

Maine Township Board Meeting February 29, 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](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 Robert Hoban, Dayna Berman, Ruba Al Ayed, Jenny Raffé, Therese Tully, Liz Coy, Kathy Sabbini, Richard Lyon, Mike Samaan, Marty Cook, Nader Ghazaleh, Nick Kanehl, Jack Wisniewski, Robert Flinn, Jessica Guzman, 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 January 30, 2024 Board Meeting

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the January 30, 2024 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 Minutes of January 30, 2024 Road District Budget Hearing

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the January 30, 2024 Road District Budget Hearing.

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 February 2, 2024 and February 16, 2024 and General Assistance checks #55271 through check #55299 in the amount of \$24,402.15.

Trustee Maher 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 February 2, 2024 and February 16, 2024 and Road District checks #23272 through check #23320 in the amount of \$198,546.07.

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 February 2, 2024 and February 16, 2024 and General Town Fund checks #60800 through check #60877 in the amount of \$300,770.18.

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: Public Participation

None.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Report on skylight repair

See video at 5:37

Maintenance Director Samaan gave an update on skylight repair in the Boardroom and the Administrator's office. Mr. Samaan stated that the work was done on February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> and the repair was completed with a 5-year warranty.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Possible Vote on Landscaping Contract

See video at 6:36

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board for permission to move the topic of the Landscaping Contract to discuss and possibly vote on it at this moment.

The Board allowed.

Maintenance Director Samaan presented to the Board three very similar estimates from different landscaping companies. He said that his recommendation is NJ Castilo, Inc. which we have been using for some time already.

No comments or questions from the Board officials.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the contract with NJ Castilo, Inc.  
Landscaping Company.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes



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 stated that the Board packet included the Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen's Award Nomination Form.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Pilot Program Applicable to Specific Employees

See video at 18:43

Supervisor Dimond stated that the work from Home Pilot Program, which applies specifically to the MaineStay Department, is a trial and will allow a limited number of employees to work from home one day per week for a limited period of time. Later the Board officials will evaluate that program in terms of how well it worked for that department and the possibility of extension to other Departments.

Comments from the Board officials.

Trustee Jones	Motion to approve Pilot Program Applicable to 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.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Municode/Civic Plus Hosting of Ordinances

See video at 25:24

Supervisor Dimond stated that Municode/CivicPlus is a central location of Villages and Towns' Ordinances. Supervisor Dimond stated that she feels strongly about CivicPlus hosting Maine Township's Ordinances because they will be more accessible to the public. Supervisor Dimond said that it is a cost of \$550 a year.

Questions and comments.

Trustee Jones	Motion to approve engaging Civic Plus to host Maine Township's Ordinances.
Trustee Horvath	Second.

Trustee Maher asked if the Maine Township residents really would appreciate spending money on helping them find Ordinances.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion & Vote on Creating Educational Scholarship Program for Township Students

See video at 30:20

Supervisor Dimond stated that Trustee Malik asked to add Discussion and Vote on Creating Educational Scholarship Program for Township Students to the agenda.

Supervisor Dimond said that an email from Attorney Asprooth was forwarded to the Board officials with advice that Township's money/public funds cannot be used for a scholarship but we could organize a scholarship program funded by donations.

Trustee Malik suggested that maybe the Scholarship Program for the Township Students could be created within the General Assistance program.

Short discussion.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Board will look at this topic further.

Added Agenda Items: - Salary Survey  
- Accessible Vans

Discussion about salary increase, possible new salaries survey, and the salary survey that was done in 2019 by the prior Board.

Trustee Horvath stated that it is a great idea to do a new salary study to make sure that every employee is being compensated properly.

Trustee Maher stated that the salary study from 2019, ordered by the prior Board clearly showed that 60% of the Maine Township's employees are underpaid.

Trustee Jones explained that even the 2019 Salaries Survey requested by the prior Board proved that Maine Township's employees are underpaid. The Board was adamant and discarded the whole survey.

The Board officials agreed that a new salary survey should be done.

Supervisor Dimond stated that the Board could find the PACE's Municipal Vehicle Program Agreement at their place. She said that the rental of an accessible van will help Maine Townships' seniors and disabled persons be brought to doctor's appointments, grocery stores, etc. Supervisor Dimond invited the Board members to a meeting with a PACE representative on March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Clerk Gialamas stated that Cook County will send an email in March to submit the Statement of Economic Interest with the deadline to file on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Clerk Gialamas reminded everyone about the Annual Town Meeting that is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Gialamas said that Boys Scouts will present the colors and he is in the process of working on getting our Moderator and Parliamentarian. He said that it is a pretty straightforward evening and he is hoping that everybody can attend.

Trustee Jones announced that Trustee Maher will take her place at the next Neighborhood Watch Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Maher congratulated the Maine South High School and the Loyola Academy girls' basketball teams. He said that he attended the sectional Championship game which was the most exciting high school sporting event that he had ever seen.

Supervisor Dimond announced that on March 28<sup>th</sup> the Sheriff's Auto Event is scheduled and on April 17<sup>th</sup> TOI Lobby Day is coming up.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 46:23

Agenda Item: Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1) litigation which is probable or imminent; (2) security procedures, and the 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, (3) discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and (4) Approval & Review of the Closed Session Minutes (ILCS 5-120-2(c)(1))

Trustee Jones Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1) litigation which is probable or imminent; (2) security procedures, and the 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, (3) discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and (4) Approval & Review of the Closed Session Minutes (ILCS 5-120-2(c)(1)).

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: Return to Open Session - Possible Vote on Building Security Improvements  
- Possible Vote on Staff Salaries

See the video at 53:06

The Board re-convened in an Open Session at 10:12 p.m.

Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Supervisor Dimond asked the Board for a motion to table discussion and possible vote regarding the increase of Town Fund/General Assistance Salary Line Items to the Final Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for 2024-25.

Trustee Horvath Motion to table.  
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 for a motion to table discussion and possible vote on the Town Fund/General Assistance 2024-25 Budget.

Trustee Jones Motion to table.  
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.

Supervisor Dimond asked for a motion to approve Continuing Resolution 2024-7 for Town Fund and General Assistance to permit expenditures of funds until the adoption of the final budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 is passed.

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.

Supervisor Dimond asked for a motion to allow the Supervisor to engage Medina Construction to create doors near the front door where the metal gate is now located and secondly to construct walls that will separate the Clerk's office from the area near the bathrooms.

Trustee Jones	Motion to allow.
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.

Supervisor Dimond asked for a motion to approve and release Closed Session minutes from August 22, 2023, September 26, 2023, October 24, 2023, November 28, 2023, December 28, 2023, and January 30, 2024.

Trustee Horvath	Motion to approve and release said Closed Session minutes.
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 for a motion to keep confidential Closed Session minutes from October 22, 2019 #1, May 25, 2021, July 27, 2021, June 27, 2023, and July 25, 2023.

Trustee Malik	Motion to keep confidential said Closed Session minutes.
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.

Supervisor Dimond postponed the voting on the final salary schedule to the next Board meeting on March 26, 2024.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Malik	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 10:20 p.m.

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Maine Township Clerk