

Maine Township Board Meeting February 23, 2021

Maine Township Board meeting has been videotaped.

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

<http://mainetown.com/board-meetings/>

Indexed agenda at:

https://mainetown.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/agenda_21-02-23.pdf

This meeting will be conducted by audio or video conference without a physically present quorum of the Maine Township Board because of a disaster declaration related to COVID-19 public health concerns affecting the Township, pursuant to Senate Bill 2135. The Township Supervisor has determined that an in-person meeting at the Township building with all participants is not practical or prudent because of the disaster. Township officials and legal counsel will not be physically present at the Township building, if that is unfeasible due to the disaster. Physical public attendance at the Township building may be limited or not feasible, so alternative arrangements for public access to hear the meeting are available here: is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85880750238> . To obtain password to connect to this meeting, please call Richard Lyon at 224-257-4869 prior to 6:00 p.m. on February 23, 2021. The meeting will also be audio or video recorded and made available to the public, as provided by law.

Board Members Present and other Elected Officials: Supervisor Morask, Trustees: Jones, Carrabotta, McKenzie and Sweeney, Clerk Gialamas, Assessor Moylan Krey and Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak

Others in Attendance: Keri-Lyn Krafthefer, Dayna Berman, Doriene Prorak, Richard Lyon, Earl Wilson, Alicia Bailey, Roger Shubert, Karen Dimond, Smitesh Shah, Robert Hoban, Michael Samaan, Jim Stinson, Tish Powell, Mary Dickson and Wiesia Tytko

Supervisor Morask called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., Clerk Gialamas led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2021 Bill Pay Review

Trustee Sweeney Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Bill Pay Review.

Trustee Carrabotta Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2021 Board Meeting

See video at 1:06:18.

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board Meeting.

Trustee Carrabotta Second.

Supervisor Morask stated that page #7 entitled An Appeal on Behalf of Choice-Trustee Susan Sweeney 1/26/21 should be stricken from the minutes due to Trustee Sweeney's statement being too political and inappropriate.

Supervisor Morask Motion to amend the minutes by striking page #7 from the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board Meeting.
Trustee Jones Second.

Discussion.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes	
Trustee Jones	Yes	
Trustee McKenzie	Yes	
Trustee Carrabotta	No	
Trustee Sweeney	No	Trustee Sweeney commented that this action was not transparent.

Motion carried.

Trustee Sweeney stated that on page #5, the statement by Trustee McKenzie should end with "Trustee McKenzie stated that Trustee Sweeney's report is in not an Official's Report." She asked to strike the rest of the sentence "and some of it is inappropriate to be included in the minutes" saying that it was not said by Trustee McKenzie.

Trustee Sweeney	Motion to keep the sentence: "Trustee McKenzie stated that Trustee Sweeney's report is not an Official's Report" in the February 23 rd Board meeting and to strike the remaining wording.
Trustee Carrabotta	Second.

Discussion.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	No
Trustee Jones	No
Trustee McKenzie	No
Trustee Carrabotta	Yes
Trustee Sweeney	Yes

Motion failed.

Supervisor Morask asked for a vote on the original motion reading an approval of the minutes of the January 26, 2021 Board Meeting with the approved amendments.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee McKenzie	Yes
Trustee Carrabotta	No
Trustee Sweeney	No

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated February 5, 2021 and February 19, 2021 and General Town Fund checks #58378 through check #58453 in the amount of \$307,891.24.

Trustee Sweeney	Motion to approve.
Trustee Jones	Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
Trustee Jones	Abstain
Trustee McKenzie	Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes
Trustee Sweeney Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures
Payrolls dated February 5, 2021 and February 19, 2021 and Road District checks #21698 through check #21734 in the amount of \$135,289.24.

Trustee Sweeney Motion to approve.
Trustee McKenzie Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Morask Yes
Trustee Jones Abstain
Trustee McKenzie Yes
Trustee Carrabotta Yes
Trustee Sweeney Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures
Payrolls dated February 5, 2021 and February 19, 2021 and General Assistance checks #53203 through check #53253 in the amount of \$42,741.07.

Supervisor Carrabotta Motion to approve.
Trustee McKenzie Second
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Morask Yes
Trustee Jones Abstain
Trustee McKenzie Yes
Trustee Carrabotta Yes
Trustee Sweeney Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Personnel, Discussion and Vote/Deputy Clerk/Part-Time Position
See video at 1:28:54.

Clerk Gialamas stated that Deputy Clerk Roz Luburich recently retired after 16 years of service to the township and its constituents.

Clerk Gialamas stated that after reviewing a few job applications, he would like to hire Eva Magnowski for the part-time Deputy Clerk position. This position is to replace and fill the afternoon schedule from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. He proposed the hourly rate of \$15.00 and starting date of March 1, 2021.

Supervisor Morask Motion to hire Eva Magnowski for the part-time Deputy Clerk position with the hourly rate of \$15.00 starting March 1, 2021.
Trustee Jones Second.

Short discussion.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Morask Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee McKenzie Yes
Trustee Carrabotta Yes
Trustee Sweeney Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

See video at 1:32:36.

Earl Wilson, a Des Plaines resident, stated that he is grateful to be on the April 6, 2021 Election ballot.

Susanne Atanus, a Des Plaines resident, commented on the high real estate taxes and encouraged everyone to contact their legislators.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Vote on Seamless Docs Subscription

See video at 1:38:16.

Supervisor Morask stated that the renewal contract for SeamlessDocs, the e-signature and forms automation platform was included in the Board distribution. She added that the existing contract ends March 31, 2021.

Supervisor Morask Motion to approve the contract from SeamlessDocs for the amount of \$6,050.00 from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

Trustee Carrabotta Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Vote on Landscaping Contract

See video at 1:39:44.

Mike Samaan, Director of Maintenance stated that the landscaping proposal from NJ Castilo, Inc. was included in the Board distribution. He added that we have been using NJ Castilo for 20 years and he recommended renewing their contract with the same price as in the last year's contract.

Supervisor Morask Motion to renew NJ Castilo, Inc. contract from April to November, with a monthly price of \$1,350.00 and one-time charges for core aeration and over seeding for \$350.00 and fall cleanup for \$250.00.

Trustee Carrabotta Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Vote of Continuing Resolutions 2021-2 & 2021-RB-1

See video at 1:42:56.

Supervisor Morask stated that the Continuing Resolutions for Maine Township and Road District need to be approved to allow the Township to continue to pay bills until the new budget is approved.

Supervisor Morask Motion to approve the Continuing Resolution 2021-2 for General Assistance and General Town Fund.

Trustee Jones Second.

Trustee Sweeney suggested passing the budget before the end of the fiscal year.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee McKenzie	Yes
Trustee Carrabotta	Yes
Trustee Sweeney	Yes

Motion carried.

Supervisor Morask	Motion to approve and waive the reading of the Continuing Resolution 2021-RB-1 for Road & Bridge Fund.
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Trustee Carrabotta	Second.
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Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion on Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget for TF/GA/R&B

See video at 1:46:16.

Supervisor Morask	Motion to table the discussion on a preliminary 2021-2022 Budgets.
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Trustee Carrabotta	Second.
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Supervisor Morask stated that in her opinion it is too early to discuss any budgets and proposed putting it on the March agenda.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee McKenzie	No
Trustee Carrabotta	No
Trustee Sweeney	No

Motion failed.

Administrator Berman made a presentation of a preliminary General Town Fund and General Assistance budgets.

Discussion.

Trustee McKenzie and Trustee Carrabotta suggested scheduling a Special Board meeting to discuss said budgets.

Due to difficult connection Supervisor Morask was not in attendance at the Board meeting during this agenda item.

Trustee McKenzie	Motion to nominate Trustee Carrabotta as Acting Chairman for the continuation of the February 23, 2021 Board meeting.
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Trustee Carrabotta	Second.
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Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Trustee Carrabotta Motion to schedule a Special Board meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the sole purpose to discuss the General Town Fund, General Assistance and Road District 2021-2022 Budgets.

Trustee McKenzie Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Absent

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation
None.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Vote on 6-month Extension for Republic Services Proposal/Present RFP for Waste Hauler Company

See video at 2:15:53.

Tish Powell, Manager for Municipal Sales at Republic Services, presented the Amendment to Residential Refuse, Recycling and Yard Waste Contract. Ms. Powell stated that Republic Services is Maine Township's garbage provider since 2008. She stated that the proposed agreement is a 6-month extension beginning April 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2021 with 4% increase in pricing.

At this time Supervisor Morask got reconnected.

Trustee Carrabotta Motion to transfer chairing the February 23, 2021 meeting to Supervisor Morask.

Trustee Jones Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Abstain

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Carrabotta informed Supervisor Morask that the Board scheduled a Special Board meeting on March 11th and asked if she will be able to attend it.

Supervisor Morask answered that she has a conflict to attend said meeting but it was agreed that the date for the Special Meeting will be kept.

Supervisor Morask thanked Ms. Powell for the 6-month contract with only 4% price increase.

Discussion regarding the proposed 6-month extension contract and the legality of having/accepting RFPs for solid waste collection services at the same time that the renewal contract is signed.

Supervisor Morask Motion to approve the 6-month extension contract with the Republic Services with the 4% increase in pricing beginning April 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2021.

Trustee Carrabotta Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes
Motion carried.

Administrator Berman stated that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste Collection & Recycling Services was published in the local newspaper and has been posted on our website. It was noted that we are looking at a start date of October 1, 2021. She added that there are no proposals yet.

Trustee Carrabotta Motion to continue the RFP process to accept proposals for the residential refuse, recycling and yard waste hauler. The contract will commence on October 1, 2021.

Trustee Jones Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Vote to Abate Property Taxes as Presented by Trustee Sweeney

See video at 2:32:47.

Supervisor Morask stated the Abatement for Town Fund and General Assistance Fund, Ordinance 2021-1 was presented by Trustee Sweeney and included in the Board distribution online. She added that Trustee Sweeney sent by email the additional abatement proposals for Town Fund/GA and Road and Bridge at 6:00 p.m. this evening. Supervisor Morask pointed out that these items, especially the Road & Bridge Abatement, were not appropriately listed on the agenda for the February 23rd Board meeting and should not be voted on.

Discussion on Road and Bridge abatement proposal and on Town Fund and General Assistance abatement proposals by Trustee Sweeney.

Trustee Sweeney's presentation. See video at 2:43:39.

After a lengthy discussion and statements from Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak, Attorney Krafthefer and Attorney Hoban, it was pointed out that the board cannot abate the Road District Levy unless authorized by the Highway Commissioner.

Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak did not authorize Maine Township Board of Trustees to abate the Road and Bridge Levy.

Trustee Carrabotta Motion to vote on Trustee Sweeney's proposed abatement, Ordinance 2021-1, an Ordinance abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied December 2020 for Town Fund and General Assistance Fund.

Supervisor Morask commented on township's fiscal responsibilities.

Trustee Sweeney Second.

Discussion and second comments.

Trustee Sweeney read out loud the Ordinance 2021-1 with the amount to be abated by this ordinance for Town Fund: \$2,000,000.00, with remainder of tax to be extended \$1,048,227.00, for General Assistance: \$206,822.00, with remainder of tax to be extended \$0.00.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask No

Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee McKenzie	Yes
Trustee Carrabotta	Yes
Trustee Sweeney	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Moylan Krey stated that her written report was included in the Board distribution. Supervisor Morask added that the Maine Township Assessor's office is very busy at this time and they are processing all exemption applications online to the Cook County Assessor's system.

Clerk Gialamas stated that Roz Luburich retired after 16 years of service and she will be greatly missed. Clerk Gialamas wished Roz well, and much deserved retirement.

Trustee Sweeney thanked Administrator Berman for preparing the preliminary budget. She also commended Richard Lyon on taking steps to automate processes in the MaineStay Department as described in his board report.

Trustee Carrabotta stated that he attended the Township Officials of Cook County Seminar on February 10th regarding Townships Communication, presentation on writing and submitting press releases. He mentioned that the residents of Maine Township have been displaying green lights to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, which last year stayed on longer as a hope for ending of Covid-19.

Trustee Carrabotta wished everyone a blessed St. Patrick's Day, Easter and ending of Covid-19.

Trustee McKenzie thanked everyone in the township for tirelessly putting together board packets.

Trustee Jones thanked Roz Luburich for her long service to the township saying that she is a great lady and wished her a nice retirement. Trustee Jones welcomed Eva Magnowski to the Clerk's office team.

Supervisor Morask stated that she and Vicki Rizzo have been working and trying to make Maine Township Town Hall to be a vaccination side. She commended Vicki Rizzo, Doriene Prorak and Dayna Berman for their constant efforts on township's business.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see video at 3:16:06.

Agenda Item: Closed Session, Pending Litigation – 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

See video at 3:26:00.

Trustee Carrabotta	Motion to go to the Closed Session regarding Pending Litigation pursuing 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11).
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Supervisor Morask	Second.
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Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
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Trustee Jones	Yes
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Trustee McKenzie	Yes
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Trustee Carrabotta	Yes
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Trustee Sweeney	Yes
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Motion carried.

The Board re-convened in Open Session at 11:03 p.m.

Supervisor Morask	Motion to re-convene in Open Session.
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Trustee Sweeney	Second.
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Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask	Yes
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Trustee Jones	Yes
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Trustee McKenzie	Yes
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Trustee Carrabotta	Yes
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Trustee Sweeney	Yes
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Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Jones Motion to adjourn.

Trustee Sweeney Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Morask Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee McKenzie Yes

Trustee Carrabotta Yes

Trustee Sweeney Yes

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk