

Roscoe TOWNSHIP

January 15th Monthly Meeting Minutes

<p>Called to Order by Bob Nowicki: Date: January 15, 2026 Time: 7:00 pm Location: Township Office 5792 Elevator Road Roscoe IL</p> <p>Pledge of Allegiance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Attendance Roll Call</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee John Ballano <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Dave Benjamin <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Greg Ragan (absent) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Scott Sallinger <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor Bob Nowicki
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Public Comments:	none
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<p>Approval of Prior Meeting Minute and special meeting minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee John Ballano-motion to approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Dave Benjamin <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Greg Ragan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Scott Sallinger-seconded motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor Bob Nowicki 	<p>Approval of General Fund: \$ 36,317.93</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee John Ballano-motion to approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Dave Benjamin-seconded motion <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Greg Ragan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Scott Sallinger <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor Bob Nowicki 	<p>Approval of Roadway Fund: \$87,061.86</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee John Ballano <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Dave Benjamin-motion to approve <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Greg Ragan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Scott Sallinger-seconded motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor Bob Nowicki 	<p>Approval of Cemetery Fund: \$1,097.57</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee John Ballano <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Dave Benjamin-motion to approve <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee Greg Raga <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trustee Scott Sallinger Seconded motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervisor Bob Nowicki
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<p>New Business:</p>	<p>Discovery of a 1987 Cemetery Savings Bond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A savings bond from 1987, originally for the cemetery, was found in a cabinet. • The bond, likely purchased for \$500, had matured to a value of \$2,073 but was no longer gaining interest. • After initially being told to mail it in by Chase Bank due to fraud concerns, CBI Bank cashed it. The amount was recorded as other income. <p>Discussion on Amending the Investment Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board discussed Resolution 2026-1 to amend the investment policy for township funds. • An issue was raised regarding a CD maturing on the 28th or 29th of the month.
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- The new policy requires board approval for investments, which is not possible before the CD matures.
- It was decided that the funds from the maturing CD will be rolled into a Schwab money market account for the time being.
- The board will review CD rates and decide on the next investment at the following meeting.

Transfer of Funds from Schwab

- A transfer of funds from Schwab to CBI is due soon.
- The transfer will be initiated electronically as soon as it comes due.
- The 50% rule must be monitored for this transfer.
- Stillman was mentioned as another potential option due to its good rates.

Resolution 2026-2: List of Financial Depositories

- The board discussed approving the list of financial depositories.
- It was noted that a local credit union, First Community Credit Union, was missing from the list.
- First National Bank and Trust was acquired and will be renamed "Bank First". This change also needs to be reflected on the list.
- The board decided to amend the resolution to add the credit union and update the bank's name.
- **Conclusion:** A motion to approve the list (Exhibit B) was passed. A subsequent motion to amend Exhibit A to add the credit union and update the bank name was also made and passed.

Private Donations for Hawes Park Plaque

- The board discussed accepting private donations to reimburse the township for the cost of the Hawes Park plaque, which is \$5,200.
- The plaque has already been ordered and paid for by the township from the park and Rec fund.
- Donations can be accepted at the desk and deposited into the park and Rec fund, noted for this specific purpose. The primary method for soliciting donations will be through Facebook.
- QuickBooks can be used to track the running total of donations received.

Attorney Fees for January 24th Training

- The board discussed approving attorney fees for a special training session scheduled for January 24th.
- The day will include two special meetings: one for budgetary/project planning, followed by the training session.
- A maximum of three hours was approved for the attorney's time for the training portion.
- It was confirmed that the attorney would be present for both meetings to maintain order.
- **Conclusion:** A motion to approve the attorney fees for the January 24th training was made, seconded, and passed via a roll call vote.

Budget and Project Planning for the Upcoming Special Meeting

- A special meeting for budget projects will be held publicly at 9 a.m. on January 24th and will be posted.
- The budget discussion is not expected to be lengthy. A new format separating the community center financials will be presented.
- The main focus will be on project expenditures, as the township may have upwards of \$900,000 available.
- The board decided to promote the meeting to encourage public attendance and input on large projects.
- A board member contacted an architectural engineering firm (Angus Young) to potentially attend, but it was decided this might be premature.

Changing the Monthly Meeting Date and Time

- There was a consensus to change the monthly meeting schedule back to the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM.
- A motion was made to approve creating an ordinance for the change.
- The ordinance will be put on the agenda for the February meeting and would take effect in March.
- The February meeting will still be held on the old schedule (Thursday at 7:00 PM).
- All necessary notices will be prepared and posted according to legal requirements.

ATC Easement Request Analysis

- **Initial Request:** Atwell and ATC have requested a permanent easement over the parking lot at the north end of the bike trail on Rockton Road for \$17,000.
- The stated purpose is for mowing/brush control, but the easement language allows for construction, requesting an additional 30 feet of permanent easement.
- **Legal Complications & Ownership:** The request is highly problematic due to complex property history and overlapping rights.
 - **State & Federal Restrictions:** The property was created via the federal "rail bank" program and purchased with an Illinois bike path grant, which restricts its use to public recreation and forbids encumbrances without DNR approval. The railroad may retain buy-back rights.
 - **Conservation Easement:** The Natural Land Institute (NLI) holds a conservation easement on both sides of the path, which would likely be violated by ATC's brush cutting.
 - **Township Authority:** The township likely lacks the authority to grant the easement due to these pre-existing restrictions.
- **Community & Precedent:** Local residents are organizing to fight the request. A past legal opinion set a precedent requiring multiple permissions (township, NLI, etc.) for trail crossing.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision: The board was advised not to accept the \$17,000 offer. The burden of proof will be shifted to ATC to demonstrate their request does not violate existing deeds, grants, and easements.
Reports:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor's Report: Topics were already covered. One-on-one meetings are going well. • Highway Commissioner's Report: The budget will be finished and sent out by mid-week. • Cemetery Report: There were two lot sales and four pre-planned funerals. The passing of superintendent Robert Lauber was noted. • Historical Society Report: The society will next meet on the 19th. <p>Activities Coordinator Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah, the new activities coordinator, has been on the job for two weeks. • Event attendance is strong for Funko, Euchre, and Zumba. A new sound bath session and Mahjong have been added. • A potential wedding reception is being considered for the community center. • Christmas decorations have been taken down.
Unfinished/Old Business:	none
Public Comments:	Lucy Krchak commented on Hawes Plaque donation and although a good idea she asked why it was done before.

Scott Sallinger motioned to adjourn
Dave Benjamin seconded
Meeting Adjourned at 7:53 pm

Next Meeting: Special Meeting
Date: Saturday January 24th, 2026
Time: 9:00am
Location: Township Office