

**MORaine TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**November 12, 2020, 7:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. remotely via Zoom teleconference, and upon roll call the following members were present: Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi, Trustees Pablo Alvarez, Cindy Wolfson and Amy Zisook.

Also present: Clerk Gail Feiger Brown (present at the Moraine Township office), Mark Haggarty (appointed to fill Moraine Township Trustee vacancy but not yet sworn in), Amy Kaufman (Community Partners for Affordable Housing), Lisa Adelmund (Highland Park Community Nursery School and Day Care Center), Robbie Boudreau (Southeast Lake County Faith in Action), and Moraine Township residents Janet Freed, Bill Laegeler and Ginny Schulte.

**Public Comment**

There was no comment.

**Agency Presentations**

- **Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)** Amy Kaufman  
The Township was thanked for its grant for to support the community land trust program in Moraine Township, and Supervisor Bassi for serving on the CPAH Advisory Board. CPAH has been assisting residents with COVID relief such as rental assistance. CPAH will be working with the City of Highland Park to lease 17 inclusionary rental units in the Albion Jacobs building. CPAH also provided residents with mortgage forbearance counseling and other housing services.
- **Highland Park Community Nursery School and Day Care Center (Community)** Lisa Adelmund  
The Township was thanked for its grant which helps provide scholarships for families that don't qualify for State of Illinois assistance, but still can't afford the tuition for nursery school and day care. Community has been open during the pandemic, but has faced increased sanitization costs and reduced capacity as mandated. Community moved to its new location a year ago; the new location has great outdoor space that is even more essential now.
- **Southeast Lake County Faith in Action (Faith in Action)** Robbie Boudreau  
The Township was thanked for its grant which supports older and disabled adults with transportation and social support. The pandemic has caused Faith in Action to shift how they manage their transportation program. Faith In Action is working with GoGo Grandparent, a program affiliated with Uber and Lyft, to provide unescorted transportation for chemotherapy and radiation. Volunteer drivers provide transportation for clients who want or need to be escorted by a caregiver. Volunteers are also shopping for clients and leaving items at their front doors, rather than running errands with them. Bookmobiles have been set up in volunteers' car trunks to deliver books to homebound clients.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Zisook moved, seconded by Trustee Wolfson, to approve the October 22, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

### **Approval of Bills**

Trustee Zisook moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez, Approval of the bills for the period November 6-10, 2020 in the following amounts: \$5,299.00 General Assistance Fund, \$34,965.89 Town Fund. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

### **Action Items**

#### **Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes**

Trustee Wolfson moved, seconded by Trustee Zisook moved, Approval of the Resolution of Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

#### **Approval of 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule**

Trustee Zisook moved, seconded by Trustee Wolfson, to table the vote on the 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule to a future Regular Board Meeting. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson, and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

#### **An ordinance levying taxes for all town purposes for Moraine Township, Lake County, Illinois, for the tax year 2020, collectible in 2021, in the amount of \$1,315,000.00**

Trustee Wolfson moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez, to adopt an ordinance levying taxes for all town purposes for Moraine Township, Lake County, Illinois for the tax year 2020, collectible in 2021, in the amount of \$1,315,000.00. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

### **Reports**

#### **Assessor's Report** Anne Flanigan Bassi

No report

#### **Supervisor's Report** Anne Flanigan Bassi

- Trustees were given reports for Township services for August, 2019 through October, 2020.
- Trustees were given a report on emergency assistance applications.
- Trustees were given a report on wellness calls made by Township Staff.
- Supervisor Bassi and Trustees discussed emergency assistance guidelines for Community Chest emergency assistance in light of another round of job loss for restaurant workers during the winter months. Case Worker Lupe Somerville recommended that residents we helped in the spring who experience job loss and are income qualified be eligible for another round of assistance during the winter.
- Trustees were given the Township bank balances as of October 31, 2020.
- Supervisor Bassi and Trustee Wolfson are working on the annual Sunset Foods Fundraiser and necessary modifications due to the pandemic.

- Highland Park Jewel-Osco is holding a fundraiser for the Food Pantry in which customers make donations at the register at check-out, and in turn, the store will provide 75 pre-cooked Thanksgiving family meals to Pantry clients.
- Staff Lupe Somerville and Township Van Drivers are providing services to a homeless man who frequents downtown Highland Park.
- Home Instead will not be providing holiday gift bags to Township seniors this year. The Township will provide grocery gift cards and small gifts to all seniors.
- The HVAC retrofits are complete. A test and balance report will be given in December.
- Videographer Andrew Henderson is graduating from high school in May, 2021. A replacement videographer is needed.
- Outside Accountant Apolonio Arenas met this week with Township Administrator Sanela Abazovic to review the books for the Township.
- Supervisor Bassi read aloud a thank-you note from a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) client.
- Volunteer Coordinator Carol Pomerantz has resigned as volunteer coordinator. She will continue to answer phones remotely and do reports. In the interim until a replacement is found, Supervisor Bassi will act as volunteer coordinator.

**Latino Advisory Committee Report** Pablo Alvarez

The committee met on November 12. Committee members are populating a Google doc with local social service resources.

**Food Insecurity Issues Report** Amy Zisook

Congregation Makom Solel Lakeside has joined the group that is supporting the Oak Terrace monthly grocery gift card program, coordinated by Trustee Zisook.

**Food Pantry Report** Anne Flanigan Bassi

- Trustees were given a Food Pantry usage report through November 10. Due to increased usage, traffic concerns and long waits, the system for food pick-up is being revamped. Clients will remain in their cars at the drive-through; runners will deliver their food to them.
- In December, all registered Food Pantry clients will receive grocery gift cards, either through the holiday programs or by mail, or during Pantry visits if they are not in another Township program distributing grocery gift cards.
- Supervisor Bassi offered condolences to the family of Food Pantry volunteer Nick Messe, who died unexpectedly at age 55. Nick was instrumental assisting Supervisor Bassi at the office at the beginning of the pandemic. His family designated the Food Pantry for donations. To date we have received over \$3,500.00.
- Thanks to Melissa Kerpel and her Zumba class, who will be holding a virtual food drive fundraiser for the Food Pantry on November 22.
- The Food Pantry purchased turkeys for clients this year from Schaul Signature Gourmet Foods. In prior years they were donated by Highland Park Ford Mercury. The turkeys will be delivered the morning of November 19, the day they will be distributed to clients.

- North Suburban Synagogue Beth El is collecting donations for the Food Pantry from their Thanksgiving Mitzvah project to be held on November 22.

**Human Relations Advisory Group Report (HRAG)** Gail Feiger Brown

The HRAG, City of Highland Park, and Park District of Highland Park are co-hosting the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service event virtually on January 18, 2021. A discussion was held about a food drive for the Food Pantry. Trustees concurred with Supervisor Bassi that food collection and sorting would be too difficult during the pandemic, and that we would ask for on-line monetary donations instead

**Cemetery Report** Cindy Wolfson

There will be a burial at Mooney Cemetery on November 18.

**Phyllis Santuallano Holiday Drive Report** Gail Feiger Brown

Many generous residents are offering to sponsor children in the community.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjournment**

With no further business to conduct, Trustee Alvarez moved, seconded by Trustee Zisook that the meeting be adjourned at 9:09 p.m. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gail Feiger Brown, Moraine Township Clerk