

Maine Township Special Board Meeting March 8, 2022

Maine Township Special Board meeting has been videotaped.

For more detailed reports and discussions please refer to the recorded meeting at:
<http://mainetown.com/board-meetings/>

Indexed agenda at:

https://mainetown.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/agenda_22-03-08.pdf

Board Members Present: Supervisor Dimond, Assessor Moylan Krey, Highway Commissioner Beauvais, Trustee Jones, Trustee Horvath, Trustee Maher and Trustee Malik

Other in attendance: Dayna Berman, Kurt Asprooth, Richard Lyon, Elizabeth Coy, Marie Dachniwsky, Michael Samaan, Alicia Brzezinski, Dawne Hayman, Robert Flinn, North Maine Fire District Chief Michael Bronk, Eva Magnowski and Wiesia Tytko

This meeting will be conducted in person. Physical public attendance at the Township building may be limited or not feasible, so alternative arrangements for public access to hear the meeting are available here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87567798484>. To obtain password to connect to this meeting, please call Richard Lyon at 224-257-4869 prior to 6:00 p.m. on March 8, 2022. The meeting will also be audio or video recorded and made available to the public as provided by law.

Supervisor Dimond called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chief Deputy Clerk Tytko called the roll.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

There was no public participation at this point.

Agenda Item: Approval of April 12, 2022 Annual Town Meeting Agenda

See video at 0:35.

Supervisor Dimond stated that this year's Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12th. She added that the proposed agenda for said meeting was distributed prior this meeting and needs to be approved.

Trustee Jones Motion to approve the April 12, 2022 Annual Town Meeting Agenda as submitted.

Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Discussion on the status of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

See video at 3:19.

Supervisor Dimond stated that recently the Maine Township Office of Emergency Management was suspended.

North Maine Fire Protection District Chief Michael Bronk stated that he has been employee of the Fire Protection District since 1977. He talked about Fire District being a liaison with the Maine Township Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for many years. Chief Bronk pointed out that for many reasons there is a need for OEM in the Maine Township. He stated that there is even a possibility to expand this program to the high school and junior college level students. Also, he added that resources are available and there are people that are willing to volunteer.

Discussion.

The Board members had some questions to Chief Bronk on qualifications needed for that position. Supervisor Dimond thanked Chief Bronk.

Agenda Item: Discussion of Rebranding of Township Logo/Color/General Theme

See video at 14:08.

Supervisor Dimond stated that Trustee Horvath was working on the Rebranding of Township/Logo/General Theme project quite a bit and asked her for an update.

Trustee Horvath stated that after the last Board Meeting, she had a discussion with Robert Flinn and Marty McAlpin and she came up with simpler options with a proper size and versatility. She presented 3 options for Maine Township logo.

Robert Flinn commented on the suggested logo.

Discussion and comments.

Supervisor Dimond and Trustees agreed on option 2, with the font from option 1 and to use it only for the social media.

Supervisor Dimond thanked Trustee Horvath and said that the Board appreciates her work.

Robert Flinn was very excited to share that the launching of a new Mainely E-News and the Maine Township advertisements that will take place later this month in the social media. He pointed out the importance of targeting our community through Facebook and YouTube. The cost of advertising on Facebook and YouTube will be \$1,000 each depends on a type of an add.

Agenda Item: Website Discussion

See video at 44:27.

Supervisor Dimond stated that in her opinion the Maine Township Website should be revamped. She asked the Board for comments and suggestions in regarding to this matter.

Discussion.

Administrator Berman pointed out that our website is not user friendly and outdated.

Supervisor Dimond asked Maine Township staff and the Board member for their wish lists and what they would like to see on our website.

Agenda Item: Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding Employee Salaries

See video at 51:31.

Supervisor Dimond stated that a few Board members requested a discussion on employees' salaries.

Trustee Maher stated that he reviewed the Salary Study done in May 2019 for Maine Township employees. He evaluated and came to the conclusion that 60% of Maine Township employees are below average market rate.

Trustee Horvath was curious to know if there were additional raises since that study came out.

Supervisor Dimond stated that a year ago there was 3% increase, prior to that 1.2% and year before nothing consistent across the board.

Trustee Jones stated that last Board was very adamant and they wanted to keep all salaries down. She added that many people left for various reasons and they were not replaced. Many employees have double duties with same salary.

Highway Commissioner Beauvais pointed out that Maine Township staff does a very good job and should be compensated for that.

Assessor Moylan Krey agreed that with more responsibilities and a constant education to new systems good workers should be paid more.

Trustee Malik agreed with increasing salaries for employees.

Supervisor Dimond stated that salary increase is needed and suggested it for employees that held their position for at least one year.

Discussion on percentage of a salary increase.

Trustee Jones Motion to increase salary of those in same position for over a year by 5% COLA (Cost of Living), and does not prevent members of management from awarding merit increase.

Maier Second

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Video Presentation

See video at 1:09:18.

Robert Flinn presented the introductory Maine Township video.

Supervisor Dimond thanked all who performed in the video and M3 Marketing for a great effort.

Robert Flinn thanked all for participating in this video, which will be launched soon on the website with the new logo.

Supervisor Dimond announced that there was a nice thank you note in the suggestion box, that the Sgt. Karen Lader Memorial Good Citizen's Award nomination forms are available, the "What Maine Township Can Do For You?" flyer is also translated in Arabic done by Sam Dababneh and she took a tour to Family Center District #63 to discuss services for our residents. Supervisor Dimond stated that she is going to a meeting with representatives from Maine East Transition Program to discuss volunteering in our Food Pantry. She added that the "Help for Ukraine" flyer was placed by Marie Dachniwsky, the TOI 2022 Education District Event will be held on March 15th, Maine Township received an invitation from Niles Chamber of Commerce on April 19th and the North Suburban Legal Society event is going to take place on April 4th.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Maher Motion to adjourn.

Trustee Malik Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes

Trustee Jones Yes

Trustee Horvath Yes

Trustee Maher Yes

Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk