

MORAINES TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
September 9, 2021

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi.

The following Board Members were in attendance on site: Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi, Trustees Pablo Alvarez, Christine Peschier, and Nancy Chausow Shafer. Trustee Mark Haggarty attended via video conference.

Trustee Alvarez arrived at 5:38 pm.

Also in attendance on site: Clerk Naomi Wexler and Township Attorney Jim Hartman; Assessor Mark Lindsay joined the meeting at 6:05.

In attendance via video conference: Christina Douglas (A Safe Place), Jean Rock and Edie Sue Sutker (JCFS), Nancy Sawle-Knobloch (Family Service), resident Janet Freed, resident Amy Zisook, resident Gail Brown, resident Dwayne Douglas, resident Bill Laegler.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

The Board concurred with the Supervisor's recommendation to change the order of business and move up Attorney introduction.

Introduction of Jim Hartman, Moraine Township Attorney

Moraine Township Attorney, Jim Hartman of Magee Hartman, P.C., introduced himself to the new Board and responded to Trustee questions.

The Board concurred with the Supervisor's recommendation to change the order of business and move down confirmation of receipt of audit report.

Agency Presentations

Christina Douglas, A Safe Place

Ms. Douglas shared that A Safe Place addresses domestic violence and human trafficking in Lake County by providing services to victims and their families. During the pandemic, shelter is the most needed service of their clients. Moraine Township residents made up 7% of the total number of individuals served during the interim period of 5/12/2021 and 9/2/2021.

Jean Rock & Edie Sue Sutker, Jewish Child and Family Services

Ms. Rock and Ms. Sutker thanked Moraine Township for funding in support of the Highland Park High School Connections Drop-In Center. The Drop-In Center allows students to speak directly with a counselor and facilitates support groups. The program was able to pivot during the pandemic and provide online support to students.

Nancy Sawle-Knobloch, Family Service of Lake County

Executive Director Nancy Sawle-Knobloch shared that Family Service served 2500 clients during the interim period of the report, 67% of which are through Latino and youth service programs. The remaining clients participated in senior and caregiver programs (26%) and the remaining 7% participated in counseling. During COVID, a few unexpected tools proved successful including the use of theater and poetry to engage clients.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Alvarez moved, seconded by Trustee Shafer, to approve minutes from the board meeting August 19, 2021. Trustee Shafer noted that her last name was misspelled in one location of the minutes and requested it be corrected. **The motion passed by voice vote.**

Approval of Bills

Trustee Peschier moved, seconded by Trustee Shafer, to approve bills for the period August 21 to September 9, 2021 in the amount of \$30,869.52 for Town Fund and \$10,003.02 for General Assistance Fund.

Voting Aye by roll call vote: Supervisor Bassi and Trustees Alvarez, Haggerty, Peschier, and Shafer. Voting Nay: none. **The motion passed.**

Confirmation of receipt of audit by board members

Supervisor Bassi called our auditor, Joe Troyer of GRA via FaceTime, and each board member confirmed to the auditor they received a hard copy of the audit.

Action Items:

- Trustee Shafer moved, seconded by Trustee Haggarty, to accept the Moraine Township audit report for fiscal year ended March 31, 2021. Voting Aye by roll call vote: Supervisor Bassi and Trustees Alvarez, Haggerty, Peschier, and Shafer. Voting Nay: none. **The motion passed.**
- Trustee Haggarty moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez, to adopt a Resolution Approving a Policy Concerning Electronic Attendance at Meetings. **The motion passed by voice vote.**

Reports

Assessor's Report: Mark Lindsay, Assessor

Assessor Lindsay responded to Trustee questions regarding the process for assessment changes without appeal, and discussed Public Act 102-0519, which increases taxing bodies' levy to recapture property tax refunds. The Assessor updated Trustees on Board of Review hearings.

Supervisor's Report: Anne Flanigan Bassi, Supervisor

- August 31, 2021 report on quarterly bank balances was distributed to the board.
- 15-month service report for the period June, 2020 through August, 2021, was distributed to the Board.
- Emergency Assistance report was distributed to trustees.
- Thanks to Trustee Peschier for pitching in to staff the Food Pantry on Rosh Hashanah, when staff was unavailable.
- Technology is out of date fast. We have reached out to our attorney to assist with updating our Technology Policy, adopted in 2015.
- Two part-time staff members, Luis Gonzalez and Sanela Abazovic, have worked 1,000 or more hours in the last 12 months and are qualified for IMRF and have been added. This brings the total number of IMRF employees to seven.
- Supervisor Bassi updated the Board on Public Act 102-0231 changing 60 ILCS 1/85-65 for higher threshold for Excess Accumulation of Township funds.

Latino Advisory Committee Report

No report.

Food Pantry Report: Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi

- Report on usage of re-opened Pantry.
- The Pantry will resume store donation pick-ups next week, starting with Sunset Foods.
- Thanks to resident Gail Brown for volunteering to continue the nurse food program she initiated as Township Clerk.

Food Insecurity Issues Report

- **Trustee Christine Peschier:** Nurse food bags were delivered; Drop-In Center food bags are being worked on; gift cards for Oak Terrace families will begin being distributed at the end of this month.
- **Clerk Naomi Wexler:** Partnerships with PORCH and Crate & Barrel are continuing.

Cemetery Report

No report.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Labor attorney, Burt Reiter, is updating the Township's COVID policy passed last September.
- The Board discussed the 2022 meeting schedule.

Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

Trustee Shafer moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Wexler, Moraine Township Clerk