

MORAIN TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 10, 2020, 7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Administration of Oath of Office to Mark Haggarty

Clerk Brown administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Mark Haggarty.

Roll Call

Upon roll call the following members were present remotely: Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi, Trustees Mark Haggarty, Cindy Wolfson and Amy Zisook.

Absent: Trustee Pablo Alvarez.

Also present: Clerk Gail Feiger Brown (present at the Moraine Township office); Jean Rock and Edie Sue Sutker (JCFS), and Moraine Township residents Janet Freed and Ginny Schulte (attending remotely via Zoom teleconference)

Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Agency Presentation

- **JCFS, Jean Rock and Edie Sue Sutker**

The Township was thanked for its grant which supports counseling services at the Highland Park High School Drop-In Center. Due to the pandemic, the Drop-In Center is operating remotely. Support groups and HIPPA compliant individual counseling sessions are provided. The Drop-In Center is staffed by Jean Rock, guidance counselors, the school social worker, school psychiatrist and masters' programs interns. The Drop-In Center has been a tremendous source of support for students struggling with e-learning.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Zisook moved, seconded by Trustee Wolfson, to approve the November 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Haggarty, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Approval of Bills

Trustee Haggarty moved, seconded by Trustee Wolfson, Approval of the bills for the period November 13-December 10, 2020 in the following amounts: \$16,426.49 General Assistance Fund, \$43,680.20 Town Fund. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Haggarty, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Action Items

Approval of 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule

Trustee Haggarty moved, seconded by Trustee Zisook, Approval of 2021 Regular Board Meeting Schedule. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Haggarty, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Appointment of Trustee Cindy Wolfson as Moraine Township Ethics Advisor

Supervisor Bassi moved, seconded by Trustee Zisook, the appointment of Trustee Cindy Wolfson as Moraine Township Ethics Advisor. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Haggarty, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Reports

Assessor's Report

No report

Supervisor's Report Anne Flanigan Bassi

- Trustees were given reports for Township services for September, 2019 through November, 2020.
- Trustees were given emergency assistance reports. There were fourteen new applications in November.
- The HVAC retrofit and performance review have now been completed.
- A discussion was held about health insurance for employees. The Township's provider issued COVID-19 credits. Supervisor Bassi and Trustees concurred that the credits should be apportioned between the employees and the Township, based on respective share of the monthly premium.
- The Township was advised that a passenger on our van had been exposed to a caregiver who tested positive for COVID-19 (termed a contact of a contact by the Health Department). In an abundance of caution, the drivers involved were removed from service for a week. Van riders will be reminded to immediately notify the Township and to not ride the van for 14 days if they have been exposed to the virus.
- Supervisor Bassi and Staff Linda Contreras will create a new job description for the Volunteer Coordinator position, adding additional responsibilities and skills.

Latino Advisory Committee Report Pablo Alvarez

No report

Food Insecurity Issues Report Amy Zisook

Trustee Zisook is working with partners on a monthly school food backpack program.

Food Pantry Report Anne Flanigan Bassi

- Trustees were given a Food Pantry usage report through December 8. Pantry usage increased due to Thanksgiving meals.
- All Food Pantry clients are being given grocery gift cards in December. Amounts vary depending on household size.
- Donations continue to be received in memory of Nick Messe, now totaling over \$4,000.00.
- Thanks to an anonymous resident for donating 200 USDA grocery boxes for the December 22 Pantry pick-up. Each box will include produce, milk, yogurt, butter, and protein. Thanks also to Highland Park Jewel-Osco for donating 75 boxes of ready-to-heat holiday meals, paid from donations from customers.
- The Food Pantry distribution system has been reconfigured. Clients remain in their cars while volunteers load their food, resulting in the line moving more

quickly and reducing back-up. As of January 1, the Food Pantry hours will be changed to 10:00 am-12:30 pm.

Human Relations Advisory Group Report (HRAG) Gail Feiger Brown

Clerk Brown attended the Zoom HRAG meeting on December 9. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service event will be held remotely on January 18. Due to the pandemic, the Township is unable to participate with its annual food drive in conjunction with the event.

Cemetery Report Cindy Wolfson

- A reporter from the Daily Herald visited Daggitt Cemetery with Trustee Wolfson in December for an article on cemetery restoration. Photos were taken of the cemetery via drone.
- Cemetery Manager Donna Novickas was entering deeds and other written material into our Cemetery Information Management System (CIMS), and discovered that in 1986, the Wentworth family donated two cemetery plots at Mooney Cemetery to Moraine Township for use by a needy family.

Phyllis Santullano Holiday Drive Report Gail Feiger Brown

- Gifts are being dropped off December 9, 10 and 11, and will be distributed to families on December 18. Over 275 individuals and groups have generously sponsored close to 700 children.

Holiday Gifts for Seniors Report Cindy Wolfson

- Trustee Wolfson and staff delivered 125 holiday bags to seniors, including a box of chocolate, tube of hand lotion, crossword puzzle or Sudoku, hand sanitizer, playing cards, and gift card to Jewel-Osco.
- Thanks to Bonnie Newton and Peggy Miller for knitting hats and scarves.
- Thanks to Sheri and Jayla Marcus for creating greeting cards.
- Thanks to Marsha Hirsch for making face masks for each senior.

Old Business

None

New Business

- **Mooney Cemetery Cremains Garden** Cindy Wolfson

Trustee Wolfson presented a report to Supervisor Bassi and Trustees with an initial proposal for a cremains garden at Mooney Cemetery. A discussion was held. Supervisor Bassi and Trustees concurred that Trustee Wolfson and Cemetery Manager Donna Novickas should develop a formal proposal, including guidelines and administration.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

With no further business to conduct, Trustee Wolfson moved, seconded by Trustee Haggarty that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Haggarty, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Feiger Brown, Moraine Township Clerk