

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
APRIL 8, 2014

The Annual Town Meeting for Maine Township was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Clerk Gary K. Warner. Clerk Warner welcomed everyone in attendance to the Maine Township 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Town meeting. He asked everyone to extend their prayers and wishes for the safe return of our armed forces, who are risking their lives for our freedoms.

Clerk Warner asked Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Warner announced that the purpose of the meeting was to inform the electorate of our Township's financial status and to act upon certain resolutions to be presented at the meeting.

Clerk Warner introduced his staff Deputy Clerks Rosalind Luburich, Jerry Jaworsky and Annette Galante. He also introduced his Chief Deputy Clerk Wiesia Tytko stating that these people are responsible for making the Clerk's office operate so efficiently.

Next he introduced Maine Township Elected Official, starting with Trustees: the Honorable Walter Kazmierczak, Laura Morask, Susan Moylan Krey and Peter Gialamas, Highway Commissioner, Honorable Robert Provenzano, and the longest standing Township Official, since being elected in 1985, Assessor, Honorable Tom Rueckert who was not able to attend this meeting. Lastly Clerk Warner introduced Maine Township Supervisor, Honorable Carol Teschky.

He also welcomed and introduced our guest, Audrey Nankervis.

Clerk Warner recognized Trustee Morask for the purpose of making a nomination for a moderator.

Trustee Morask nominated the Chief of Park Ridge Police, Frank Kaminski to serve as Moderator of the meeting. There were no other nominations and Clerk Warner made a motion to close the nominations and it was seconded by Mr. Wayne Serbin.

Clerk Warner administered the Oath of Moderator to Park Ridge Police Chief Kaminski. Moderator Chief Kaminski stated that he is honored to be a part of this special meeting and he thanked Clerk Warner and all for being invited. He appointed Honorable Park Ridge Attorney Sean Sullivan as Parliamentarian.

Moderator Chief Kaminski asked Clerk Warner to present the minutes of the 2013 Annual Town Meeting for approval. Clerk Warner stated that the minutes were distributed earlier and requested that the minutes be approved and that the reading be waived. Mr. Dick Barton made a motion to approve the 2013 Annual Town meeting minutes and it was seconded by Trustee Morask. The motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes passed by a show of hands with voting cards.

Moderator Chief Kaminski as required by statute, asked if there were any special town meetings held during the year. Clerk Warner stated that there was no special Board meetings held during the last fiscal year.

Moderator Chief Kaminski called on Supervisor Teschky to present the financial report for the General Town Fund. Supervisor Teschky began her presentation stating that the township is in sound financial shape and has no debts. After the report was read, Trustee Morask moved that the report be accepted and placed on file. Mr. Terry Langan seconded the motion and it passed by a show of hands with voting cards. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Teschky presented the financial report for the General Assistance Fund. Mr. Serbin moved that the report be accepted and placed on file. Ms. Dawne Hayman seconded the motion and it passed by a show of hands with voting cards.

Supervisor Teschky presented the financial report for the Road District and stated that a list of creditors and inventory were attached in compliance with a state statute. Mr. Adam Greenberg moved that the report be accepted and placed on file. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Nankervis and it passed by a show of hands with voting cards. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Teschky welcomed everyone to the Maine Township's 164<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting. She stated that it is her pleasure to report the wonderful things that took place in this building from March 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014.

She stated that "I want to welcome everyone here tonight to Maine Township's 164<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting. It is my pleasure to report to you the wonderful things that took place in this Building from March 1, 2014 to February 28, 2014. Much was accomplished which I attribute to our dedicated and loyal staff. I am extremely proud of our Administrator, Department Heads and Staff. They do their jobs day in and day out and have earned my respect and the respect of the residents.

First I would like to recognize my administrative assistant, Doriene Prorak. Doriene embodies professionalism and integrity. She is my right and left hand and always has a smile for fellow staff and residents. Doriene, please rise.

Next I would like to introduce our capable administrator, Dayna Berman. Since taking on the position in 2005, Dayna has performed with the utmost professionalism and has earned the respect of both the staff and Elected Officials. Dayna will you please rise and introduce our Administrative staff and then the various Department Heads.

Thank you one and all for your service to the Township. It is certainly a pleasure to work with you here on a daily basis. It is my distinct pleasure to introduce the rest of my fellow Township Board Members: Clerk Gary K. Warner, Assessor Tom Rueckert, Highway Commissioner Robert Provenzano, Trustees: Laura J. Morask, Walter Kazmierczak, Susan Moylan Krey and Peter Gialamas. I consider it a pleasure to work with each and every one of you. You each bring your own expertise and talents to Township Government. The General Assembly voted to abolish the office of Township Collector in Cook County Townships. Therefore, we had to say good-bye to Collector Mary Rohde.

This evening we would like to give special recognition to the following staff and Elected Official for their years of service and dedication to Maine Township. Michael Samaan and Vicki Rizzo for 10 years of service, Monika Jaroszewicz and Kathy Sabbini for 15 years of service, Robert Cohen for 20 years of service and Carol Teschky for 25 years of service.

We offered residents a chance to destroy important documents and papers through Secure Data Destruction. It was a very popular recycling event and we have scheduled one for this year also. Speaking of recycling, the Township and the Road District co-sponsored TWO Electronics Recycling Events with the Park Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Close to 400 cars came through at each event to drop off their electronics which by State Law cannot be dumped into landfills. The Coast 2 Coast free prescription drug card provides enormous savings on most prescriptions to any resident. Over the past 12 months, this program has saved individuals using the program over \$356,229 on over 4143 prescriptions filled. The Township collected royalties this past year of over \$3,300. Our Assessor's Office assisted over 17,700 residents which includes processing Homeowner's exemptions, senior and senior freeze exemptions, disabled and Disabled veteran exemptions. During the 2013 Triennial they processed 2800 appeals to both the Cook County Assessor and the Cook County Board of Review. Additionally, they submitted 4800 building permits to the County Assessor's office.

The Clerk's Dept. registered 21 voters, sold 11,612 vehicle stickers for Cook County, Processed 224 RTA passes, 1,673 Passport Applications and 1,536 Maine Lines Tickets, which are subsidized cab rides for disabled and low income seniors. They also issued 29 Handicapped Parking Cards, and 129 Hunting and Fishing Licenses. Our ever popular MaineStreamers welcomed 360 new members. Our total membership is now over 3,500. There were a grand total of 13,106 participants in all programs. We continue to partner with Golf Mill for our ever popular Senior Expo each spring. MaineStay Youth & Family Services Dept. offered low-cost counseling to 1,326 families which consisted of 4,796 individuals. Clinical groups offered included Parent Education, Anger Management and Anxiety Management. MaineStay also Sponsored Government Days for high schoolers, an after school children's art Program, an adult/child weekly mentoring group and the four-week Adventure Day Camp for at risk children ages 8-13. We also provided reservation phone service for the volunteer drivers for the FISH Program. We serviced 256 residents with 1,036 rides to medical appointments. Our EARN Program, which matches youth with seniors needing help around their homes totaled 53 matches. Our ever popular Community Garage Sale netted \$4,373.75 split between the Adventure Day Camp and the Food Pantry. That number increases every year and we are grateful to the community who supports our Garage Sale.

Our Office of Emergency Management continues with their great service to Maine Township residents. They have strengthened their partnerships with the Park Ridge Police, North Maine Fire Protection District, Lutheran General Hospital, Cook County Department of Public Health, Illinois Dept of Public Health and a myriad of other programs throughout the state, all designed to make Maine Township an authoritative voice in the areas that OEM practices in. The MRC program continues to lead the way in the state with its collaborations and has become a nationally recognized organization and this past year saw the inclusion of a Fire Corps/First responder REHAB program. They have performed an amazing 5,516 volunteer hours – which at today's volunteer comparative value equals \$152,262.30 of support to the residents of Maine Township. Our Code Enforcement officer has been busy this challenging year with handling a total of 534 code violations. He also spent time on the phone tracking down banks and dealing with 52 foreclosed properties. Our state-mandated General Assistance Department is currently assisting 58 individuals. The department also continues to assist the community with Public Aid Applications for benefits which include food stamps and medical assistance. We had 1072. Benefit Access interviews. This program provides Seniors and the disabled with free transit Rides. It also provides a license plate discount. Since this program can only be applied for via the internet, our General Assistance offers this convenience. We also processed 1072 applications for the Low Income Home Energy Program also known as LIHEAP, to help residents with their utility bills. We are also an intake site for Access to Care, which is a low income limited medical program. It provides physician services and limited lab services at a reduced fee. The Township Food Pantry distributed 2,888 boxes of food which served 4,089 adults and 948 children. During these difficult economic times, Maine Township met the Demand. Many thanks go to all the individuals, churches, organizations, schools, businesses and chambers of commerce for their generosity in both food and cash donations.

In August, we were again a sponsor of National Night Out Against Crime. We partnered with Golf Maine Park District and the event was once again held at Dee Park. This event was ably chaired by Trustee Susan Moylan Krey, co-chair Trustee Gialamas and their hard working committee including Trustee Kazmierczak and Trustee Morask. The Cook County Sheriff's Department again staffed tables with officers who provided informative information to the residents. Over 100 local children submitted posters with the theme "Respect yourself, respect your community."

Some changes have occurred in our staffing this past year. In our Maintenance Department, Bill Chernikovich has decided to retire. We wish him well in his retirement. Marissa Vigna from Mainestay has left to pursue other endeavors. We wish her well also. We welcome new maintenance worker Bobby Ganas. Marty Cook has joined us as part time assisting both MaineStreamers and MaineStay as a community outreach person. We welcome Marty. So we have completed another excellent year in service to our residents. We are operating under the tax cap and we have no debt. We continue on a sound fiscal direction and we are building up our reserves. Once, again we have demonstrated that Township Government, being closest to the people, is also the most responsive to their individual and collective needs. May God Bless everyone here tonight and may God Bless America!

Administrator Berman recognized Supervisor Teschky and presented her with a pin for 25 years of service and dedication to Maine Township. She was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Moderator Chief Kaminski asked Trustee Moylan Krey to present the Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen Award.

Trustee Moylan Krey stated that "The Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen's Award was initiated in 2011. Sgt. Karen Lader, a Maine Township resident, served with the Cook County Sheriff's Police for 15 years went above and beyond to be involved with Maine Township's Neighborhood Watch Program, National Night Out Against Crime, special Olympics and animal rescue. She was devoted to her community. Sgt. Karen Lader lost her life to a courageous battle with cancer on May 15, 2010. Tonight we would like to honor another one of Maine Township finest citizens. Carolyn Lee Simmons was born in Chicago and later with her family settled in Des Plaines where she attended Maine Township High School. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from De Lourdes College. Carolyn and her husband, Patrick, have been married for 38 years and combined have a total of 7 children, 11 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Carolyn began her volunteer, civic and

community activities in the 70's after a near death experience. After recovery she was inspired to volunteer at Lutheran General Hospital to give back for the care she received. That began her journey for caring for others. Carolyn belongs to a group that makes blankets, scarves and gloves for shut-ins and under privileged children in area schools. Carolyn's journey also included volunteering as a neighborhood watch captain. A friendly visitor and personal assistant to senior citizens through Lutheran General Hospital, Holy Family Hospital and Maine Center for Mental Health, Carolyn was recognized for her dedicated service and in 1995 and 1996 received The Maine Center for Mental Health Award.

Due to her caring and compassionate spirit, Carolyn has been called upon to sit with those at the end of their lives, whether it be her friend, or someone in the community without family. She has been trained by Lutheran General Hospital to work with those in hospice care and is involved with the Seniors End of Life Group. Carolyn believes that caring for others over the past 40 years has also benefitted her personal growth. We have just touched briefly on her commitment to her community. Carolyn is one of Maine Township's finest residents, going above and beyond in service to others. "

The Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen Award was presented to Carolyn Lee Simmons.

Moderator Chief Kaminski asked Mr. Robert Cohen to present the William (Bill) Cox Memorial Award.

OEM Director, Robert Cohen stated that "In 1989, the Board of Trustees of Maine Township passed an Ordinance creating the Emergency Service and Disaster Agency that is known today as the Office of Emergency Management. Allen Graber was appointed as its first Coordinator and William Cox was appointed as its first Chief Deputy Coordinator. In 1993, William 'Bill' Cox passed away unexpectedly. His parting left a hole in the hearts of those that knew him but he also left a legacy of fierce dedication to the new agency and an extremely strong work ethic. Over the years, the agency has grown from its simple beginnings to become a nationally known and respected agency. Its sub-programs have expanded and those as well have become models for others to emulate across the country and in the case of our Medical Reserve Corps, have become an international model with units in 16 countries having molded their MRC units as a mirror to ours. Today our programs are stronger than ever because of three factors that many units strive for. Those factors are strength, determination and dedication of its staff, volunteers and partners.

Tonight, we recognize one of those people, John Aykroid. John is currently a volunteer and holds the position of Deputy Director, Operations for our OEM and its sub-programs. He is one of the most active and dedicated volunteers that I know. But there is a bit more to this story.

We have to look back several decades to the late 60's. That is when I first met John. Of course he was a bit smaller, often had to be carried by his mom and wasn't always good about picking up his toys. Still there was a seed that was being cultivated by his father. His father, also a John Aykroid was a very active volunteer for the American Red Cross in Chicago in their Disaster Program. One day, John senior came to speak to a group of people that I was involved with to coax them into joining the ranks of the Red Cross Disaster Service which we did. Over the next several years, I learned a great deal about being a dedicated volunteer and to this day I know that it was his influence that has helped make me the person that I am today, especially as it relates to our agency.

No doubt this also had an impact on his son who has demonstrated time and again his dedication to the agency and to the Maine Township community at large. John, over the course of any given year has always gone above and beyond in helping to insure that our agency stays at the top of units like ourselves throughout the state. It is this fierce dedication that we have selected John Aykroid as the recipient of the William B (Bill) Cox Memorial Award for Excellence in Emergency Management and Commitment to the Community.

The William (Bill) Cox Memorial Award was presented to John Aykroid.

Moderator Chief Kaminski requested that Supervisor Teschky present the resolutions for approval by the electors.

Supervisor Teschky presented Resolution 2014-4 to authorize the Town Board of Maine Township to dispose of one (1) 1995 Elgin Street Sweeper with identification number S8196D and Mr. Serbin moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barton and passed by a show of hands with voting cards.

Supervisor Teschky presented Resolution 2014-5 to establish the township fiscal year to begin March 1, 2014 and end February 28, 2015 and Trustee Morask moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hayman and passed by a show of hands with voting cards.

Supervisor Teschky presented Resolution 2014-6 setting the next Annual Town Meeting for April 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Maine Township Town Hall, 1700 Ballard Road in Park Ridge. Mr. Dagmar Rutzen moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Ulrey and passed by a show of hands with voting cards.

Moderator Chief Kaminiski stated that there is no need for the next 2014-7 Resolution. He suggested to donate \$75 to the Maine Township Emergency Food Pantry.

Moderator Chief Kaminski announced that the business of the meeting was now concluded and asked if there were any more comments.

Moderator Chief Kaminski entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Serbin moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kazmierczak and the motion passed on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

