

Maine Township Board Meeting October 27, 2015

Board Members Present: Trustees Kazmierczak, Morask, Gialamas and Jones

Other Elected Officials Present: Supervisor Teschky, Clerk Warner, Highway Commissioner Provenzano and Assessor Moylan Krey

Other in attendance: Dayna Berman, Dan Dowd, Doriene Prorak, Denise Jajko, Michael Samaan, Elizabeth Coy, Mary Swanson, Dick Barton, Dagmar Rutzen, Richard Lyon, Patrick Wren (Aqua), Marsha Warnick, Marty Cook, John Teschky, Park Ridge Police, Officer Robert and Wiesia Tytko

Supervisor Teschky called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., Clerk Warner led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2015 Board Meeting

Trustee Kazmierczak Motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the September 29, 2015 Board Meeting as distributed to the Board.

Trustee Gialamas Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Abstain

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

None.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Assistance Expenditures

Payrolls dated September 25, 2015 and October 9, 2015 and General Assistance checks #49209 through check #49269 in the amount of \$56,626.53.

Trustee Kazmierczak Motion to approve.

Trustee Jones Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Yes

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Supervisor Teschky stated that Trustees met at 6:30 p.m. prior to the meeting to review the bills.

Agenda Item: Approval of Road District Expenditures

Payrolls dated October 9, 2015 and October 23, 2015 and Road District checks #18926 through check #18967 in the amount of \$75,373.51.

Trustee Gialamas Motion to approve.

Trustee Kazmierczak Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Yes

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Approval of General Town Fund Expenditures

Payrolls dated October 9, 2015 and October 23, 2015 and General Town Fund checks #53114 through check #53186 in the amount of \$272,561.09.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve.

Trustee Kazmierczak Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Yes

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Marty Cook/Recovery Connection

Marty Cook thanked Board members for supporting the Recovery Connection program in Maine Township. He stated that the number of drug overdose deaths in Illinois has been rapidly and consistently increasing, while the age of those dying is consistently decreasing. They learned that the typical heroin user of today is 27 years old, white and from middle class suburbia. They also learned that early in recovery, they needed to be connected to community resources, and most importantly they needed to be connected to each other.

Mr. Cook stated that their Friday night dinner meetings have proven to be popular. They average between 25 and 30 participants every week and have amassed a phone and email list of 76 participants who come to meetings at Niles Water Park. At least 20 of the 76 are from local treatment centers.

Mr. Cook noted that the Recovery Connection participants are giving back to the community which helps others but also those who volunteer their time. The Recovery Connection program partners with Holy Family Medical Center, Lutheran General Medical Center and Alexian Brothers, Rosencrance. He added that Recovery Connection members are participating in many events and outings and on November 15th there will be stair climbing event in Evanston as a fund raiser.

Mr. Cook stated that we took a leadership role in our community and suggested to do some presentations in the Maine Township Town Hall regarding this issue.

Mr. Cook informed the Board that Jeremy Annastian, our Peer Advocate, recently resigned to focus on his education. He added that the positive start of the Recovery Connection would not have been possible without his efforts. Mr. Annastian said that he wants to continue to volunteer in our community.

Trustee Jones received a phone call from a mother of a 16 year old who has an addiction problem. This mother was very thankful for having the Recovery Connection program in Maine Township and for the Friday night meetings which this young adult attends. Trustee Jones said that it is a wonderful program helping many on the road to recovery.

Trustee Kazmierczak agreed with Mr. Cook regarding seminars and workshops to be offered by Maine Township. He stated that experts who can help can be invited to these seminars like in Trustee Morask's Gang Awareness Seminars, which are very popular and helpful in our community.

Trustee Morask commented that it is a great idea and suggested that police, peer services and representatives in the drug field will be very helpful.

Trustee Morask questioned Mr. Cook what is the percentage of patients continuing in the Maine Township Recovery Connection program.

Mr. Cook answered that it is not 100% but this program offers a bridge for many patients leaving treatments. He added that majority of Recovery Connection participants come from Holy Family Medical Center and Advocates program. He commented that he is happy to see that these participants are able to continue working and benefit from this program.

Agenda Item: Officials' Reports

Assessor Moylan Krey stated that the Disabled Veteran's Exemptions for 2015 are: 0%-27% service connected disability – no exemptions, 30%-49% will receive \$2,500 in EAV, 50%-69% will receive \$5,000 in EAV

and 70% or more are completely exempt from property taxation. The property over \$250,000 in EAV will not receive any exemptions. She also added that the surviving spouse of the disabled veteran will be able to continue their exemptions, even if they move to a new home. The surviving spouse may not remarry. The US Department of Veterans Affairs determines whether a veteran has a service connected disability.

Highway Commissioner Provenzano reported that the 2015 Highway Department tree trimming project in unincorporated Maine Township was successfully completed. He received the salt contracts and they are verified for 2015-16 winter maintenance of roads in unincorporated areas. He added that the highway department truck maintenance is ongoing to prepare for snow plowing.

Highway Commissioner Provenzano stated that on Saturday, October 10th, his department participated as one of the sponsors of the Park Ridge Electronics and Textiles Recycling event. He added that this month the highway department staff will be assisting the General Assistance Department in transporting food donations from local grocery stores.

Clerk Warner stated that he attended the "Lights On After School" annual event, which is sponsored by the Village of Niles Teen Center and TLC.

Trustee Jones reported that she attended all three Agency Funding Hearings. She pointed out the importance of Township's funding very well deserved agencies, especially with this year's challenging Illinois State budget.

Trustee Gialamas stated that all three Agency Funding Hearings are completed and he is ready to turn in his recommendations. He is also looking forward going to the Township Officials of Illinois Conference in Springfield.

Trustee Morask apologized for missing some of the Agency Funding Hearings but she pointed out that it is incredibly important that we allocate funds for these agencies. She added that she had a very interesting conversation with one of the State Senators regarding the State of Illinois Budget.

Trustee Morask stated that she is impressed with the Recovery Connection program and is happy that Maine Township can be involved and supportive.

Supervisor Teschky reported that on Friday, October 2nd, she participated in the Toys for Tots Dinner at Manzo's along with Clerk Warner and Trustee Gialamas. She added that the box for toys donations will be displayed in our Town Hall. On Saturday, October 10th, Maine Township cosponsored the Park Ridge Electronics Recycling Event at the Park Ridge Public Works Building. She added that 367 cars came through and some of them were from Chicago or different suburbs. On Wednesday, October 14th, the 3rd and final Agency Funding Hearing took place and now the funding has to be allocated for deserving agencies. On Sunday, October 18th, Supervisor Teschky and Carol Langan represented our Township in the Niles/Park Ridge Annual Crop Walk. On Thursday, October 22nd, Supervisor Teschky and Clerk Warner participated in the "Lights On After School" at Golf Mill Shopping Center. This annual event is sponsored by the Village of Niles Teen Center and TLC. This year Maine Township MaineStay department manned an informational table at this event.

Supervisor Teschky stated that this year TOI Conference in Springfield will be held from Sunday, November 8th to Wednesday, November 11th. On Wednesday, November 11th the Maine Township Town Hall will be closed in observance of Veterans' Day.

Supervisor Teschky informed the Board that on Saturday, November 14th, our Township will be hosting the Maine Township Coat Drive, which is sponsored by the Park Ridge, Des Plaines and Niles Police Departments. The TOCC Fall Conference will be held on Wednesday, November 18th at William Tell Restaurant in Countryside. The keynote speaker will be Keri Lynn Krafthefer, Equity Partner at Ancel, Gling, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni and Krafthefer P.C. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 24th and the offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Agenda Item: Attorney's Report

Trustee Kazmierczak inquired about the Attorney General's Response to our recent issue.

Attorney Dowd stated that he spoke with and wrote a response to the Attorney General inquiries. He also spoke with an Assistant Attorney General and talked about a few things that could remedy what is being viewed as sort of a technical violation of the Open Meetings act. The Assistant Attorney General would like us to ratify at the November meeting the action that took place at the September meeting and therefore will satisfy the technical violation.

Agenda Item: Administrator Report

Administrator Berman had nothing to add to her written report.

Agenda Item: Personnel, Building Monitor Positions

Supervisor Teschky stated that we are in need of two building monitors. She added that in the Board distribution were copies of two resumes of individuals who are applying for the building monitor position. She stated that the first one is Dhrushal Gada a Maine East High School senior and the second one is Sophia Nyanue who would like to add some extra hours to her income.

Trustee Morask Motion to hire Dhrushal Gada for the part time building monitor position with \$10 per hour starting immediately with no benefits.

Trustee Kazmierczak Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Yes

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Trustee Morask Motion to hire Sophia R. Nyanue for the part time building monitor position with \$10 per hour starting immediately with no benefits.

Trustee Kazmierczak Second.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky Yes

Trustee Morask Yes

Trustee Kazmierczak Yes

Trustee Gialamas Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Old Business, Authorization for audiotape destruction from April 22, 2014 Closed Session Mtg.

Clerk Warner asked for approval to destroy the tape from the April 22, 2014 Closed Session meeting. He stated that the minutes of said meeting were approved and taken out from Closed Session on October 28, 2014.

Trustee Morask Motion to authorize for audiotape destruction of the April 22, 2014 Closed Session meeting.

Trustee Gialamas Second.

All in favor.

Motion carried on a voice vote.

Agenda Item: New Business

None.

Agenda Item: Closed Session

None.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Gialamas Motion to adjourn.

Trustee Jones Second.

All in favor.

Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk