

Maine Township Board Meeting February 24, 2026

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 Jones, Trustees: Horvath, Maher, Malik, Lynch, Clerk Gialamas, Assessor Moylan Krey and Highway Commissioner Beauvais.

Others in Attendance: Attorney Katie Nagy, Vicki Rizzo, Marty McAlphin, Richard Lyon, David Waite and Eva Magnowski.

Supervisor Jones 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 January 27, 2026 Board Meeting

Trustee Maher Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the January 27, 2026 Board Meeting.

Trustee Lynch Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of January 27, 2026 Road District Budget Hearing

Trustee Malik Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the January 27, 2026 Road District Budget Hearing.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 30, 2026 and February 13, 2026, Ach/Wire payments and General Assistance checks #57672 through check #57686 in the amount of \$34,018.12.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 30, 2026 and February 13, 2026, Ach/Wire payments and Road District checks #25713 through check #25761 and authorize the Supervisor to issue Checks in payment of \$245,305.49.

Trustee Horvath Motion to approve.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated January 30, 2026 and February 13, 2026, Ach/Wire Payments and General Town Fund checks #63268 through check #63341 in the amount of \$301,207.00.

Trustee Maher Motion to approve.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

None.

Agenda Item: Introduction of New Employee - David Waite

See video at 3:59

Supervisor Jones introduced David Waite as the new Shuttle Bus Driver and congratulated him on the position.

Agenda Item: Old Business

None.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote to Amend the Hiring Discretion Policy

See video at 4:32

The Board Officials discussed amending the hiring discretion policy to make the process more efficient. Members noted that requiring full board approval for every hire has caused unnecessary delays, particularly for time-sensitive positions. There was general agreement that department heads should be allowed to hire for positions under their supervision without waiting for board approval. The Board would continue to review and approve higher-level positions, such as directors and department heads, likely based on pay grade.

Attorney Nagy advised that no formal vote was needed at this time since a revised policy has not yet been drafted.

There was consensus to move forward with preparing an updated policy for consideration at the March meeting. The current policy will remain in effect until a new one is formally approved.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Town Fund/General Assistance
Continuing Resolution

See video at 12:24

Supervisor Jones read aloud the Town Fund/General Assistance continuing resolution, which authorizes Maine Township to continue operating and paying expenses at the same funding levels as the 2025-2026 budget until the 2026-2027 final budget is formally adopted. The resolution permits expenditures during the first fiscal quarter under a continuing resolution, with spending limited to the prior year's approved appropriations.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve the Town Fund/General Assistance
Continuing Resolution 2026-2.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion on Policy to Expand General Assistance Budget to Include Agency
Funding

See video at 17:09

The Board Officials discussed creating a policy to expand the General Assistance (GA) budget to include agency funding.

Attorney Nagy explained that although the supervisor generally administers GA, state law permits townships to use GA funds for specific services - such as public safety, transportation, health, recreation, libraries, social services for the poor and aged, capital expenditures, and business or tourism development - provided the board adopts a policy identifying the eligible services.

The discussion centered on managing the risk of GA fund overaccumulation and improving financial flexibility. Shifting certain expenses to the GA fund could help draw down reserves and allow more town fund dollars to be used for infrastructure and capital projects. Board members discussed focusing on services that align with the township's mission, particularly social services and transportation. A policy reflecting the board's consensus will be drafted and brought back for formal approval.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Krey reported that Board of Review decisions have been issued. Some property owners received assessment reductions from the Cook County Assessor's Office, while others did not. Any changes will be reflected on the Second Installment Property Tax Bill, typically issued in August. She said that the First Installment Property Bill will be mailed on March 1st and will be due on April 1st.

Assessor Krey stated that Senior Freeze Exemptions forms, are expected in March, and residents who previously applied will receive forms by mail. Residents are encouraged to bring renewal forms to the Assessor's office or call to confirm availability, especially if applying for the first time.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais reported that mild winter weather has allowed staff to begin preparing equipment for the construction season. He noted that several items will be going out for bid in March, including the Greenwood Circle project and a couple of road projects. Additionally, once the state IGA/state easement is signed, it will be bid separately from the other drainage project bids.

Clerk Gialamas wished Chief Deputy Clerk Magnowski a happy birthday and thanked her for her work. He also congratulated Highway Commissioner Beauvais on being recognized as a Community Star by the Park Ridge Chamber and noted the upcoming celebration.

Trustee Lynch encouraged residents to participate in the upcoming primary election on March 17, emphasizing the importance of voting in primary elections as they determine the candidates who will run in later elections. She also noted that some communities, including Niles, will have referendums on the ballot.

Trustee Malik noted that Ramadan began on March 19th. He mentioned attending an Iftar dinner hosted by the Arab American Chamber of Commerce last Sunday and stated that he plans to attend another Iftar dinner at the Office of the Mayor of Chicago. Trustee Malik stated that he will participate in the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce event honoring Highway Commissioner Beauvais with the Community Stars Award.

Trustee Horvath shared that Maine East High School is presenting the musical Anything Goes by Cole Porter, with performances continuing Friday and Saturday, February 27th - 28th, also at 7:00 p.m. She praised the opening night and commended the students for their hard work.

Supervisor Jones reported that she attended the Valentine's Day senior luncheon organized by MaineStreamers and a Neighborhood Watch meeting, noting improved attendance. She plans to attend the award dinner recognizing Highway Commissioner Beauvais with the Community Star Award.

Supervisor Jones listed the following upcoming events:

- Neighborhood Watch on Wednesday, March 4th, at 7:00 p.m., offering residents a chance to meet local officials and discuss community issues;
- Annual Town Meeting on April 14;
- Tenant Rights presentation by the North Shore Legal Aid Foundation on April 7th;
- E-Waste Recycling event on April 18th in partnership with Senator Laura Murphy;
- Shredding event on May 16.

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

Agenda Item: Closed/Executive Session – pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act; discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; and pursuant to Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; and pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act litigation which is probable or imminent; review and approval of closed session minutes (ILCS 5/120/2.06).

Trustee Lynch Motion to go into Closed Session.
Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

The Board re-convened in an Open Session at 8:23 p.m.

Trustee Lynch Motion to return in open session.
Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes
Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Horvath	Motion to adjourn.
Trustee Maher	Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones	Yes
Trustee Horvath	Yes
Trustee Maher	Yes
Trustee Malik	Yes
Trustee Lynch	Yes

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk Peter Gialamas