

Maine Township Board Meeting December 28, 2023

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

Board Members Present and other Elected Officials: Supervisor Dimond, Trustees: Jones, Horvath, Maher, Malik, Clerk Gialamas, and Highway Commissioner Beauvais

Others in Attendance: Attorney Kurt Asprooth, Dayna Berman, Vicki Rizzo, Ruba Al Ayed, Jenny Raffae, Marie Dachniwsky, Liz Coy, Kathy Sabbini, Richard Lyon, Mike Samaan, Marty Cook, Robert Flinn, and Eva Magnowski.

Supervisor Dimond called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of November 28, 2023 Board Meeting

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the November 28, 2023 Board Meeting.

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 General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated December 8, 2023 and December 22, 2023 and General Assistance checks #55191 through check #55234 in the amount of \$29,824.16.

Trustee Horvath Motion to approve.

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: Approval of Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated December 8, 2023 and December 22, 2023 and Road District checks #23185 through check #23227 in the amount of \$84,150.71.

Trustee Maher 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 December 8, 2023 and December 22, 2023 and General Town Fund checks #60688 through check #60744 in the amount of \$278,056.11.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve.

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: Public Participation

None

Supervisor Dimond changed the order of the agenda

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and possible Vote on skylight repair work

See video at 4:41

Maintenance Director Samaan gave an update on the skylight repair work and stated that the two companies that he reached out to did not want to sign off the warranty due to very old windows. He suggested waiting till March or April when the weather would be a little bit better and looking for a few new companies.

Discussion.

Supervisor Dimond postponed the topic to the next meeting.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and possible Vote on Paid Leave for All Act policy

See video at 8:44

Trustee Jones Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-13, a Resolution to Allow the Accrual of Paid Leave by Part-Time Employees.

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: Old Business, Presentation about Illinois Treasurer's Illinois Funds

See video at 11:15

Supervisor Dimond pointed out that the interest rates are going up and the Maine Township's funds should be invested wisely. She mentioned that at the TOI conference in Springfield, one of the booths was sponsored by the Illinois Funds which offer very attractive and competitive rates.

Director of Illinois Funds and ePAY Program with the State Treasurer's Office, Thomas Gary gave a presentation about Illinois Funds and said that the Illinois Funds, created in 1975 by the State, is the State's Public Treasurers' Investment Pool, administered by the Illinois State Treasurer, offering another investment opportunity for custodians of "Public Funds" for "Public Agencies". Mr. Thomas Gary pointed out that the priorities are: safety, equity and competitive yield. Mr. Thomas Gary stated that the Illinois Funds has earned the highest investment grade rating (AAAmmf) for a government-managed

money market fund. The rating is based on Fitch's analysis of the pool's credit quality, market price exposure and management. Mr. Thomas Gary discussed the benefits of investing with Illinois Funds.

Questions from the Board members were answered by Mr. Gary.

The Board thanked Mr. Thomas Gary for his presentation.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Tentative Road and Bridge Budget

See video at 57:48

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that the Tentative Road and Bridge Budget for 2024-2025 was presented to the Board for review and briefly discussed the future projects of the Highway Department.

No questions or comments from the Board.

Supervisor Dimond pointed out that the Tentative Road and Bridge Budget will be available for 30 days for a public inspection starting Friday, December 29, 2023, at the Maine Township Hall and on the Maine Township's website. She announced that the Road and Bridge Budget Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

Supervisor Dimond stated that 30 days are required to post the Tentative Maine Township's Budget for public inspection, therefore the February 2024 meeting has to be rescheduled from Tuesday, February 27, 2024 to Thursday, February 29, 2024.

The Board officials agreed to the change.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Funding Agency Allocation

See video at 1:03:55

Supervisor Dimond stated that the chart with 2024-2025 Agency Funding Recommendations was included in the Board distribution.

MaineStay Director Lyon explained to the Board the process and calculations of how the consensus recommendations were reached.

Trustee Jones	Motion to fund the agencies listed in the 2024-2025 Agency Funding Recommendation Chart according to Consensus Recommendations in the total amount of \$477,500.00
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 and Possible Vote on amending current Township reimbursement policy

See video at 1:06:49

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that there is no explanation of what the Board officials should do when there is no receipt available to be reimbursed for their expenses. He asked the Board for an opinion on reimbursement per diem.

Supervisor Dimond said that the hard copy of the current Township reimbursement policy was placed in front of the Board and she briefly went through the content of it.

Short discussion.

Supervisor Dimond postponed this matter to the next meeting.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote regarding the proposed hiring of additional employees either full or part time and discussion of specific employee salaries

See video at 1:15:50

Trustee Maher stated that by the law, one of the three functions of the Illinois Townships is general assistance for the indigent and he quoted the Townships Officials of Illinois. He said that the Maine Township's Food Pantry and General Assistance departments are the most closely associated with helping the indigent. Trustee Maher pointed out that in order for these departments to run at their best the employees should be well compensated. Trustee Maher performed research to compare the salaries of the Food Pantry and General Assistance Directors from the various Townships and he provided handouts to the Board members. He stated that the Maine Township's directors' salaries in comparison to the others are below average and it is very important to pay key people. Trustee Maher also stated that the prior Board did the salary survey which clearly showed that the Maine Township's employees are underpaid compared to statistically similar positions in the other townships. He discussed the Maine Township's total revenue and the money that is spent on the salaries and he would like to do more research on this matter. Trustee Maher stated that it is important that the salaries should be reconsidered across the Board and the issue should be resolved as soon as possible because there might be a problem in the future.

Supervisor Dimond that the discussion about salaries will happen in Spring.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Highway Commissioner Beauvais thanked everyone for coming out to support the very successful Toys for Tots event organized by the Highway Department and wished everybody a Happy New Year.

Clerk Gialamas read aloud a card with residents' compliments regarding Jessica Guzman's service that they received at the Clerk's Office. Clerk Gialamas again pointed out that he has a great Staff at his office and it makes him happy that some of the residents acknowledge that as well. Clerk Gialamas wished everybody a happy New Year.

Trustee Malik wished a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Trustee Maher stated that in the earlier proposal, he would like to add hiring more employees, especially for the Food Pantry. Trustee Maher wished a Happy New Year to everybody.

Trustee Horvath stated that it was a very busy, nice month for all the Board members. Trustee Horvath said that she attended Highway Commissioner Beauvais Toys for Tots drive. Trustee Horvath said that the Board officials visited Wheeling Township to look at their transportation for the residents' program. She mentioned that Supervisor Dimond, Trustee Jones and her attended the Mainstreamers Tree Decorating at Lutheran General. Also, she stated that the Board participated in the MaineStreamers Holiday Lunch.

Trustee Jones extended her invitation to all Maine Township residents to the next Neighborhood Watch, on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 7:00 pm meeting. The residents could talk to the Sheriff and the Fire Department to present any concerns or questions that they have and obtain an update on what is going on in the Township. Trustee Jones wished everybody a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Supervisor Dimond stated that another thing that she participated in was the Golf Mill Food Drive, collecting food for the Food Pantry on Saturday.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 1:22:38

Agenda Item: Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1) litigation which is probable or imminent; (2) security procedures, and use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property and (3) discussing the

appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees

Trustee Jones Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1) litigation which is probable or imminent; (2) security procedures, and use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property and (3) discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

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.

The Board did not re-convene in an Open Session.

The meeting was adjourned at the Closed Session at 9:04 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk

