

Maine Township Board Meeting April 28, 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, Malik, Lynch, Clerk Gialamas, Assessor Moylan Krey and Highway Commissioner Beauvais.

Others in Attendance: Attorney Katie Nagy, Vicki Rizzo, Robert Flinn, Richard Lyon, Michael Pitzafarro, Rene Mandin, Catherine Sbarra, Bhavesh Shah, Cook County Sheriff Bonnie Busching 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 March 24, 2026 Board Meeting

Trustee Lynch Motion to waive the reading and approve minutes of the March 24, 2026 Board Meeting.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Abstain

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated March 27, 2026, April 10, 2026 and April 24, 2026, Ach/Wire payments and General Assistance checks #57705 through check #57720 in the amount of \$48,698.79.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated March 27, 2026, April 10, 2026 and April 24, 2026, Ach/Wire payments and Road District checks #25796 through check #25843 and authorize the Supervisor to issue Checks in payment of \$152,108.35.

Trustee Malik Motion to approve.

Trustee Lynch Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated March 27, 2026, April 10, 2026 and April 24, 2026, Ach/Wire Payments and General Town Fund checks #63424 through check #63491 in the amount of \$360,166.06.

Trustee Horvath Motion to approve.
Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

See video at 3:30

Maine Township resident Mr. Shah approached the township seeking assistance with ongoing sewer backups and flooding that has been affecting more than 10 homes. Mr. Shah alleged that Aqua Illinois failed to properly maintain the sewer system or respond to residents' concerns. He also stated that a restoration company damaged his basement during cleanup and later stopped communicating.

Board Officials said they would look into the issue.

Agenda Item: Anniversary Milestones – Richard Lyon, 20 Years of Service

See video at 10:05

Supervisor Jones gave a special recognition and congratulations to MaineStay Director Richard Lyon for his 20 years of service. She presented a 20-year pin and certificate to Mr. Lyon.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Clinical Observation and Recording System Improvements

See video at 11:48

This Agenda item was tabled at the last Board meeting until the entire Board is present.

MaineStay Director Lyon briefly presented a proposal from Intelligent Video Solutions to replace the department's 14-year-old counseling session recording system due to poor quality and security concerns. He explained that recorded sessions, used with client consent, support therapist training, supervision, and certifications such as Play Therapy and EMDR. Lyon recommended IVS for its stronger security, flexibility and support. The upgrade would cost about \$26,900 plus \$1,350 annually and may qualify for grants, while improving training, data security, and service quality.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve clinical observation and recording system improvements - the contract with IVS, subject to approval by the attorney.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Discussion of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Services

See video at 19:23

Maine Township is accepting proposals for residential solid waste collection, recycling services, landscape waste collection and disposal, and resident billing services for residents living in the unincorporated areas of the Township. Sealed proposals must be submitted no later than May 15, 2026,

and will be reviewed at the Board meeting on May 26, 2026. Residents are encouraged to attend the May Board meeting and provide input during the public participation portion for the Board's consideration.

Agenda Item: New Business, Presentation by Catherine Sbarra from Webb Insurance Group

See video at 21:09

Catherine Sbarra, VP Executive Benefits Advisor from Webb Insurance Group LLC, presented the Maine Township and Highway Department employee benefits for the 7/1/26 - 6/30/27 medical, dental, life, and vision insurance plans. The current insurer, Blue Cross, initially proposed a 13.2% increase, but after negotiations and comparison quotes from UnitedHealthcare (UHC), the increase was reduced to 9.9%. UHC's proposal was slightly cheaper overall, with only a 3.49% increase, but came with higher deductibles, increased emergency room and urgent care costs, and eligibility issues for employees working under 30 hours per week, including board members. Ms. Sbarra emphasized that Blue Cross has provided reliable service and manageable renewals over many years, even during difficult times, while UHC's low rates may only be temporary "new business" pricing that could rise sharply later. Dental coverage through Principal was also renegotiated, reducing the proposed increase from 6.8% to 4%, while vision coverage will stay the same. Alternative providers, including MetLife, were used previously, but were not well received. The recommendation was to stay with Blue Cross for health insurance and Principal for dental and vision coverage. If approved, Ms. Sbarra would proceed with scheduling employee open enrollment.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote on Insurance Renewal

See video at 31:02

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve the continuance of insurance.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and vote on an Ordinance Approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Purchase of the Property Located at 9850 Milwaukee Avenue from Chicago Title and Land Trust Company

See video at 32:07

No discussion.

Trustee Horvath Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-2, approving a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of certain property located at 9850 Milwaukee Avenue from Chicago Title and Land Trust Company.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion of Town Fund/General Assistance Tentative Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for 2026-27

See video at 33:47

The Board approved the tentative budget and appropriations ordinance for public inspection and filing with the Township Clerk.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Amendments to Public Relations Marketing Agreement

See video at 36:07

Robert Flinn from M3 Marketing, LLC, asked the Board officials to consider two amendments to the existing Public Relations and Marketing Agreement with M3 Marketing, LLC.

The first amendment adds a new section giving M3 Marketing additional social media, blogging, and PR services for the Maine Township Road District, keeping the original agreement unchanged. The second amendment increases M3's monthly payment to \$3,950 starting May 1, 2026, clarifies reimbursement rules for expenses, and adds a requirement for M3 to create a quarterly printed newsletter ("Mainly News"), while the Township handles printing and mailing costs.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve the first and second amendments to the Public Relations Marketing agreement.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Vote on Resolution 2026-7, a Resolution Approving and Making a Determination on Executive Session Meeting Minutes

See video at 41:24

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve Resolution 2026-7, a resolution approving and making a determination on executive session meeting minutes.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Abstain

Trustee Lynch Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: New Business, Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Engagement Letter with Evans Marshall and Pease

See video at 42:15

Supervisor Jones stated that this agenda item authorizes the Township to enter into an engagement letter with an accounting firm to provide professional financial services. The engagement letter outlines the scope of services, responsibilities of both parties, and rates. These services include monthly and annual services and audit support. Approval ensures the Township maintains compliance with financial reporting requirements and continues to receive expert guidance on fiscal matters.

Trustee Lynch Motion to approve the engagement letter with Evans Marshall and Pease.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Absent

Trustee Malik Yes
Trustee Lynch Yes
Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Krey reported that her office is still accepting Senior Freeze exemption applications due to an extended deadline. She mentioned participating in a Zoom meeting today with TOI regarding disability compliance requirements, which have been postponed for another year. She emphasized that the township needs to start taking action now, as there is a lot of work involved in implementing these requirements. Additionally, Assessor Krey noted that she will be attending a meeting this Friday with the Cook County Township Assessor's Association and Cook County Treasurer.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais reported that the Greenwood Circle drainage project is underway and invited Board members to stop by and see the progress. He also wished Food Pantry Director Michael Pitzafarro good luck at the Niles Chamber award ceremony on Friday night, and said that he deserves the recognition.

Clerk Gialamas stated that in addition to his written report, notices have been sent out for the first organizational meeting of National Night Out, scheduled for May 11th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Feldman Center. Everyone is welcome, and pizza and refreshments will be provided.

Trustee Horvath expressed her gratitude to everyone who attended the Annual Town Meeting and supported the Food Pantry, highlighting the strong turnout and the ongoing growth of the pantry.

Trustee Malik thanked MaineStay Director Richard Lyon for 20 years of service to Maine Township, and appreciated the birthday cards he received. Trustee Malik also reported attending Pakistani Revolution Day in Springfield with Senator Laura Murphy. He extended his thanks to Senator Laura Murphy, Senator Laura Fine, Senator Laura Ellman, Illinois Senate President Dan Harmon, and Pakistan's Consul General Muhammad Zaman Mehndi, for their participation and support. Moreover, Trustee Malik announced that India Culture Day will take place on August 15th, followed by Pakistani Culture Day on August 16th, at Dee Park.

Trustee Lynch shared how meaningful it was to attend the Annual Town Meeting and see so many engaged, supportive community members. She expressed her appreciation for living in such a caring community and noted that the event was emotional and moving for many in attendance.

Supervisor Jones reflected on a busy and positive month, beginning with the Annual Town Meeting, which was well attended and received strong media coverage. She expressed excitement about continuing to grow the Food Pantry and serve constituents as directed by recent votes. Supervisor Jones also highlighted her participation in several community events, including an Empowering Women event attended alongside Trustee Malik and Senator Murphy, noting the impact of organizations that support women affected by domestic violence and promote broader empowerment efforts. Another highlight was the electronics recycling drive, during which many employees volunteered their time on a Saturday. Supervisor Jones expressed appreciation for their dedication. Supervisor Jones mentioned several upcoming events, including Agency Day with MaineStay Director Richard Lyon later in the week and the next Neighborhood Watch meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, May 6th, at 7 p.m., featuring updates from the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, and Code Enforcement. She also announced a shredding event on May 16th, with a limit of three grocery bags per household, as well as a joint event on June 6th with Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Eira Sepulveda. Overall, Supervisor Jones emphasized strong community engagement, thanked staff and volunteers, and highlighted a busy schedule of upcoming events aimed at keeping residents informed and involved.

For more detailed Officials' Reports see the video at 43:56

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.

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

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

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

Motion carried.

The Board re-convened in an Open Session at 8:56 p.m.

Clerk Gialamas called the roll.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Horvath	Motion to Adjourn.
Trustee Malik	Second.

All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk Peter Gialamas