

Maine Township Board meeting has been videotaped.

For more detailed reports and discussions please refer to the recorded meeting at:  
[https://mainetown.com/government/agendas\\_minutes.php](https://mainetown.com/government/agendas_minutes.php)

Board Members Present and other Elected Officials: Supervisor Dimond, Trustees: Jones, Maher, Clerk Gialamas, Assessor Moylan-Krey and Highway Commissioner Beauvais

Others in Attendance: Attorney Kurt Asprooth, Dayna Berman, Jenny Raffe, Ruba Al Ayed, Marie Dachniwsky, Liz Coy, Kathy Sabbini, Luz Meneses, Richard Lyon, Mika Samaan, Nader Ghazaleh, Nick Kanehl, Marty Cook, Eddie Olewinski, Robert Flinn, Dominik Bronakowski and Eva Magnowski.

Supervisor Dimond called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of July 25, 2023 Board Meeting

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the July 25, 2023 Board Meeting.

Trustee Maher Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Absent

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated August 4, 2023 and August 18, 2023 and General Assistance checks #55006 through check #55047 in the amount of \$34,310.19.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve.

Trustee Maher Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Absent

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated August 4, 2023 and August 18, 2023 and Road District checks #23016 through check #23052 in the amount of \$253,633.02.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve.

Trustee Jones Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Absent

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated August 4, 2023 and August 18, 2023 and General Town Fund checks #60406 through check #60467 in the amount of \$244,498.72.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve.  
Trustee Jones Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

None

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion of Anticipated Capital Fund Expenditures; Possible Generator Purchase and Discussion and Possible Vote on Roof Skylight Window Caulking Repairs

See video at 4:09

Maintenance Director Samaan presented some future projects and estimates pertaining to Capital Fund Expenditures. Maintenance Director Samaan passed along some pictures of the roof. He discussed the possibility of repairing or replacing skylights. Mr. Samaan said that one roofing company came out but he does not yet have the estimate. He said that he would check also with the company recommended by Clerk Gialamas and he would present the quotes during the next meeting. Maintenance Director Samaan stated that the Onpoint Cooling and Heating Company recommended that two of our furnaces should be replaced as soon as possible with the cost of \$8,200 or five furnaces for \$19,700 total. Maintenance Director Samaan stated that the possible replacement of the A/C units around the building will cost \$18,800. Maintenance Director Samaan stated that generator purchase will be quite expensive.

Questions and comments from the Board.

Supervisor Dimond asked Maintenance Director Samaan to prepare estimates for roof skylight window caulking, two furnaces, and a flat roof for the next meeting.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Facility Lease Agreement

See video at 24:54

Supervisor Dimond thanked Trustee Maher for his suggestions and stated that the final Facility Lease Agreement will be presented during the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Employee Tuition Reimbursement Program

See video at 25:24

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Board has a draft of the Tuition Reimbursement Policy and asked for a discussion on this matter.

Questions and comments.

The Board members agreed that this is a great idea to implement the Tuition Reimbursement Program.

Trustee Maher stated that this matter should be postponed until all the Trustees are here to vote on this topic.

Trustee Maher            Motion to table this topic at the next Board meeting.  
Trustee Jones            Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New business, Appropriation for Recovery Connection - Thank You to Senator  
Laura Murphy

See video at 32:18

Supervisor Dimond stated that Senator Laura Murphy could not be here at the Board meeting and publicly thanked Senator Laura Murphy for her large appropriation for Recovery Connection in the amount of \$30,000.

Recovery Connection Director Cook stated that he is incredibly grateful for Senator's Murphy appropriation. He said that it allows to serve a greater number of people who might not live in the Maine Township, but live in the greater Maine Township area because addiction knows no borders. Mr. Cook stated that he tries to partner with Lutheran General Hospital to build a larger Recovery Network so that people who are in the emergency room for opioid addiction would be connected with the local services. The money will be used to cover Recovery related events to help people engage with other people who are sober and to make sober connections. Recovery Connection Director Cook stated that the Maine Township is co-hosting a One Pill Can Kill: What Parents Need to Know About Opioids event on September 27, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. He said that the speakers will be: DEA Special Agent Czaczkowski, Dr. Kenji Oyasu from Lutheran General Hospital, and State Senator Laura Murphy.

Comments from the Board officials

The Board officials thanked Senator Laura Murphy for her generous appropriation for Recovery Connection.

Agenda Item: New Business, Adoption of Township Holiday Schedule for Calendar Year 2024

See video at 40:48

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board for a motion to adopt the Township Holiday Schedule for Calendar Year 2024.

Assessor Krey stated that December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 will be on Wednesday and suggested that Maine Township Staff should have December 24<sup>th</sup> off or at least half a day because people of their ethnicity celebrate Christmas Eve plus there is very light traffic coming in during that day.

Discussion.

Trustee Jones            Motion to pass the Township Holiday Schedule for the Calendar  
Year 2024 subject to change.

Trustee Maher            Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Hiring Grant Writer on Contract Basis

See video at 47:31

Supervisor Dimond stated that she mentioned before that there are many Grants to apply for, but the applications are very time consuming with long essays and lots of attachments. Supervisor Dimond stated that we might benefit from hiring a person who specializes in applying for Grants.

Trustee Maher suggested to table it because this is no emergency and Trustee Horvath and Trustee Malik are absent.

Supervisor Dimond said that she would like to move forward as soon as possible.

Discussion.

Trustee Jones Motion to hire Grant Writer on a contract basis.

Supervisor Dimond Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Absent

Trustee Maher No

Trustee Malik Absent

Motion failed.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Building Security Issues

See video at 51:38

Supervisor Dimond stated that she is really surprised and dismayed by how many security issues have come up during the past months and some before that.

Assessor Krey stated that this is a very busy time for the Assessor's Office and they have a lot of clients to serve. Assessor Krey reported that during the past two days, Directing Chief Deputy Assessor Coy worked with a client for a very long time without getting any kind of closure. The client was asking the same questions over and over again, and eventually, he was in her face. This person got very upset, and frustrated, that she did not spend enough time with him, so Administrator Berman called the police. The client left and came back so the police returned and escorted him out again. Assessor Krey stated that it was a very intimidating situation. Assessor Krey stated that personnel should have some kind of security at the Maine Township.

General Assistance Director Sabbini stated that it is very important that everyone feels safe in their working environment. She said that her department had a lot of incidents in the past months. Ms. Sabbini stated that her department understands that residents who are coming in for financial assistance need help. They are very stressed, upset, and angry but they cannot use the Staff as punching bags if they do not get what they want. General Assistance Director Sabbini said that verbal abuse and physical contact with a couple of staff members occurred in the past.

General Assistance Assistant Director Meneses thanked the Board for all the support especially now because since COVID-19 people are very aggressive to them. Ms. Meneses stated that she was a victim of an attack in November. Ms. Meneses said that she had to see a doctor and the therapy took 6 months. Ms. Meneses stated that she attended a self-defending class. Assistant Director Meneses said that we are very happy to do our jobs but in order to do it we have to be safe. We need somebody in the uniform to help us in a situation that will put us at risk.

General Assistance Director Sabbini pointed out that the presence of such of person would be a good advantage for all Maine Township employees because clients should not intimidate us for any reason and personnel should not be scared to come to the workplace.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Chief Deputy Clerk Magnowski and she have to deal with people who call themselves First Amendment Auditors and are very demanding to get documents immediately. She pointed out that they start to film right away which could be very intimidating and then they post the video on YouTube, what they did with us.

Supervisor Dimond stated that a couple of officers from the Chicago Police Department will come to Maine Township to do a Property Assessment and also Active Threat training. She said that we might have some physical changes to the building placing some gates or doors in the Clerk's and Receptionist's area.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Attorney Asprooth offered a presentation regarding how to deal with the First Amendment Auditors. Supervisor Dimond stated that another suggestion is hiring a guard and panic buttons.

Discussion and comments.

Supervisor Dimond asked for everybody's suggestions regarding hiring a guard and she said that the Board will return to this problem.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Timing of Levy Ordinance Adoption

See video at 1:15:11

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Levy has to be filed with the Cook County Clerk by December 26<sup>th</sup>, and the Board meeting in December is scheduled on the 28<sup>th</sup>, so in this case the Board has to pass the Levy Ordinance during November's meeting and the Estimated Levy Ordinance on October's meeting. Supervisor Dimond stated that in September the Board has to give the Administration directive what kind of increase they would like to see. She said that the current Tax Levy Ordinance for Town Fund and General Assistance, the chart with the amounts levied for the past five years, and bank information were given to the Board officials to evaluate the financial situation with the consideration of all the expenses of replacing the roof, windows, furnaces, and air conditioners in the future.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Possibly Moving Future Meeting Dates to Last Tuesday of the Month

See video at 1:17:36

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Staff brought up the possibility of moving the future Board meeting dates to the last Tuesday of the month because sometimes there are problems with getting all the bills out.

Supervisor Dimond postponed this discussion to the next meetings with all Board members.

Agenda Item: New Business, TOI Conference Attendance - Nov. 12-14

See video at 1:21:24

Supervisor Dimond reminded that if the Board officials would like to attend the TOI conference on November 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, they should let know Administrator Berman.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Upcoming Events

See video at 1:21:58

Supervisor Dimond stated that the full list of the upcoming events was included in the Board packet and asked the Board to mark their calendars.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Krey stated that she attended the very nice Pakistan Festival organized by Trustee Malik Assessor Krey stated that the Senior Exemption application has been extended through September 1<sup>st</sup>, and her office is helping the seniors to submit the applications to ensure that it would appear on the next Property Tax Bill. She announced that Cook County has the appeals open and they are working on this also.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that his department continues to work on drainage improvement and road construction projects. Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that Trustee Malik did a great job to put together both India and Pakistan Festivals. Also, he stated that he attended an event organized by one of our agencies that Maine Township funds, Northwest Compass in Des Plaines.

Clerk Gialamas thanked everyone who came out and volunteered for another very successful, well attended National Night Out event. Clerk Gialamas stated that he attended the very nice India Cultural Day and regretted that he could not be at the Pakistan event.

Supervisor Dimond stated that she went to the Pakistan Cultural Day, which was great and very well attended. Supervisor Dimond announced that we received 200 COVID tests and said that each Staff can get one and the rest will go to the Food Pantry.

Trustee Jones stated that she also attended the India and Pakistan events and both were very nice. She said that it was great to see the community getting together in such a positive manner and celebrating their respective cultures. Trustee Jones invited everyone to the next Neighborhood Watch meeting on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Maher thanked Supervisor Dimond for giving them all the bank balances and commented everyone who works at Maine Township, especially Administrator Berman, her Staff, and all the other Departments. He pointed out that the Maine Township's financial situation looks exceptional. Trustee Maher sent kudos to Food Pantry Director Kanehl for the outstanding amount of donations.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 1:22:52

Agenda Item: Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation which is probable or imminent

Trustee Jones	Motion to go into Closed Session/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation which is probable or imminent.
Trustee Maher	Second.
Motion on a roll call vote as follows:	
Supervisor Dimond	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Horvath	Absent
Trustee Maher	Yes
Trustee Malik	Absent
Motion carried.	

The Board re-convened in an Open Session at 9:03

Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Maine Township Clerk