

Maine Township Special Board Meeting August 1, 2016

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

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

Other in attendance: Doriene Prorak, Robert Brzezinski, John Teschky, Joan Sandrik, Alex Hernandez/Chicago Tribune's Pioneer Press and Wiesia Tytko

Supervisor Teschky called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., Clerk Warner led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

Agenda Item: Statement of Highway Commissioner official resignation

Supervisor Teschky read out loud the Statement of Resignation from Highway Commissioner Provenzano from the position of Maine Township Highway Commissioner, effective July 31, 2016. It stated that his last working day at the Highway Department was Friday, July 29, 2016.

Agenda Item: Supervisor declares a vacancy in the office of Highway Commissioner

Supervisor Teschky declared a vacancy in the office of Highway Commissioner.

Trustee Morask Motion to accept an official resignation from Robert Provenzano as Highway Commissioner.

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 there is a vacancy in the office of Highway Commissioner.

Ms. Joan Sandrik introduced herself stating that she is a Maine Township resident and would like to raise her concern regarding the filling of the position for Highway Commissioner by one of the Maine Township Trustees. She was curious to know why there wouldn't be a search for somebody who has public works experience, be a Maine Township resident and be affiliated with the Republican Party like Highway Commissioner Provenzano. She knows that there are no other requirements with the statute but the position has to be filled in 60 days. She wondered why there is such a rush to fill this position and in her opinion the Highway Department staff can handle this job in the interim.

Supervisor Teschky pointed out that Ms. Sandrik by attending only two meetings is not aware that when Assessor Moylan Krey was appointed she was also a Trustee. The feeling of this Board is that it needs to be someone who is familiar with township's operations. In the audience is Highway Department Superintendent, Bob Brzezinski who is without a boss with six other employees. This is one of the reasons that the vacancy has to be filled as soon as possible.

Trustee Morask said that at the last Board meeting, Ms. Sandrik mentioned that it is important to quickly fill an interim position. She pointed out that disasters happen all the time and it is important to have Highway Commissioner. Also, Trustee Morask stated that she is disturbed by the discourse that has been in newspaper articles that there is a preconceived notion and end result regarding the Highway Commissioner's position. She added that it is not true and no one can speak for her or other Trustees who to appoint or how to vote.

Trustee Morask stated that there is a lot of blogging and posting and a lot of it highly inaccurate. She added that Ms. Sandrik posted she was informed by the Maine Township Board that one of the

Trustees have to be appointed for Highway Commissioner's position. Trustee Morask pointed out that she never said it when she very accurately explained the regulations regarding vacant township positions.

Ms. Sandrik apologized to Trustee Morask if she misquoted her statement.

Trustee Morask appreciated Ms. Sandrik's apology and added that there is no Maine Township way, there are statutes and laws that must be followed.

Trustee Morask pointed out that the Maine Township Board appreciates Ms. Sandrik's comments regarding the public participation form but she added that it is very inappropriate that anyone ever should assume that the vote is already decided.

Trustee Gialamas voiced his opinion saying that it is ridiculous what is put in the newspapers and explained that a few people were asking him if he will take this position. He explained to them that nothing is discussed or set and that this issue will be discussed in the closed session.

Supervisor Teschky stated that we are taking under consideration Ms. Sandrik comments regarding public participation items that were mentioned at the July Board meeting. They will be revised and the Board appreciates her comments but her other comments about filling vacancies seems to have a political angle.

Clerk Warner noted that if any Elected Official gives an interest in a vacant position, their offer is taken under consideration very seriously because of their township government knowledge.

Assessor Moylan Krey added that being Trustee in the past she had knowledge of the Assessor's office. She added that our Trustees have a lot of understanding of the bills, funds and township issues. They are more than qualified for any position.

Supervisor Teschky as well was Trustee for 18.5 years and when her predecessor resigned she let the Board know that she would be interested in this position. It is very important to have some knowledge of township government.

Trustee Kazmierczak commented that social media reflects biased and prejudicial opinions and not always can be accepted as truth.

Supervisor Teschky asked Board Members to go into Closed Session to discuss vacancy on the Board.

Trustee Gialamas Motion to go to the Closed Session.

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.

Agenda Item: Closed Session

The Board re-convened in Open Session at 8:40 p.m.

Trustee Jones Motion to re-convene in Open Session.

Trustee Morask 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: Nomination and vote to fill the office of Highway Commissioner

Trustee Kazmierczak stated that as of August 1, 2016 he is resigning as Maine Township Trustee.

Supervisor Teschky Motion to accept an official resignation from Trustee Walter Kazmierczak as Trustee.

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.

Clerk Warner thanked Trustee Kazmierczak for all the good service he had done as a Maine Township Trustee and for bringing every year all the news and information from Springfield TOI and TOCC.

Supervisor Teschky stated that we need a nomination to fill the office of Highway Commissioner.

Trustee Jones Motion to nominate Walter Kazmierczak as acting Maine Township Highway Commissioner.

Trustee Gialamas Second.

Trustee Morask stated that in the closed session three of Elected Officials expressed interest in the Highway Commissioner's position but for various reasons two of them would have some conflicts. They discussed that the notice published for this position attracted no interested political parties or individuals.

Trustee Morask commented that this will be a smooth transition and more importantly Walter Kazmierczak can implement some cost saving measures. She pointed out that this is really an administrative managerial position and requires being on call 24/7. Trustee Morask noted that Walter Kazmierczak during the incredible flood in 2008 went through the flooded parking lot to get the papers signed so Maine Township could declare a state of emergency to receive federal funds to assist the residents. She stated that he will be a great Highway Commissioner.

Ms. Sandrik asked for clarification from the previous motion regarding acting or appointed Highway Commissioner.

Trustee Jones Motion to appoint Walter Kazmierczak as Maine Township Highway Commissioner.

Trustee Gialamas Second.

Trustee Gialamas stated that in his 7½ years being Trustee, Walter Kazmierczak taught him a lot about budgets, how to review the bills and finances and anything else regarding being a township Trustee. He expressed his appreciation for Walter Kazmierczak's advice and guidance. He added that he doesn't have a doubt in his mind that he will make a very good Highway Commissioner and wished him the best.

Trustee Jones stated that Walter Kazmierczak is the budget guy. She never met anybody more fiscally conservative and responsible than Walter Kazmierczak.

Trustee Jones noted that she was chairman of the public works department and the alderman of Park Ridge and she compares this position of Highway Commissioner to hers. Basically it is administrative. She added that she always was on the snow storm scenes helping and delegating but didn't ride the plow truck. She added that you don't have to be an engineer to do this job or you don't have to have CDL, it is mainly keeping things running smoothly and administrative. She stated that she has complete confidence that Walter Kazmierczak will be great Highway Commissioner.

Supervisor Teschky stated that she had been with Walter Kazmierczak year in and year out down in Springfield at the Township Officials of Illinois educational conferences. He has attended numerous workshops plus he is always down there for the Township Officials of Illinois Topics Day. He knows townships inside and out. That's the kind of person we want running the Highway Department.

Supervisor Teschky pointed out that she feels very confident with being able to work with Walter Kazmierczak as she did with Robert Provenzano. She is glad that Walter Kazmierczak is taking this position and she thinks he will serve the residents of Maine Township very well.

Assessor Moylan Krey stated that she is glad with the Boards decision on appointing Walter Kazmierczak for the Highway Commissioner. She is sure that Walter Kazmierczak will be the 24/7 commissioner and she feels confident that he will do a great job.

Motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Teschky	Yes
Trustee Morask	Yes
Trustee Gialamas	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes

Motion carried.

Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak expressed his appreciation for every kind comment and vote from the Maine Township Board. He stated that the service at the Highway Department is great. He will be looking into the administrative costs. He added that Robert Provenzano did a great job and the office was run very well and the proof is in the satisfied residents of unincorporated Maine Township.

Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak stated that he is not planning to make big changes but he will be presenting his ideas for Board approval. He will be presenting progress reports along with discussion about Highway Department services. He added that he will be attending the Neighborhood Watch meetings and hopes to have a Chair there along with the Fire Department, Enforcement Officer, Sheriff's Department and Police.

Agenda Item: Oath administration for the office of Highway Commissioner

Supervisor Teschky read out loud the Warrant of Appointment for Walter Kazmierczak as a newly appointed Maine Township Highway Commissioner effective August 1, 2016, signed by Supervisor Teschky, Trustees Morask, Gialamas and Jones and attested by Clerk Warner.

Clerk Warner administered the Official Oath of Office to Highway Commissioner Kazmierczak.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Supervisor Teschky	Motion to adjourn.
Trustee Morask	Second.

All in favor.
Motion carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk