## Special Meeting of the Elk Grove Township Board of Trustees Elk Grove Township Hall 600 Landmeier Road, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 May 30, 2020

## Minutes

- I. Call to Order. Supervisor Sweeney called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- II. <u>Roll Call.</u> Present: Trustee Satern, Niewiardowski, Keenley (all via zoom) and Supervisor Sweeney.
- III. Public Comment. None

Trustee Ingraffia joined the meeting (via Zoom) at 9:09 a.m.

IV. New Business. Supervisor Sweeney reported that the Township has received a request from Journeys | The Road Home for funding to support a program that provides safe shelter and meals for the local homeless population during the COVID-19 crisis. Due to the pandemic, Journey's has found it necessary to discontinue is normal practice of providing local homeless individuals with meals and shelter in a group setting. The group program was deemed to be too unsafe to continue due to the risk of contagion to both the homeless and the volunteers manning the group facilities. It was decided that the safest solution for providing meals and shelter was to house the homeless clients in hotels and to deliver them prepared meals. While this was identified as the safest solution for all involved, it is also was one of the most expensive. Journey's is spending \$18,000 to \$20,000 a week for its "Emergency COVID Hotel Stay Program". To date the cost of this program has been over \$150,000 and with no end date currently in sight, Journey's is in desperate need for additional funding to continue these services. Journey's has requested \$180,000 from the Township in order to run the program for 100 homeless individuals from June 1 (when the current financial resources will run out) through the end of July 2020. Supervisor Sweeney proposed that the Township initially provide Journey's with a \$40,000 grant to cover hotel and incidental expenses for approximately two weeks. At that point the Township could consider additional funding if 1) the governor's order to shelter in place remains in force, 2) group facilities continue to be deemed too medically risky to open, and 3) no other funding sources for the program have been found. Trustee Satern expressed her support of the \$40,000 grant and asked it the Township Food Pantry could be of any service to the Journey's program. Supervisor Sweeney noted that Journeys is currently delivering prepared meals to its hotel sheltered clients but that he would check to see if the Township Food Pantry could provide any assistance. Trustee Keenley also expressed his support of the grant and asked if the 100 homeless individuals currently involved the program included Elk Grove Township residents. Supervisor Sweeney responded that there were Elk Grove Township residents involved but that he did not know how many. He also noted that the two hotels being used by the program were located in Elk Grove Township. Responding to a question from Trustee Ingraffia, he stated that the grant being discussed would be in addition to the Journeys grant included in the Township's 2020-2021 budget. There being no further discussion, Supervisor Sweeney asked for a motion to approve a Township grant to Journeys | The Road Home for \$40,000 to be used in funding the Emergency COVID Hotel Stay Program. A motion for approval was made by Supervisor Sweeney and was seconded by Trustee Satern. *The motion passed on a 5-0 roll call vote*.

V. Adjournment. There being no further business, Supervisor Sweeney ask for a motion to adjourned the meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Satern and was seconded by Trustee Niewiardowski. The motion passed on voice vote. The Special Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**George Busse** 

Elk Grove Township Clerk