

Maine Township Special Board Meeting March 15, 2018

Maine Township Special Board meeting has been videotaped.

For more detailed reports and discussions please refer to the recorded meeting at:

<https://youtu.be/-IDNVlaYcfg>

Indexed agenda at:

[http://www.maintownship.com/government/meetingagendas/agenda\\_18-03-15.pdf](http://www.maintownship.com/government/meetingagendas/agenda_18-03-15.pdf)

Board Members Present: Trustees Jones, Carrabotta, McKenzie and Sweeney

Other Elected Officials Present: Supervisor Morask, and Clerk Gialamas

Others in attendance: Doriene Prorak, Richard Lyon, Donna Adam and Wiesia Tytko

Supervisor Morask called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., Clerk Gialamas led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

Donna Adam Des Plaines resident stated that on March 1<sup>st</sup> she delivered a petition of Notice of Agenda Item for the 2018 Maine Township Annual Town Meeting. She stated that the said petition included a statement regarding discussion and voting on a motion to hold flat all Township employees' salaries in the upcoming fiscal year.

Ms. Adam stated that she was hoping that this issue could be discussed at the Annual Town Meeting. She added that in her opinion the Maine Township employees' payroll is raising every year. She referred to the article "Pay hikes in Maine Township? How about consolidation instead" from Wirepoints Original by Ted Dabrowski.

<http://www.wirepoints.com/pay-hikes-in-maine-township-how-about-consolidation-instead-wirepoints-original/>

Supervisor Morask stated that pursuant to 60 ILCS 1/30-10, Ms. Adam's petition failed to include 15 signatures of registered voters in Maine Township. Also, the request made by voters in the petition is not relevant to powers granted to electors under the Township Code.

Supervisor Morask noted that Ms. Adam received an explanation letter from Clerk Gialamas with Attorney Dowd's opinion and added that her request cannot be put on the Annual Town Meeting agenda.

Supervisor Morask commented on Mr. Dabrowski's article.

Trustee Carrabotta agreed with Ms. Adam and suggested to make an exception and put the suggested issue on the Annual Town Meeting agenda.

Supervisor Morask read aloud the Township statutes regarding the Annual Town Meeting agenda and confirmed that this agenda item is not allowed pursuant to Illinois Law at an Annual Town Meeting. Supervisor Morask provided the list of electors' powers. By statute salary decisions are exclusively vested in Board of Trustees.

Trustee Sweeney requested that this issue be put on the March meeting agenda including the petition and the article.

Agenda Item: Approval of the April 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting Agenda

Supervisor Morask	Motion to approve the Annual Town Meeting Agenda.
Trustee McKenzie	Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Carrabotta	Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes  
Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Closed Session for the Sole Purpose of Discussion of Performance and Compensation of Specific Employees of Maine Township

Supervisor Morask asked for a motion to go to the Closed Session under Section 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) for the sole purpose of discussion of performance and compensation of specific employees of Maine Township. She added that there would be no action taken in the closed session.

Supervisor Morask Motion to go to the Closed Session under Section 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) for the sole purpose of discussion of performance and compensation of specific employees of Maine Township.  
Trustee Jones Second.

Trustee Sweeney commented that her understanding is that this closed session, as well as the last closed meeting session, is for the purpose of discussing the personnel information regarding individual employment performance which could include derogatory or embarrassing information.

Trustee Sweeney stated that based on this stated purpose she will vote yes to go to closed session. She further stated that she is firmly in favor of open meeting discussion only in terms of discussion involving salary and raises.

Trustee Sweeney requested that Ms. Adams petition and the Wirepoints article be put on a March 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting agenda and also be included in the March 15<sup>th</sup> Special Board meeting minutes.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes  
Trustee Jones Yes  
Trustee Carrabotta Yes  
Trustee McKenzie Yes  
Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Supervisor Morask proposed to release Chief Deputy Tytko and Richard Lyon who is video recording this meeting due to that there would be no action taken in the closed session.

Supervisor Morask Motion to release township employees when going to the closed session.  
Trustee Jones Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes  
Trustee Jones Yes  
Trustee Carrabotta Yes  
Trustee McKenzie Yes  
Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Closed Session for the Sole Purpose of Discussion of Performance and Compensation of Specific Employees of Maine Township

The Board re-convened in Open Session at 8:34 p.m.

Supervisor Morask Motion to re-convene in Open Session.

Trustee Jones                      Second.  
All in favor.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Supervisor Morask                  Motion to adjourn.  
Trustee Jones                      Second.  
All in favor.  
Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Maine Township Clerk

Public participant comment and request for the Annual Town Meeting agenda item  
– Failed

NOTICE OF AGENDA ITEM - 2018 MAINE TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

This will serve as notification to the Maine Township Board that the following statement and action item shall be placed on the Agenda and in the Board Packet in a timely fashion for the 2018 Annual Maine Township Meeting:

*"Discussion of Maine Township's historical personnel spending increases (particularly during the period of 2009 through current, where: Maine Township's total payroll has risen by more than **25%** since 2009 according to the Illinois Comptroller, although the U.S. Census shows median household incomes in Maine Township are up only **7%** since 2009; Maine Township residents have lost purchasing power since 2009 yet they are been forced to pay a Township payroll that has grown 3.5 times faster in total than their own incomes; Maine Township residents fork over 95% of the health care premiums for Township employees, even as their own premiums continue to spike yearly under the ACA; and, property values in Maine Township are down 25% compared to 2009 according to the Illinois Department of Revenue); and, a vote on a Motion to hold flat all Township employees' salaries in the upcoming fiscal year."*



Peter Gialamas

Clerk

**FILE COPY**

Supervisor  
Laura J. Morask

Clerk  
Peter Gialamas

Assessor  
Susan Moylan Krey

Highway Commissioner  
Walter Kazmierczak

Trustees  
Kimberly Jones  
David A. Carrabotta, Esq.  
Claire R. McKenzie  
Susan Kelly Sweeney

General Offices  
1700 Ballard Road  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068  
847-297-2510  
847-297-1335 Fax

Highway Department  
1401 Redeker Road  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016  
847-297-5225  
847-297-8723 Fax

March 9, 2018

Donna Adam  
612 S. Fifth Ave.  
Des Plaines, IL 60016

Dear Donna Adam:

On March 1, 2018 you submitted a Petition with a written request for an Agenda Item for Maine Township Annual Town Meeting.

I would like to notify you that pursuant to 60 ILCS 1/30-10 your petition failed to include 15 signatures of registered voters in Maine Township. Also, your request made by voters is not relevant to powers granted to electors under the Township Code.

Thank you,

Peter Gialamas  
Maine Township Clerk

DOWD, DOWD & MERTES, LTD.  
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DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS 60016-4549

JAMES J. DOWD  
(1949-1993)

DANIEL J. DOWD

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**MEMO**

TO: Laura Morask, Supervisor – Maine Township  
Peter Gialamas, Clerk – Maine Township  
(All via e-mail)

CC: Wiesia Tytko, Chief Deputy Clerk – Maine Township

FROM: Daniel J. Dowd

DATE: March 7, 2018

RE: Registered Voter Request for Inclusion of Discussion/Action Item  
on Annual Town Meeting Agenda

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I have reviewed the “Notice of Agenda Item – 2018 Maine Township Annual Meeting” in which purportedly not less than 15 registered voters of Maine Township requested an item be placed on the Annual Town Meeting (“ATM”) Agenda to (1) discuss the historical growth of the Township employee payroll from 2009 to present and the Township contribution to employee health care premiums and (2) “vote on a Motion to hold flat all Township employees’ salaries in the upcoming fiscal year”.

The request is made pursuant to 60 ILCS 1/30-10(b), which allows 15 or more registered voters in the Township to request an Agenda item for consideration of the electors at the ATM. To be included on the Agenda “the request (must be) relevant to powers granted to electors under the Township Code” (60 ILCS 1/30-10(b)). It is my opinion that the request is on matters not “relevant” to any power granted to electors under the Township Code. The request therefore does not qualify as an item that registered voters may request be included on the ATM Agenda.

My opinion is based upon the absence of any explicit grant by the Township Code to electors of a power to set salaries or employee benefit contributions of Township employees, or to conduct discussions thereon.

The power to hire employees, set their compensation and entitlement to participate in employee benefit plans is vested in the Township Board, except in respect of the ability of the Supervisor to hire employees for GA, the Assessor for employees in the Assessor's office, and the Highway Commissioner for employees in the Road District (60 ILCS 1/100-5).

Call or e-mail me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter.

mk