

Maine Township Board Meeting June 22, 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/2021/06/agenda_21-06-22.pdf

This meeting will be conducted in person. 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: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86911964709>. To obtain password to connect to this meeting, please call Richard Lyon at 224-257-4869 prior to 6:00 p.m. on June 22, 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 Dimond, Trustees: Jones, Horvath, Maher, Malik, Clerk Gialamas and Highway Commissioner Beauvais

Others in Attendance: Kurt Asprooth, Dayna Berman, Keli Stonitsch, Richard Lyon, Doriene Prorak, Elizabeth Coy, Carol Langan, John Bennett, Marie Dachniwsky, Nader Ghazaleh, Michael Samaan, Austin Kelso, Marty Cook, Michael Flood, Michael Walters, Raphael Ranola, Rodolfo Ranola, Bill Kenney, Masood Sahi, Judy Fregetto, Mohammed A. Vali, Ed Eicker and Wiesia Tytko

Supervisor Dimond called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., Clerk Gialamas led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of May 25, 2021 Bill Pay Review

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the May 25, 2021 Bill Pay Review.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of May 25, 2021 Board Meeting

Trustee Horvath Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the May 25, 2021 Board Meeting.

Trustee Jones Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated May 28, 2021 and June 11, 2021 and General Assistance checks #53500 through check #53543 in the amount of \$48,184.26.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve.

Trustee Horvath Second
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures
Payrolls dated May 28, 2021 and June 11, 2021 and Road District checks #21900 through check #21942 in the amount of \$93,042.81.

Trustee Horvath Motion to approve.
Trustee Jones Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures
Payrolls dated May 28, 2021 and June 11, 2021 and General Town Fund checks #58700 through check #58765 in the amount of \$252,791.74.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve.
Trustee Maher Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Personnel, Discussion and Vote: MaineStay Therapist Full Time Position, Maine Stay Youth Coordinator Full Time Position

See video at 4:39.

Richard Lyon, MaineStay Director stated that the Family Therapist and Youth Coordinator existing positions were open for very long time. He said that resumes were included in the Board distributions from two candidates that applied for these positions. Mr. Lyon stated that both candidates, Ashley Homa applying for Family Therapist, and Logan Brown applying for Youth Coordinator, are the most qualified and he highly recommended them for these full-time positions.

Short Discussion.

Trustee Horvath Motion to hire Ashley Homa for full-time Family Therapist and Logan Brown for full-time Youth Coordinator positions.
Trustee Maher Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

See video at 7:37.

Raphael Ranola expressed his opinion regarding the proposed Resolution Establishing a Flag Policy for Maine Township.

Michael Flood, from Flood Brothers Disposal Co. commented on Flood Brothers' proposal for a Waste Hauler.

Bill Kenny, from Lake Shore Recycling commented on Lake Shore Recycling's proposal for a Waste Hauler.

Agenda Item: Administrator's Report

See video at 11:43.

Administrator Berman stated that every month she is including in the Board distribution the Maine Township Income Statements for General Town Fund, General Assistance Fund and Road and Bridge Fun. She added that she will be happy to explain said statements.

Administrator Berman stated that each month a Department Head will report to the Board.

Agenda Item: Department Head Report/General Assistance – Austin Kelso

See video at 14:41.

Austin Kelso, General Assistance Director reported on General Assistance programs and General Assistance cases.

Mr. Kelso stated that Township helps low-income parents or legal guardians send their children to Park District camps located in Maine Township by paying up to \$275 per child.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Mr. Kelso asked to transfer \$3,000 from Town Fund Operating Supplies to Youth Recreation Fund to help to pay the cost of these camps.

Administrator Berman said that we have the money in the budget to do that.

Trustee Malik ask if the Township offers Funeral Assistance.

Mr. Kelso responded that the Township offers up to \$200 for General Assistance clients only.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Possible Vote – Waste Hauler Proposal Consideration for Unincorporated Area

See video at 23:36.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the comparison of what Flood Brothers, Lakeshore Recycling and Republic Services will be charging the residents for a four-year, five-year and seven-year contract was included in the Board packet for Board review.

Doriene Prorak, Assistant to the Supervisor, stated that at the suggestion of Supervisor Dimond, she solicited seven residents from the unincorporated area, plus Administrator Berman, Code Enforcement Officer Ghazaleh and herself to participate on an advisory committee to discuss the three waste collection proposals submitted by Flood Brothers, Lakeshore Recycling and Republic Services.

Ms. Prorak explained the process of the selection and feedback from the residents. Ms. Prorak added that at the end of the meeting, she took a poll of everyone's choice from three vendors. Everyone voted for Flood Brothers.

Supervisor Dimond asked for questions, comments and suggestion on the length of the possible 4-year, 5-year or 7-year contract.

Attorney Asprooth stated that the Township Code allows to have contracts up to 15 years.

Discussion.

Trustee Horvath Motion to accept Flood Brothers' Solid Waste Collection and Recycling 5-year Contract.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Appointment & Vote Ethics Ordinance: Ethics Advisor & Discussion of Three Member Appointees

See video at 40:07.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act require of local government to adopt an Ethics Ordinance and create an Ethics Advisor and an Ethics Commission.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Maine Township Ethics Ordinance 2004-2 was adopted in 2004 but we have vacancies.

Supervisor Dimond stated that she volunteered to be Ethics Advisor and after reviewing suggestions from the Board she proposed Edward Eicker, Audrey Nankervis and Mohammed Vali to serve as members of the Maine Township Ethics Commission.

Trustee Maher Motion to appoint Supervisor Karen Dimond to serve as the Maine Township Ethics Advisor and to appoint Edward Eicker, Audrey Nankervis and Mohammed Vali to serve as member of the Maine Township Ethics Commission.

Trustee Jones Second.

Short Discussion.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Flag Display Policy

See video at 44:19.

Supervisor Dimond read the Resolution Establishing a Flag Policy for Maine Township and asked for discussion and comments.

Trustee Horvath Motion to adopt Resolution 2021-7, A Resolution Establishing a Flag Policy for Maine Township.

Trustee Maher Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher No
Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Board Meeting Time Change Beginning 7/1/21

See video at 45:56.

Supervisor Dimond proposed to continue keeping the Bills Review at 6:30 p.m. and changing the Board meeting to 7:00 p.m. starting July 27th.

Trustee Maher Motion to amend the monthly Board meeting time for 7:00 p.m. with adopting the Resolution 2021-8.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Horvath	Yes
Trustee Maher	Yes
Trustee Malik	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion to Adopt the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code into Ordinance Book

See video at 47:25.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais proposed to update the Maine Township Ordinance Book. He stated that the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code is most current and the exterior maintenance property section should be adopted into the Maine Township Ordinance Book. Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that it is important to him, to the Code Enforcement Officer and to the Maine Township Board to stay current with all the codes.

Code Enforcement Ghazaleh expressed his opinion on Cook County, State and City illegal towing vehicles off private property. He read the codes from the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code that he and Highway Commissioner Beauvais would like to adopt into our Ordinance Book.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Spending Authority Policy

See video at 56:50.

Supervisor Dimond proposed amending the spending authority policy with a change in Section 3, by increasing and not to exceed the expenditures from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per month without prior Board approval for routine Township operational needs.

Trustee Jones	Motion to adopt the Resolution 2021-9, Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Pay Routine Invoices and Expenditures and to Enter into Contracts Provided for the Budget not to Exceed a Certain Amount (a total of \$3,000).
Trustee Maher	Second.

Discussion.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Horvath	Yes
Trustee Maher	Yes
Trustee Malik	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Line-Item Transfer from Town Fund Operating Supplies to Youth Recreation Fund

See video at 1:02:15.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the purpose of the proposed line-item transfer is to help low-income parents to send their children to the Park District summer camp, which was discussed and explained when General Assistance Director, Austin Kelso's reported to the Board.

Trustee Maher	Motion to transfer \$3,000 from Town Fund Operating Supplies to Youth Recreation Fund.
Trustee Horvath	Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Horvath	Yes

Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, TOIRMA – Maine Township Flooding Lawsuit
See video at 1:03:08.

Supervisor Dimond explained the four lawsuits pertaining to flooding in the unincorporated area in which Maine Township has been named as a defendant. She stated that Supreme Court Opinion confirmed the dismissal of Maine Township from all of the four aforesaid lawsuits. The Declaration on the Township's Insurance Policy stipulates that Maine Township has a \$20,000 deductible. The attorney's fees for representation of Maine Township in the aforesaid lawsuits paid by TOIRMA to Kosoff, Geitner & Cook, LLC totaling \$12,065.53 need to be paid.

Trustee Maher Motion to pay the outstanding bill in the total amount of \$12,065.53 to Township Officials of Illinois Risk Management Association (TOIRMA).
Trustee Horvath Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Staff Salary Increases
See video at 1:09:37.

Administrator Berman stated that the employees really stepped up to the plate this past year with the occurring pandemic. All the staff showed team work and without hesitation took many other responsibilities which did not fall within their everyday duties. She added that we made sure that the programs were not cancelled but running with adjustments. Administrator Berman stated that she would like to see the staff be awarded since they worked hard to keep this building open and running smoothly.

Discussion and comments regarding staff performance and salary study that was commissioned in 2018.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Board would like to see mentioned Salary Study.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve retroactive from March 1, 2021, the 3% raise for the employees in the offices of General Assistance, Senior, OEM, Administration, Clerk and MaineStay.
Trustee Malik Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:
Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Trustee Horvath stated that on June 10th, she took a Township Officials of Illinois Webinar for Best Practices for Township Use of Social Media. She added that in her opinion it will be beneficial to the Township residents to communicate and promote township meetings, activities and events via Social Media.

Trustee Malik informed everyone that he is working with Marie Dachniwsky, MaineStreamers' Director to plan in the Maine Township parking lot, India Cultural Day on August 3rd. Also, there will be a Pakistan Cultural Day on August 28th organized by Masood Sahi.

Trustee Jones stated that she attended a few wonderful events organized by the MaineStreamers.

Trustee Jones reported that the next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held in person in the Township's tent on July 7th at 7:30 p.m. Trustee Jones invited everyone for this meeting saying that this is a great way to meet your neighbors, Cook County Sheriff, North Maine Fire Department or our own Highway Commissioner or Code Enforcement Officer.

Trustee Jones wished everyone happy and safe 4th of July.

Supervisor Dimond added that our Township Elected Officials will be participating in the Niles 4th of July Parade.

Clerk Gialamas stated that Des Plaines and Niles Police decided to cancel their National Night Out event. He spoke with Cook County Sheriff and they agreed that would be difficult to coordinate the Maine Township National Night Out. Clerk Gialamas suggested to the Board to cancel our NNO and in February to start to planning a 2022 National Night Out.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that last month was very educational for him since he had the opportunity to meet and network with other Highway Commissioners.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that currently he is reviewing and reassessing the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. The Highway Department has been taking inventory of street signs and poles, they are conducting annual street and sewers maintenance and inspecting trees.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated his Administrator, Dawne Hayman has been pursuing infrastructure project grant opportunities. He stated that he attended a couple of outstanding events organized by our Senior Department.

Supervisor Dimond informed the Board that the Attorney General's website is still down and the Open Meetings Act and FOIA mandatory training is not accessible at this time.

Supervisor Dimond stated that she also took a few Webinars for OMA/FOIA, Use of Social Media and Covid. In regards to the Use of Social Media, she pointed out that some subjects are complicated and we as a public body have certain limits. She stated that in the future the Board can discuss the best practices for compliance with the Open Meetings Act and for our website.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Electronic Recycling will be held in the Maine Township parking lot on August 21st and Document Shredding event will be held on September 25th.

Supervisor Dimond reminded everyone that during the business hours, Maine Township is a Cooling Center for the public.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see video at 1:18:29.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Horvath Motion to adjourn.

Trustee Maher Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk