

Maine Township Board Meeting January 30, 2024

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, Assessor Moylan-Krey 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, Nader Ghazaleh, Nick Kanehl, Martin McAlpin, Robert "Bud" Philips, Ron Wolflick, Marcus Schaufele, Sally Bowman, and Eva Magnowski.

Supervisor Dimond called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

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

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

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 General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 5, 2024 and January 19, 2024 and General Assistance checks #55235 through check #55270 in the amount of \$25,640.26.

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 Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 5, 2024 and January 19, 2024 and Road District checks #23228 through check #23271 in the amount of \$166,153.39.

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 General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 5, 2024 and January 19, 2024 and General Town Fund checks #60745 through check #60799 in the amount of \$281,166.21.

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

See video at 3:58

Maine Township resident Marcus Schaufele came to the meeting to express his concerns regarding cleaning up after the explosion at Noel Avenue that occurred a year ago.

Supervisor Dimond explained that the Board is aware of the situation. She stated that tomorrow a Cook County Zoom meeting is scheduled regarding this matter and he is welcome to attend.

Agenda Item: Check to Honor Flight Chicago/Ron Wolflick

See video at 7:32

Clerk Gialamas stated that he is happy to carry on the tradition that the previous Maine Township Clerk, Veteran Gary K. Warner started. He said that Mr. Warner was a big supporter of veterans and started a program of donating \$1,000 to Honor Flight Chicago. Clerk Gialamas presented the check to the Chair of Operation Locate a Hero, Ron Wolflick. Clerk Gialamas pointed out that the donation is through the revenues raised from processing passport applications and is not taxpayer money funded.

Mr. Ron Wolflick thanked the Maine Township Board for supporting veterans and commented that there is no other Township or City that donates like Maine Township.

The Board thanked Mr. Ron Wolflick.

Supervisor Dimond stated that she would like to recognize new Maine Township employees. General Assistance Director Sabbini introduced Senior and Disability Advocate Tricia Mullin as her full-time employee and Food Pantry Director Kanehl introduced his new part-time employee, Sally Bowman.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and possible Vote on amending Township Reimbursement

Policy

See video at 17:07

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act requires to turn in the receipts in order to be reimbursed and it cannot be changed. Attorney Asprooth confirmed that. Supervisor Dimond stated that the only change would be in Section 9.6 of the Maine Township Personnel Manual that: "Meals" shall include reasonable expenses incurred for the purchase of food and non-alcoholic beverages not to exceed the applicable GSA per diem rate."

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the change and adopt Resolution 2024-4, a Resolution Regarding Reimbursement of Travel, Meal and Lodging Expenses.

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 Regarding Roof Repairs

See video at 23:03

Supervisor Dimond stated that Maine Township has multiple problems with a leaking roof in GA area and also some leaks in the Boardroom through the skylights.

Maintenance Director Samaan stated that he was able to get two quotes from AdvantEdge Roofing & Construction and Euclid Roofing & Siding Inc.

Maintenance Director Samaan stated that his recommendation is to go with AdvantEdge Roofing & Construction. They were very professional, detailed, and willing to sign the addendum requested by the Board. He pointed out that the advantage over the other roofing company is that they have a five-year workmanship warranty.

Clerk Gialamas stated that he recommended AdvantEdge Roofing & Construction to Mr. Samaan. He said that the company did a fantastic job on his house. Also, they did a roofing job for his several clients who were very happy with the service.

Discussion.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve the contract subject to final attorney review.
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.

Maintenance Director Samaan stated that he will contact a roofing consultant to get quotes for inspecting the roof over General Assistance, Assessor, Clerk, and MaineStreamers and he will present it during the next meeting.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Vote of Town Fund & General Assistance Line-Item Transfers

See video at 30:17

Administration Berman stated that Line-Item Transfers for Town Fund and General Assistance were included in the Board packet. She pointed out that these are crucial for financial accountability and allow us to adapt to changing priorities while maintaining accurate financial records.

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board to pass the Resolution 2024-2.

Trustee Horvath Motion to adopt Resolution 2024-2, A Resolution Authorizing a
Line-Item Transfer in The General Town Fund for The Fiscal
Year 2023-24 Annual Budget and Appropriation.

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.

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board to pass the Resolution 2024-3.

Trustee Jones Motion to adopt Resolution 2024-3, A Resolution Authorizing a Line-Item Transfer in The General Assistance Fund for The Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual Budget and Appropriation.

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 Tentative Town Fund/General Assistance 2024-25 Budget

See video at 34:50

Supervisor Dimond stated that the 2024-25 Tentative Budget was presented at this meeting and the final Budget would be scheduled to pass at the February meeting. Supervisor Dimond explained that \$30,000 was added to the Recovery Connection budget due to the appropriation from Senator Laura Murphy had not come through yet.

Administration Berman explained the Budget process and stated that it involves a lot of planning and allocating resources so we can meet each department's needs.

Questions from the Board.

Trustee Jones Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance 2024-1, Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for 2024-2025.

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: New Business, Approval of Resolution 2024-1 Schedule of Regular Board Meetings

See video at 41:48

Supervisor Dimond stated that the December 2024 Board meeting falls on New Year's Eve, December 31st, and she asked the Board members to consider changing the date.

After a short discussion, the Board members agreed to reschedule the Board meeting to Monday, December 30th.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the Resolution 2024-1, Schedule of Regular Board Meetings with an amendment, in December the meeting will be held on Monday, December 30, 2024.

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 Interactive Display Solution Quotes

See video at 44:09

Deputy Administrator Rizzo made a presentation on Interactive Display Solution for the purchase of two whiteboards, one for MaineStreamers use that would be set up in the community room and the second one would stay in the Boardroom. She pointed out that moving the whiteboard downstairs and upstairs causes a lot of problems plus it is being destroyed in the elevator. She did research and quotes from four vendors that were presented to the Board. Ms. Rizzo recommended the Sharp company as the best deal with the price of \$8,000 each.

Supervisor Dimond stated that MaineStreamers will pay for one of them from their own funds, which are not taxpayer's money.

Questions and comments from the Board officials.

Trustee Maher made a comment that during the last meeting, he brought up to the attention of the Board the reconsideration of employees' salaries and hiring. He stated that right now this purchase is unnecessary, and he opposed the purchase.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the purchase of two Sharps, 75-inch, interactive display at the price not to exceed \$8,055.40 per display with the contract being subject to approval by Maine Township's Attorney.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Report and Discussion on Cybersecurity Audit

See video at 58:57

MaineStay Director Lyon gave an update on the Cybersecurity Audit. He reminded the Board that over two years ago we issued an RFP for Cybersecurity Audit and we got a couple of quotes for around \$31,000. The Board decided to put it off due to the State and Local Government Cybersecurity Improvement Act starting in 2022 which would allow Maine Township to apply for the grants.

MaineStay Director Lyon stated that Supervisor Dimond and he met with a representative from the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology and also with the Cyber Security Infrastructure Security Agency under Homeland Security. Mr. Lyon said that essentially the Federal agency can provide us free of cost service that is approximately 80% of what we are looking for in a formal cyber security.

Supervisor Dimond asked Mr. Lyon to talk about any progress in this matter at the next meeting.

Mr. Lyon pointed out that this is a long process to go through and it will take many months.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Migrant Arrivals at Maine Township Office

See video at 1:05:18

Attorney Asprooth stated that there is no clear statutory authority for townships to take any action on busses dropping off migrants addressed by the Sheriff's Office and he hopes that there will be a larger regional response from the State and Federal government on this matter.

Supervisor Dimond stated that we could rent a bus that would take migrants to the train station or straight to Chicago. Supervisor Dimond pointed out that we do not have any resources to assist the migrants except ready-to-eat food from our Food Pantry.

General Assistance Director Sabini stated that in order to receive financial help a client has to be a legal resident for five years or an American citizen.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Revising the Hiring Process for Part-Time and Full-Time Employees/discussion and Possible Vote on Township Policy/Rules Regarding the Hiring and Firing of Township Employees.

See video at 1:08:23

Trustee Maher reminded the Board that prior to December 27, 2021, the Board always had voted on hiring the Maine Township employees. Trustee Maher stated that on that day, during the Board meeting, a resolution giving discretion to the Supervisor to hire employees without any Board approval was passed. He said that it should be reconsidered because it is not working the way he expected and there is no reason why we should hire people instantaneously without a 30-day waiting period.

Supervisor Dimond explained that by the statute the Supervisor has the authority to hire General Assistance employees without consulting the Board, and the Assessor, Clerk, and Highway Commissioner can do that for their departments. She stated that the creation of any new position has to be approved by the Board. Supervisor Dimond said that if the Board wants to take a more active role in hiring that would be okay with her.

Discussion and comments from the Board.

Trustee Jones stated she agrees with Trustee Maher that it is not working out because of too much turnover in employees. She said that the Board should go back to the way it was prior to the change. She suggested that the vacant position could be filled up with a temporary employee from an agency till the Board's vote.

Trustee Maher	Motion to repeal the Maine Township Hiring Discretion Policy approved on December 27, 2021.
Trustee Jones	Second.

More discussion.

Trustee Maher	Motion to vacate the Maine Township Hiring Discretion Policy approved on December 27, 2021.
Trustee Jones	Second

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Krey stated that the 2023 First Installment Tax Bill is released and said that it is always 55% of last year's total taxes. All exemptions and appeals will be reflected in the Second Instalment. She reported that her department finished the 2022 Certificate of Errors. Assessor Krey stated that there are some problems with permits.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais stated that we lost long-time foreman Pete Douvalakis of 27 years to the Highway Department and described him as the type of guy that you were lucky when you met him. Highway Commissioner Beauvais said that Mr. Douvalakis will be sorely missed.

Clerk Gialamas stated that Pete Douvalakis certainly will be sorely missed and added that knowing him all the way since going back to high school he was always just a real standup guy. Clerk Gialamas congratulated Mr. Martin McAlpin on his engagement.

Trustee Jones wished everybody a happy New Year. Trustee Jones reminded everyone to attend the next Neighborhood Watch Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Trustee Horvath invited everybody to the Spring musical at Maine East called "Something Rotten" on February 16th-18th and 23rd-24th.

Trustee Maher stated that he attended a very interesting Neighborhood Watch Meeting and he found out that there are no resources and protocols on how to handle homeless people. He pointed out that even the Sheriff's Officer did not have an answer on how to solve the problem.

Trustee Malik expressed his disappointment with a missing article in the Mainely News regarding his very successful Turkey Giveaway event attended by Senator Laura Murphy and Mayor of Des Plaines Andrew Goczkowski.

Supervisor Dimond announced that on February 13th the North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic Tenant Rights presentation is scheduled regarding housing law. She said that in March we plan an Egg Hunt with kids and Cook County Sheriff's Tail Light Installation. Supervisor Dimond stated that on April 17th TOI Lobby Day is coming up. Supervisor Dimond said that she received an email from Park Ridge regarding the Memorial Day Parade and asked the Board to participate.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Code Enforcement Ghazaleh was able to sell our van at the Wisconsin Surplus online auction for \$7,800.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 1:27:26

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 Horvath 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 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: Return to Open Session – Possible Vote on Building Security Improvements
Possible Vote on OEM Director Position

See the video at 1:39:40

The Board re-convened in an Open Session at 9:54 p.m.

Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board to vote on hiring a new OEM Director.

Trustee Jones Motion to hire Jack Wisniewski as a new OEM Director.
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	Absent

Motion carried.

Supervisor Dimond asked Trustee Horvath to prepare a summary of Staff's survey suggestions "what we can do more for our residents" and she agreed to work on it.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Maher Motion to adjourn.
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 Absent

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk

