

## **MORAIN TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

### **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**May 26, 2020, 7:00 PM**

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

Also present: Clerk Gail Feiger Brown

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Trustee Douglas moved, seconded by Trustee Zisook, to table approval of the May 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes until the June 11 Regular Board Meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **Approval of Bills**

Trustee Douglas moved, seconded by Trustee Wolfson, Approval of the bills for the period May 15-26, 2020 in the following amounts: \$21,724.10 General Assistance Fund, \$35,794.75 Town Fund. Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Douglas, Wolfson and Zisook; voting Nay: none.

#### **Reports**

- **Assessor's Report** Mark Lindsay
- No report

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

- Supervisor Bassi is participating in a weekly conference call with other local governments. Moraine Township, along with the other governments,

has not opened yet to the public and is in the process of determining how to do it safely, following the guidelines of the State of Illinois.

- Additional computer equipment has been purchased for staff to enable them to work effectively from home.
- Supervisor Bassi and Staff Sanela Abazovic are continuing to work on the audit remotely.
- The Township has received forty-one Emergency Assistance applications. Twenty-five have been approved, eight are pending, and eight have been denied. Thanks to Staff Lupe Somerville for her excellent work processing the applications.
- Staff Somerville participated on May 26 in a conference call of Lake County township supervisors discussing Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding for townships.
- Thanks to State Representative Bob Morgan for connecting Supervisor Bassi with Sid Siegel of naturaldirect.com. Natural Direct provided free of charge 80 boxes of egg, cheese and yogurt, along with gallons of fresh milk to the Food Pantry this week.
- Supervisor Bassi shared with Trustees a chart of weekly pantry usage. The weekly percentage of clients registered with the pantry continues to rise.
- Thanks to our generous community, Moraine Township Charitable Fund donations since March 13 exceed \$190,000.00.
- Supervisor Bassi reported that gift card distribution procedures are being re- evaluated by Staff. Supervisor Bassi and Trustees discussed options to ensure that clients needing additional assistance to meet their hunger needs are served.
- Thanks to Head Gardener Sam Piro, and to master gardeners Sandy Washburn and Linda Mihel, the Pantry Plants Garden will be planted in early June. Eight families will be permitted to garden plots at a distance from one another. The remaining 16 plots will be planted with cover crops. The Township will purchase \$25 gift cards from Anton's using funds left over from last season's Liberty Prairie grant. Thanks to the Park District of Highland Park for plowing the garden.

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#### **Latino Advisory Committee Report** Pablo Alvarez

- The Committee met remotely on May 21 through Google Meets. Members expressed concern about the State of Illinois emergency application, which is printed only in English. The application is not available in Spanish. Staff Somerville has worked with Spanish speaking clients over the phone to assist them in filling out the application. Staff Somerville has

written line-by-line instructions in Spanish. Other members of the Committee are also assisting residents.

- Alexandra Sossa of the Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP), spoke to the Committee about a grant that FLAP had received to give \$500 each to 80 families whose employment was affected by COVID-19. She invited agencies to make referrals.

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**Food Insecurity Issues Report** Amy Zisook

- The groups that provided gift cards to students in lieu of weekly or monthly food back packs have concluded for the school year and will resume in the fall. Families have received information about registering for the Food Pantry.
- Household bags are now being distributed to clients. The first bag includes disinfectant, paper towels, facial tissue, hand sanitizer, shampoo, dish soap, bar soap, sponges, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

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**Food Pantry Report**

See Supervisor Report

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**Lake County Coordinated Transportation Services Committee (LCCTSC)**

- No report.

**Human Relations Advisory Group Report (HRAG)**

- No report

**Cemetery Report**

No report

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Executive Session**

None

**Adjournment**

With no further business to conduct, Trustee Zisook moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez that the meeting be adjourned at 9:08 p.m. The motion passed unanimously by

voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gail Feiger Brown, Moraine Township Clerk