

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With three yeas, zeros nays, the resolution passes.

Item No. 8, Resolution No. 2020-12, standards of eligibility of township assistance.

Madam Trustee?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes. This is our presentation of our standards of eligibility that we must submit to the board according to Clorius Lay I.C. 36-something. So we made a few changes, and these were -- I think yours were marked. Were there's marked? Okay.

So if you would go to Page 9, according to standards, state and federal poverty guidelines, we changed the gross income amount. And if you look in your book at home, you would see the difference. I think it went up maybe -- it was $8,888 so a little over 125, or so, dollars.

Then if you go to Page 24, again, the gross income increases, and these are all according to state statutes.

If you go to Page 28, we had an increase in food stamps that came from the state.

And finally, on Page 47 there was just a statement change that all existing state and federal benefits must be issued solely from the State of Indiana. We have, of course, had people who have come in from across borders of Illinois, Michigan and tried to get benefits here in Indiana and benefits in Minnesota where they came from. And we just have to make it clear that they only -- what we are allowed to accept is that they have any benefits from the State of Indiana. So if you would make the approval, we'll be able to use this for the year 2021.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any questions by board members?

MS. HOLMES: No.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Hearing none, the Chair makes a motion for the approval of Resolution 2020-12, standards of eligibility of township assistance. Is there a second?

MS. HOLMES: I second.

MR. PIGGEE: I have a question.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: You got a

question?

MR. PIGGEE: I have a question.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Go ahead.

MR. PIGGEE: Madam Trustee?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes.

MR. PIGGEE: The people that's coming from out of state to Gary to receive this assistance, what do they have to do and what do they have to present in order to get this assistance?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Okay. I'm not going to go through, for the sake of time, everything.

MR. PIGGEE: Yeah, I understand that.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: But it's in the book, and it starts with an ID, a license, a driver's license, state ID, anything that says that you are a resident of Gary, Cal Township or Griffith for now. That's what it starts with.

And then, if you're asking for rent, we need a lease. If you're asking for utilities, we need a utility bill. If you're asking for food, we just need your monthly income.

MR. PIGGEE: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. The problem, Mr. Piggee, is that a lot of people are transient, and they come here and provide that information, and then they leave.

MR. PIGGEE: That's my point.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And the state doesn't require any residential requirements for a certain amount of time, which is something that should happen because when you compare our township to others, people come here temporary and then they leave, but they stay in other townships, and that is a big problem that we have that I believe is disparaging not only racially but racially from an economic and city structure as compared to others that they ignore down in Indianapolis.

So that is the challenge that this township has with that. If we can get somebody to allow us to state, if you're going to come here and take this money, you have to be here for at least a year or so,

that would help us out.

MR. PIGGEE: Exactly.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call, Ms. Bonds.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With three yeas, zero nays, motion carries.

Item No. 9, are there any public comments for this evening? If so, come to the microphone, state your name.

MS. SMITH: Chairman Washington, I think I can talk loud enough. Tomorrow is Trustee Kimberly K. Robinson's birthday. I know that it's a day early, but if we could all just sing "Happy Birthday," that would be something I would love to do.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: No.

MS. SMITH: That would be something nice for us to do. So who wants to lead?

(EVERYONE SINGING HAPPY BIRTHDAY.)

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Thank you. Thank

you.

(LAUGHTER AND CHATTER.)

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any comments, Madam Trustee?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Thank you to my staff. Thank you to the work of the board. We won't see each other anymore this year. So I'd like to wish you and your families all the blessings of the holiday season as we usher into, hopefully, a better and more bountiful 2021. Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Board comments? Mr. Piggee?

MR. PIGGEE: Well, Mr. Chair, I think we had a very productive meeting tonight, especially when it comes down to dealing with money. I'm always interested in how we get it and where it's going, these types of things. But I think it's very productive. I think you people have done a good job in terms of handling the money for the year of 2020.

And Ms. Trustee, we don't mind a present for the board for Christmas. But other than that, we've had a productive day. Thank

you.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Thank you, Mr. Piggee. And Mr. Piggee speaks for himself and not for the board.

Ms. Holmes?

MS. HOLMES: I just wanted to commend the Calumet Township board and staff and also your families for putting up with you with all of the hours you've been working. You all been doing good, been staying safe, and that's one of the main things. So continue doing the best job you can do for next year.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Attorney Monroe, do you have any comments?

ATTORNEY MONROE: No. We just wish and we pray that next year is going to be a better year than 2020.

Trustee, you all did submit that information to the state regarding your Covid reimbursements?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: Yes, and we found out that we were rejected for the food portion that we had spent on the gift cards and the additional purchase orders that we sent out

because they said that it was already budgeted, and that wasn't -- but we are still waiting to hear for our PPE equipment and things. So as soon as we know --

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Madam Trustee, I got a question, and I know you've probably talked to your other fellow trustees.

What is the sentiment among other trustees about trying to get legislation to put residential requirements for a certain amount of time to kind of prevent people going back and forth? Are we the only -- are we the only township that's for it? How is that --

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: No. If you remember, when we first came in, the previous administration had that, and it wasn't any -- well, I'm not sure if they had it in the form of a resolution or was just decided upon the trustee, but ITA, Indiana Township Association, did tell us that we cannot have a residency requirement. As soon as they move into your township or they even just notify you that they are here in your township for help, you must help them.

That's why we had to take it out of our prior paperwork.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: What is the sentiment, though, about trying to get legislation to get something in there for our residential requirement? Because we know legislation changes all the time which they did to this township with (inaudible). So have you had a discussion, which I know you have, are other townships as concerned as we are to like put a year residency requirement in it, or do they still say that's unconstitutional?

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: No, that would probably be under unconstitutional, as you said. But what we are trying to do, like other townships more so do, is put a cap on a number at how much service you can receive annually in a calendar year.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: You know, you cannot for the rest of your life. And so that's what I would like to work on as they do in North Township so --

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

TRUSTEE ROBINSON: But I will ask again and get something in writing because we have worked closely with State Representative Vernon Smith, of course, and Representative Chyung. So I will again make pleas when we go down in January.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. To everybody, have a blessed holiday season. Keep safe. Keep your mask on. The Coronavirus is real, regardless of what other people say. And we operate in the spirit of the Lord, but we also operate with wisdom. And we don't operate in ignorance and stupidity.

So our goal is to save lives and make sure that the hard work that you do, you're able to continue to make the Township proud being on the frontline like you've been. So just stay safe, and our prayers go with you and your families.

With that being said, Chair makes a motion for adjournment. Is there a second?

MR. PIGGEE: Second.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All in favor,

signify by saying aye.

BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No nays, the ayes have it. Have a blessed evening.

(MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:35 PM.)

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF LAKE)

THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

GARY, INDIANA

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, KRISTEN K. STOKES, CSR, Notary Public in and for the County of Lake, State of Indiana, do hereby certify that I reported in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings had in the above-entitled matter, at the time and place herein set forth; and I do further certify that the foregoing transcript, is a true and correct transcript of my said stenographic notes.

Signed this 23rd day of October, 2020.

KRISTEN K. STOKES, CSR
CSR# 084-003723

My Commission Expires: 8/27/23
Notary Public: Lake County, Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF LAKE)

THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

GARY, INDIANA

These minutes of the Calumet Township Board meeting held on October 19, 2020, were approved by the Board of Trustees on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

_____
Darren Washington, Board Chairman

_____
Jacqueline Holmes, Board Secretary

_____
James Piggee, Board Member

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$1,000 (2)
5:8;7:5
$500 (3)
5:7;7:6,8
$700,000 (2)
20:24;21:5
$8,888 (1)
24:21
$800 (5)
10:22;12:14;13:7,9;14:4

A

able (5)
5:4;6:1;7:12;25:15;33:17
accept (2)
23:8;25:12
accepted (1)
12:18
according (4)
16:22;24:11,16,25
across (2)
9:24;25:7
actually (1)
8:23
add (2)
6:8;13:20
added (1)
23:7
additional (2)
6:9;30:25
adds (1)
15:22
adjournment (1)
33:22
administration (3)
5:13;16:14;31:17
adopt (2)
15:16;17:14
adopted (1)
16:25
advertised (1)
16:18
affect (1)
13:1
again (12)
4:20;8:24;10:5;11:2;19:17;20:1,5,9,17;24:23;33:1,5
agree (2)
9:12;14:12
ahead (1)
26:3
Allegiance (2)
3:5,6
allow (1)
27:23
allowed (3)
17:5;21:16;25:12
almost (1)
23:3
always (1)
29:17
amend (2)
10:22;12:5
amended (2)
12:12;13:4
amending (2)
12:8;14:21
amendment (6)
4:16,18;12:5,16,22;14:20
among (1)
31:8
amount (12)
7:4;10:6,7;12:14;13:7;14:4;16:21,23;17:4;24:19;27:11;31:11
annual (1)
19:10
annually (1)
32:19
anymore (1)
29:7
appropriation (1)
6:9
appropriations (1)
15:9
approval (8)
3:17;4:13;15:15;17:23;22:8;23:18;25:14,20
approve (2)
3:23;9:23
approved (3)
4:5;6:12;22:20
approves (2)
5:5;12:21
articulated (1)
8:1
Assistance (6)
16:14,15;24:7;25:22;26:8,10
Association (1)
31:21
assure (1)
17:9
attorney (10)
7:10;12:1,3,3;13:8,11,14;18:11;30:14,16
available (2)
16:22,24
away (1)
16:5
aye (2)
34:1,2
ayes (1)
34:3

B

back (3)
20:4;21:4;31:12
balance (2)
21:17,18
balanced (2)
19:20,22
bank (1)
21:9
based (3)
5:8;9:19;10:5
baseline (1)
10:14
basically (1)
5:8
begin (1)
23:1
behalf (1)
5:13
Benefits (5)
16:15;25:5,9,9,13
best (1)
30:12
better (2)
29:10;30:18
beyond (1)
6:11
big (1)
27:16
bill (1)
26:23
birthday (3)
28:17,19,24
bit (2)
8:25;17:2
blessed (2)
33:8;34:4
blessings (1)
29:9
BOARD (21)
3:1,3,19;5:4;6:17;9:24;12:10,18,21;13:3;14:1;17:16;23:12;24:11;25:17;29:6,12,24;30:4,7;34:2
boards (1)
15:20
Bonds (26)
3:8,9,11,13;4:7,9,11;14:14,16,18;18:3,4,6,8;22:13,14,16,18;23:22,23,25;24:2;28:4,5,7,9
bonus (12)
5:6;6:21,23;7:25;8:2,6,25;12:15;13:5,18,21;14:25
bonuses (2)
8:15;12:12
book (2)
24:19;26:15
books (1)
20:3
borders (1)
25:8
borrow (3)
20:14;21:8,15
borrowed (5)
19:11;20:25;21:6,7,9
borrowing (2)
21:19,24
both (1)
17:14
bothered (1)
21:22
bountiful (1)
29:11
breakdown (1)
10:18
broken (1)
15:25
budget (13)
4:16,19;6:11,13;11:24,25;12:22;14:21;15:10,15;16:3;17:1,4
budgeted (2)
16:12;31:2
budgeting (1)
16:2
build (1)
20:9
building (1)
17:10
built (1)
21:25
business (1)
21:12

C

Cal (1)
26:18
calculations (1)
16:20
calendar (2)
23:8;32:19
call (7)
3:8;4:6;14:13;18:3;22:13;23:22;28:3
Calumet (5)
3:3;12:10,21;13:2;30:7
came (4)
4:23;25:2,10;31:16
can (15)
5:12,23;6:8;8:22;10:17,18,23,24;13:10;17:8,9;27:22;28:16;30:12;32:18
cap (1)
32:17
cards (1)
30:24
carries (1)
28:11
carry (1)
19:23
case (1)
8:3
cash (5)
19:15,15,17,22;21:20
certain (2)
27:11;31:10
Chair (14)
3:22;6:8;12:1;14:2,22;17:22;18:15;20:20;22:7,24;23:17;25:20;29:14;33:21
CHAIRMAN (70)
3:2,7,14,22;4:1,5,12;6:6,16,19;7:22;8:18;10:9,16,20;11:1,11;12:2,19;13:9,12,19,24;14:5,9,13,19,23;15:5,8;17:15,20,22;18:2,9,16,22;19:1;20:18,21;22:4,7,12,19;23:10,15,17,21;24:3;25:16,19,25;26:3;27:2,3,9;28:3,10,15;29:3,12;30:2,14;31:5;32:3,20,25;33:7,25;34:3
challenge (1)
27:21
chance (1)
3:19
change (1)
25:4
changed (2)
23:6;24:18
changes (3)
15:23;24:13;32:7
chart (1)
10:19
CHATTER (1)
29:2
Christmas (2)
15:3;29:24
Chyung (1)
33:5
city (1)
27:18
Civil (5)
16:6,7,8,11,13
clarification (2)
9:1;18:18
classification (1)
11:16
clean (1)
20:3
clear (2)

13:15;25:11
Clorius (1) 24:12
close (1) 20:2
closely (1) 33:3
coming (1) 26:6
COMMENCED (1) 3:1
commend (1) 30:6
comments (5) 23:12;28:13;29:3, 12;30:15
communities (1) 8:14
compare (1) 27:13
compared (1) 27:19
complete (1) 7:7
concept (1) 8:17
concerned (1) 32:10
CONCLUDED (1) 34:6
connected (1) 15:13
consider (1) 5:5
constituents (1) 6:4
continue (2) 30:12;33:17
continuing (1) 20:9
contract (1) 7:14
conversation (2) 4:23;8:12
Coronavirus (1) 33:10
county (3) 5:1;12:10;13:3
couple (1) 17:11
course (3) 12:17;25:6;33:4
Covid (2) 22:2;30:21
Covid-19 (10) 7:25;8:3,6,19,24; 9:6,12;10:1;12:12; 13:5
created (1) 6:14
criteria (1) 6:22
current (1) 20:7
curve (1) 19:15

D

Dalton (19) 5:3;6:6,8;8:7,11, 14;15:11,12;18:15, 21,24;19:5,6;20:19, 24;21:2,8,11,23
day (8) 6:3;16:13;19:12; 20:14;21:2,24;28:18; 29:25
days (1) 23:4
dealing (1) 29:16
December (3) 15:2;19:9,18
decided (1) 31:19
deficit (1) 19:21
department (1) 5:10
depends (1) 7:4
detail (3) 15:18,20,22
determine (1) 17:7
determined (1) 9:1
difference (1) 24:20
different (1) 4:22
differentiate (1) 9:10
difficult (1) 4:22
diligent (1) 5:25
dip (1) 21:14
discuss (1) 20:16
discussion (2) 14:1;32:9
disparaging (1) 27:17
distribution (2) 19:16,18
document (2) 8:8;15:21
dollars (4) 6:10,12;19:13; 24:22
done (3) 16:19;17:12;29:20
doubt (1) 20:4
down (4) 15:25;27:19;29:16; 33:6
draft (1) 8:8
driver's (1) 26:17
due (1) 4:19
during (1) 8:16
duties (1) 11:9

E

early (1) 28:18
economic (1) 27:18
eight (1) 10:10
either (1) 7:2
elected (6) 5:14,16;7:11; 12:14;13:17,20
eligibility (3) 24:6,10;25:21
eligible (4) 9:20;12:15;13:18, 21
eliminate (1) 18:20
else (2) 10:14;11:4
emergency (1) 19:8
employees (4) 4:21;7:17;12:13; 13:6
Employment (4) 6:24,25;10:18;11:6
end (1) 21:16
enough (8) 3:15;5:2;17:7,8,9; 19:22;20:12;28:16
entry (1) 10:14
equal (1) 14:3
equipment (1) 31:3
equitable (1) 11:23
especially (1) 29:16
even (3) 9:20;20:13;31:23
evening (4) 3:7,16;28:13;34:4
eventual (1) 20:11
everybody (8) 9:8,13,24;10:22; 11:12,13,23;33:8
everyone (2) 10:5;28:24
exact (1) 15:23
Exactly (2) 11:10;28:2
existing (2) 6:13;25:4
expenses (5) 16:4,10;18:24; 19:23;21:13
extension (2) 19:4;22:9

F

facilities (1) 13:2
fact (2) 4:20;7:24
fair (6) 9:23;10:23;11:2, 23;14:3,4
families (3) 29:8;30:8;33:20
favor (1) 33:25
February (4) 19:12;20:1,3,17
federal (2) 24:17;25:5
fellow (1) 31:7
few (2) 7:23;24:13
figure (1) 9:4
final (1) 19:6
finally (2) 16:25;25:3
fine (1) 14:12
first (2) 8:5;31:16
five (1) 9:10
follows (1) 12:9
food (3) 25:2;26:24;30:23
Form (2) 15:10;31:19
formal (1) 15:14
forth (1) 31:12
forum (1) 3:16
found (1) 30:22
four (2) 16:2,12
Friday (1) 23:4
frontline (1) 33:18
frustrating (1) 15:19
fulfilling (1) 11:8
fund (17) 15:25;16:3,5,7,8, 11,13;18:25;19:13, 14,20,21;20:10,12; 21:3,11,25
funds (3) 16:2,9,12
Further (3) 12:14;13:17,20
future (1) 12:24

G

Gary (2) 26:7,18
general (10) 5:11;16:13;18:19, 21,22,25;19:13,14; 20:12;21:3
gentlemen (1) 3:3
gets (5) 9:10,13;10:22; 11:12;21:15
gift (1) 30:24
given (1) 5:20
glad (1) 8:19
global (1) 12:25
goal (2) 20:11;33:15
Good (5) 3:7;20:7;22:3; 29:20;30:10
goodness (1) 22:1
granting (1) 5:4
great (1) 9:21
Griffith (1) 26:19
gross (2) 24:18,24
guess (1) 8:25

guidelines (1)
24:18
guys (2)
5:15,18

H

handling (1)
29:21
happen (2)
11:15;27:12
happens (1)
15:17
Happy (2)
28:19,24
hard (3)
11:8,20;33:16
harder (1)
11:19
hazard (3)
8:15;12:12;13:5
hazardous (4)
7:25;8:2,6,24
hear (1)
31:3
hearing (3)
15:24;18:13;25:19
help (7)
4:21;8:8,22;19:13;
28:1;31:25,25
helpful (1)
5:24
helps (2)
20:2;21:3
high (1)
16:18
himself (1)
30:4
hip (1)
15:13
holiday (4)
22:22,25;29:9;33:8
Holmes (29)
3:11,12;4:4,9,10;
7:21;13:23;14:5,7,10,
16,17;17:19;18:6,7;
22:4,6,16,17;23:14,
20,25;24:1;25:18,23;
28:7,8;30:5,6
home (1)
24:20
honest (1)
9:7
hopefully (1)
29:10
hourly (1)
11:6
hours (1)
30:9
Huh (1)
14:9

I

IC (1)
24:12
ID (2)
26:16,17
ignorance (1)
33:13
ignore (1)
27:19
Illinois (1)
25:8
imagine (1)
15:12
implemented (2)
10:3,5
important (1)
8:11
inaudible (1)
32:8
in-between (1)
10:23
include (1)
15:17
income (3)
24:18,24;26:25
increase (1)
25:1
increases (1)
24:24
Indiana (6)
12:11;13:3;25:6,9,
13;31:20
Indianapolis (1)
27:20
information (2)
27:6;30:20
initially (1)
4:23
instead (1)
16:8
interest (3)
21:5,22,23
interested (1)
29:17
into (5)
18:25;19:13;21:3;
29:10;31:23
issued (1)
25:5
ITA (1)
31:20
Item (9)
3:17;4:15;15:8,13,
16;19:3;22:21;24:5;
28:12
Items (1)
15:12

J

janitor (1)
11:20
January (3)
17:1;23:1;33:6
job (4)
11:5;14:11;29:20;
30:12
June (1)
19:16

K

keep (4)
13:16;21:17;33:9,9
keeping (2)
8:2,5
Kimberly (1)
28:17
kind (2)
11:22;31:11
knock (1)
6:2
knowing (1)
12:24
kudos (1)
17:12

L

ladies (1)
3:2
Lake (2)
12:10;13:3
language (1)
13:17
last (3)
17:11;18:13;19:7
later (1)
12:7
LAUGHTER (1)
29:2
Lay (1)
24:12
lead (1)
28:23
lease (1)
26:22
least (3)
7:1;10:15;27:25
leave (2)
27:7,14
legislation (3)
31:9;32:5,7
less (7)
7:6;11:16,17;17:2;
21:19,19,19
level (1)
10:14
levies (1)
16:17
levy (2)
16:23;17:3
license (2)
26:16,17
life (1)
32:22
line (1)
21:14
lines (3)
6:14;10:8;11:25
little (4)
8:25;17:2;21:12;
24:22
live (1)
16:4
lives (1)
33:15
loan (8)
19:4,10;20:2,4,5,8,
23;22:9
loans (1)
20:11
longer (3)
9:3,16;16:3
longevity (2)
4:25;5:9
look (2)
9:6;24:19
looked (1)
15:24
looking (5)
7:23;8:7;9:7,8,18
Lord (1)
33:12
lot (3)
9:20;15:18;27:4
loud (1)
28:16
love (1)
28:20
low (2)
19:15,17

M

Madam (9)
4:17;12:4;14:24;
22:23;23:10;24:8;
26:4;29:4;31:5
main (1)
30:11
makes (5)
17:23;22:7;23:17;
25:20;33:21
making (1)
4:19
management (4)
7:2;10:8;11:7,17
manager (3)
5:11;11:9,19
managers (1)
10:11
Many (1)
8:14
marked (2)
24:14,15
mask (1)
33:9
May (8)
3:7;7:7;11:17;
12:4;14:22;18:2;
22:12;23:21
maybe (1)
24:21
MEETING (9)
3:1,4,16;4:2;18:13;
19:7;23:2;29:15;34:6
members (7)
3:19;6:17;14:1;
17:16;23:13;25:17;
34:2
mentioned (1)
23:5
mess (1)
11:24
metric (2)
9:5,14
Michigan (1)
25:8
microphone (1)
28:14
might (1)
15:12
mind (2)
10:19;29:23
Minnesota (1)
25:10
minutes (4)
3:18,20,24;4:14
misspoke (1)
8:10
money (8)
11:12;17:7,8,10;
19:11;27:24;29:17,
21
Monroe (2)
30:14,16
monthly (1)
26:25
months (2)
12:24;19:23
more (9)
8:25;9:17;10:12,
12;11:3;15:18;21:15;
29:10;32:17
most (3)
4:22;5:24,24
motion (10)
3:23;12:19;13:13;
17:23;19:1;22:8;
23:18;25:20;28:11;
33:22
move (1)
31:23
moved (2)
3:25;16:6
much (3)
15:20;20:22;32:18
must (3)
24:11;25:5;31:25

N

name (1) 28:14
navigate (1) 4:21
nays (4) 18:17;24:4;28:11;34:3
need (5) 8:4;21:17;26:22,23,24
needs (3) 7:18;21:12,15
negative (1) 21:17
news (2) 5:22;20:7
next (4) 20:8,15;30:13,17
nice (1) 28:22
none (1) 25:19
North (1) 32:24
Nothing's (1) 23:6
notice (1) 16:1
notify (1) 31:24
November (1) 19:8
number (2) 11:22;32:18
numbers (3) 15:23,25;17:5

O

off (1) 23:4
office (1) 5:13
official (2) 5:15;7:11
officials (4) 5:16;12:15;13:17,21
often (1) 16:19
once (1) 4:20
one (6) 7:4,5;11:3;16:7,11;30:11
only (8) 6:8;12:8;16:2;17:6;25:11;27:17;31:12,13
operate (4) 21:4;33:11,12,13
operated (1) 21:11
operations (1) 13:1
order (1) 26:9
orders (1) 30:25
ordinance (1) 7:17
others (3) 9:17;27:13,19
ourselves (3) 21:6,9,24
out (9) 9:4;13:10,16;20:3;26:7;28:1;30:22,25;32:1
over (2) 7:5;24:22
owe (1) 20:22
own (2) 21:13,13

P

packages (1) 9:19
Page (4) 24:16,23;25:1,3
paid (3) 12:13;13:5;21:5
pandemic (1) 12:25
paperwork (1) 32:2
part (1) 8:11
pass (1) 11:21
passed (3) 4:14;7:18;10:25
passes (4) 14:20;18:17;19:2;24:4
pay (5) 4:25;5:6;8:15;15:2;21:4
paying (1) 16:9
people (13) 8:20;9:2,15,16,20;16:10;25:7;26:6;27:4,13;29:20;31:11;33:11
people's (1) 8:21
percent (1) 5:19
perception (1) 11:18
Period (2) 13:8,10
person (3) 5:9;6:21;11:8
piece (1) 17:4
Piggee (56) 3:9,10,21,25;4:7,8;6:18,19,20;7:10,15,19;8:23;11:10;14:2,14,15,22,24;15:3,7;17:20,21;18:1,4,5;20:20,22;21:1,7,10,21;22:3,11,14,15;23:15,16,23,24;25:24;26:2,4,6,14;27:1,4,8;28:2,5,6;29:13,14;30:3,3;33:24
place (1) 9:5
pleas (1) 33:5
please (1) 23:8
Pledge (2) 3:4,6
PM (2) 3:1;34:6
point (1) 27:8
portion (2) 17:3;30:23
positioning (1) 5:10
positive (1) 21:18
poverty (1) 24:17
PPE (1) 31:3
pray (1) 30:17
prayers (1) 33:19
precipitates (1) 6:21
Present (8) 3:10,12,14,15;12:17;15:4;26:9;29:23
presentation (1) 24:10
presented (1) 12:5
President (1) 9:19
prevent (1) 31:11
previous (2) 16:17;31:16
prior (1) 32:2
probably (5) 10:11;15:1;17:2;31:6;32:15
problem (3) 11:14;27:4,16
process (1) 19:11
productive (3) 29:15,19,25
projection (1) 20:7
promise (1) 20:15
property (3) 19:17,19,24
proud (1) 33:17
provide (4) 5:4;12:12;13:5;27:6
providing (1) 8:15
public (3) 15:24;18:13;28:12
published (1) 17:1
purchase (1) 30:25
put (9) 9:5;10:7;18:18,19;19:12;21:3;31:10;32:11,17
putting (1) 30:8

Q

Quite (1) 16:18

R

racially (2) 27:17,17
Rainy (5) 16:13;19:12;20:14;21:2,24
raise (1) 5:20
range (1) 7:8
rate (1) 17:3
rates (3) 15:10;16:18,21
read (3) 5:18;12:6,9
real (1) 33:10
really (1) 10:7
recall (1) 19:11
receive (6) 6:23;7:5,6,12;26:7;32:18
receiving (1) 6:21
recipients (1) 5:21
record (1) 12:6
Recreation (3) 16:3,5;18:19
regarding (2) 17:17;30:20
regardless (1) 33:10
reimbursements (1) 30:21
rejected (1) 30:23
remaining (1) 13:15
remember (1) 31:15
removed (1) 23:7
rent (1) 26:21
repay (2) 20:2,4
Representative (2) 33:3,4
reproduce (1) 12:6
request (1) 19:6
require (1) 27:10
requirement (3) 31:22;32:6,12
requirements (2) 27:10;31:10
reserves (3) 17:11;20:10;22:1
residency (2) 31:22;32:11
resident (1) 26:18
residential (3) 27:10;31:10;32:6
Resolution (27) 4:15;7:24;12:11,20;13:4;14:20;15:9,14,17,22;16:1;17:17,17,24,24;18:17;19:3,9,25;22:8,20,21;23:18;24:4,5;25:21;31:19
resolved (2) 12:9;13:2
respectfully (1) 17:13
responsibilities (1) 10:13

responsibility (1)
11:5
rest (2)
13:10;32:22
revenue (2)
21:13,16
review (1)
3:20
Right (9)
13:11,12,19,24;
15:8;17:16,22;19:16,
18
Rinzer (1)
12:3
ROBINSON (27)
4:18;6:24;7:13,16,
20;8:9,13;10:4,10,17,
21;15:1,11;19:5;
22:24;24:9;26:5,11,
15;28:21,25;29:5;
30:22;31:15;32:14,
21;33:1
Robinson's (1)
28:17
roll (7)
3:8;4:6;14:13;
18:2;22:13;23:22;
28:3
rolled (1)
18:24
run (3)
16:20;19:15,17

S

safe (3)
30:10;33:9,19
sake (1)
26:12
salary (7)
4:16,19;7:17;
12:11,22;13:4;14:21
same (4)
9:8,13;15:23;23:3
save (1)
33:15
savings (1)
6:14
saw (2)
5:19,22
saying (2)
11:14;34:1
schedule (2)
22:22,25
scratch (2)
13:10,16
season (2)
29:9;33:8
second (19)
4:3,4;13:13,22,23,
25;15:21;17:25;18:1;
22:10,11,12;23:19,
20,21;25:22,23;
33:23,24
seconded (1)
4:6
section (2)
12:8;13:15
Security (1)
5:21
seniority (2)
14:8,11
sent (1)
30:25
sentiment (2)
31:8;32:4
separate (1)
16:9
September (3)
3:18;4:2,14
service (2)
5:11;32:18
set (1)
23:1
show (1)
10:19
shrink (2)
16:21,23
sign (1)
15:16
signify (1)
34:1
signing (1)
15:21
sing (1)
28:19
SINGING (1)
28:24
situation (1)
8:21
six (2)
9:10;19:23
smaller (2)
20:9,16
SMITH (3)
28:15,22;33:4
Social (1)
5:20
solely (1)
25:5
somebody (5)
11:4,5,9,17;27:23
somebody's (1)
11:15
sometimes (1)
15:19
somewhere (1)
15:2
soon (3)
14:24;31:4,22
sorry (1)
5:16
sort (1)
4:25
speaking (1)
5:3
speaks (1)
30:3
spend (2)
17:5,8
spending (1)
19:21
spent (3)
6:10,12;30:24
spirit (1)
33:12
staff (4)
5:23;8:15;29:6;
30:7
stamps (1)
25:2
stand (1)
3:4
standards (4)
24:6,10,17;25:21
started (1)
5:19
starts (3)
21:14;26:16,20
State (16)
16:20;17:1,6;
24:17,25;25:2,4,6,13;
26:7,17;27:9,23;
28:14;30:20;33:3
statement (1)
25:4
statute (1)
16:23
statutes (1)
24:25
stay (3)
6:1;27:15;33:19
staying (1)
30:10
Steve (1)
11:24
still (4)
6:2;8:1;31:3;32:12
stimulus (1)
9:18
STOOD (1)
3:6
structure (1)
27:18
stupidity (1)
33:14
submit (2)
24:11;30:19
submitted (1)
15:2
supervisory (1)
7:3
sure (6)
9:5,11,22;10:2;
31:18;33:16

T

table (1)
12:20
talk (1)
28:16
talked (2)
16:16;31:7
tax (4)
15:10;16:18,21;
17:3
taxed (2)
5:7;7:7
taxes (3)
19:17,19,24
tedious (1)
8:20
temporary (8)
19:4,10;20:5,8,11,
23;22:9;27:14
terms (1)
29:21
third (1)
12:8
though (1)
32:4
thousand (1)
9:11
three (9)
3:15;4:13;14:19;
16:9;18:9,16;22:19;
24:3;28:10
three/zero (1)
19:2
throughout (1)
5:25
Tomorrow (1)
28:16
tonight (2)
11:21;29:15
totally (2)
16:9;18:20
towards (1)
21:14
Township (24)
3:3;12:10,13,21;
13:1,3,6;16:7,11,14,
15;24:6;25:22;26:19;
27:13,22;30:7;31:13,
20,23,25;32:8,24;
33:17
townships (3)
27:15;32:10,17
tracked (1)
16:11
transferred (1)
6:13
transient (1)
27:5
trek (1)
19:10
tried (1)
25:8
troughs (1)
21:20
Trustee (41)
4:17,18;6:24;7:13,
16,20;8:9,13;9:3;
10:4,10,17,21;12:4;
14:24;15:1,11;19:5;
22:23,24;23:11;24:8,
9;26:4,5,11,15;28:16,
21,25;29:4,5,23;
30:19,22;31:5,15,20;
32:14,21;33:1
trustees (2)
31:7,9
trying (7)
4:20,24;9:4,9;31:9;
32:4,16
tumultuous (1)
8:16
type (1)
6:22
types (1)
29:18
typically (1)
19:7

U

unconstitutional (2)
32:13,15
under (1)
32:15
underneath (1)
7:3
unless (1)
19:8
up (7)
4:24;15:22;17:10;
20:10;21:25;24:21;
30:8
upon (1)
31:20
use (1)
25:15
used (3)
9:14;16:4,8
usher (1)
29:10
usual (1)
22:25
utilities (1)
26:23
utility (1)
26:23

V

Vernon (1)
33:4

W

wait (1)
20:1
waiting (1)
31:3

waits (1)
19:24
wants (1)
28:23
WASHINGTON (76)
3:2,7,13,14,22;4:1,5,11,12;6:6,16,19;7:22;8:18;10:9,16,20;11:1,11;12:2,19;13:9,12,19,24;14:5,9,13,18,19,23;15:5,8;17:15,20,22;18:2,8,9,16,22;19:1;20:18,21;22:4,7,12,18,19;23:10,15,17,21;24:2,3;25:16,19,25;26:3;27:3,9;28:3,9,10,15;29:3,12;30:2,14;31:5;32:3,20,25;33:7,25;34:3
way (5)
4:21;10:24;12:23;19:20,25
Welcome (1)
3:2
whereas (1)
12:23
whole (1)
20:13
who's (2)
11:3,9
WILLIAMS (5)
12:1,3;13:8,11,14
wisdom (1)
33:13
wish (2)
29:8;30:16
within (3)
6:13;12:24;15:2
without (1)
20:13
wood (1)
6:2
work (10)
5:25;6:2;10:12,19;11:19;14:7,10;29:6;32:23;33:16
worked (4)
6:25;8:16;9:2;33:3
worker (1)
5:11
working (1)
30:9
works (2)
11:8,20
writing (1)
33:2
wrong (1)
18:12

Y

year (21)
5:6;6:15;8:16;19:7,14;20:3,13,15;21:4,16,18;23:9;25:15;27:25;29:7,21;30:13,17,18;32:11,19
years (3)
7:1;16:17;17:11
yeas (5)
4:13;14:20;22:20;24:4;28:11
yeses (2)
18:10,16

Z

zero (3)
18:17;21:14;28:11
zeros (1)
24:4

1

1.3 (1)
5:19
12 (1)
23:3
125 (1)
24:22
13 (1)
23:3
1st (1)
23:1

2

2 (1)
3:17
2019-05 (3)
4:15;12:20;14:21
2020 (8)
3:18;4:2,16;12:11;13:4;14:21;29:22;30:18
2020-07 (2)
15:9;17:24
2020-08 (2)
15:17;17:24
2020-10 (4)
19:3,9;22:9,20
2020-11 (2)
22:21;23:19
2020-12 (2)
24:5;25:21
2020-7 (4)
15:14;16:1;17:14,17
2020-8 (2)
17:14,18
2021 (7)
15:15;20:6;22:21;23:1,9;25:15;29:11
21st (3)
3:18;4:2,14
24 (1)
24:23
28 (1)
25:1

3

3 (1)
4:15
36-something (1)
24:12

4

4 (4)
15:9,10,13,13
47 (1)
25:3

5

5 (2)
15:13,16
500 (1)
10:15

6

6 (2)
7:1;19:3
6:03 (1)
3:1
6:35 (1)
34:6

7

7 (1)
22:21
700 (1)
20:16

8

8 (1)
24:5
800 (2)
11:12,13

9

9 (2)
24:16;28:12