

Maine Township Board Meeting December 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, Clerk Gialamas, Assessor Moylan Krey and Highway Commissioner Beauvais.

Others in Attendance: Attorney Kurt Asprooth, Dayna Berman, Vicki Rizzo, Ruba Al Ayed, Jenny Raffe, Marie Dachniwsky, Liz Coy, Kathy Sabbini, Martin McAlpin, Marty Cook, Richard Lyon, Michael Pitzafarro, Linda Santrella 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 26, 2024 Board Meeting

Trustee Jones Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the November 26, 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 Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of November 26, 2024 Special Board Meeting

Trustee Horvath Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the November 26, 2024 Special 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 Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated December 6, 2024 and December 20, 2024 and General Assistance checks #55604 through check #55635 in the amount of \$39,302.71.

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 Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures
Payrolls dated December 6, 2024 and December 20, 2024 and Road District checks #23718 through Check #23764 in the amount of \$133,361.28.

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 Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures
Payrolls dated December 6, 2024 and December 20, 2024 and General Town Fund checks #61517 through Check #61586 in the amount of \$301,454.29.

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 Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

See video at 4:01

Linda Santrella stated that she has been involved with the very successful Niles/Park Ridge CROP Walk for 32 years. Ms. Santrella briefly presented the history of the organization. CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk fundraising events held in cities and towns across the United States, created to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. This year the organization raised more than \$31,000, and 25% of that money was donated to Maine Township's Food Pantry.

The Board Officials thanked Linda Santrella

At 7:09 p.m. Trustee Malik joined the Board meeting.

Agenda Item: Introduction of Food Pantry Director, Michael Pitzferro

See video at 13:05

Supervisor Dimond introduced a new Maine Township employee, Food Pantry Director, Michael Pitzferro.

The Board welcomed the new employee.

Agenda Item: Salary Survey Presentation by Katy Yee/MGT

See video at 13:55

Katy Yee, a MGT Project Manager made a presentation about the Compensation Report for Maine Township. Ms. Yee stated that MGT has compiled the report to provide a quick synopsis regarding the major components, findings, and recommendations of this study. She pointed out that the purpose of the compensation study was to ensure external equity and competitiveness by comparing the compensation of Maine Township employees against market data.

She gave a brief overview of the process which included: job evaluation analysis, market survey, draft and final report preparation, and future administration of the compensation plan.

Questions from the Board Officials were answered by Katy Yee.

The Board thanked Katy Yee for the presentation.

Agenda Item: Old Business
None.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of the Compensation Report
See video at 49:26
Discussion of the Compensation Report was postponed to the next meeting.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Tentative Road & Bridge Budget
See video at 49:56
Highway Commissioner Beauvais asked the Board members if they had questions about the Tentative Road & Bridge Budget.

No questions from the Board.

Chief Deputy Clerk Magnowski stated that the Legal Notice regarding the Budget Hearing for Road District Fund, which is scheduled for January 28, 2025, was already published in the newspaper on December 25, 2024. She said that a copy of the Road District Budget is available for the public at the Clerk's office. Chief Deputy Clerk Magnowski also said that the Legal Notice regarding the Budget Hearing for the Town Fund & General Assistance Budget will be published in the newspaper on January 1, 2025. The Budget Hearing will be on February 25, 2025.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve Tentative Road & Bridge Budget.

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: New Business, Discussion of Tentative Town Fund & General Assistance Draft Budget
See video at 56:33

Administrator Berman discussed the Town Fund & General Assistance Draft Budget. She stated that Supervisor Dimond and she met with Department Heads to review departmental revenue and expenditure line items. Administrator Berman said that the total budget increase for Town Fund & General Assistance is about \$133,000.00 and pointed out that this is a tentative budget.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve Tentative Town Fund & General Assistance Budget.

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, Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding an Appropriate Specific Accounting with Respect to the Township Employees who Personally Attended the TOI Conference on November 11-13 in Springfield, Illinois

See video at 1:02:12

Trustee Maher pointed out that the Maine Township employees, who are encouraged to attend the conferences should not use their personal or vacation days for that purpose because this is part of their job.

Short discussion.

Trustee Malik Motion to credit 8 hours to those employees who traveled on November 11th, Veteran's Day to the TOI conference in Springfield.

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 Board discussed the consistent system of reimbursement calculation for travel expenses.

This matter was postponed to the next meeting.

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

See video at 1:27:39

Supervisor Dimond stated that the 2025-2026 Agency Funding recommendations from the Board members and Staff with the total average were included in the Board packet.

The Board members questioned the calculation method that was used to total the average and MaineStay Director Lyon gave an explanation.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the Agency Funding recommendation which will be determined by taking the overall average listed on the chart and rounding each one of those numbers up to the nearest one hundred, unless it is already at one hundred.

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: Officials' Reports

Assessor Krey discussed the new Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Deferral program which is a tax relief for seniors struggling to pay their property taxes funded by the State. She reported that the 2024 First Installment Tax Bill is released on Treasurer's website and right now can be paid online. The due date is March 4, 2025. Assessor Krey wished a Happy New Year to everybody.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais reminded everybody that the colder weather is coming up and asked people to drive carefully, watch out for the snow plows, and check on the neighbors and seniors. He wished a Happy New Year to everybody.

Clerk Gialamas reported that his office, as usual, is very busy with passports and notaries. Recently we received a lot of FOIA requests pertaining to the Election, Capital Improvement plans, permits and violations as well as purchasing records. He said that it takes a lot of work and time to respond and thanked Chief Deputy Clerk Magnowski, his office, and all the departments involved in this process.

Clerk Gialamas wished a Happy New Year to everybody.

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

Trustee Maher commended MaineStreamers Director Dachniwsky and her Department for all the very interesting events in November. He wished a Great New Year to everyone.

Trustee Horvath stated that she, along with everybody, enjoyed the MaineStreamers Holiday Luncheon. She said that it was so nice to see so many pictures of the Maine Township people in Perspective magazine.

Trustee Jones thanked the Mainstreamers for the beautiful Holiday Luncheon. She wished a healthy, prosperous, and Happy New Year to everyone. Trustee Jones reminded everybody that the Neighborhood Watch is not scheduled in January because it will fall on New Year's Day.

Supervisor Dimond stated that it is not scheduled yet but soon there will be a box where people can deposit burned-out Christmas lights. She announced that she applied for a grant from the Rivers Casino. Supervisor Dimond said that the Board members could find at their places a commendation of our Shuttle Bus Driver Marty Zimmerman and GA Assistant Director Luz Meneses. She also mentioned that she received an appreciation letter for calling Flood Brothers to pick up garbage cans.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 1:38:06

Agenda Item: Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1); 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 (2) discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

Trustee Jones Closed/Executive Session for the purpose of discussing (1); 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 (2) 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 re-convened in an Open Session at 9:22 p.m.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Horvath Motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

