

MORAIN TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
January 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi.

The following Board Members were in attendance in person: Supervisor Anne Flanigan Bassi, Trustees Pablo Alvarez, Mark Haggarty, Allison Levin and Nancy Chausow Shafer. Also present: Clerk Gail Feiger Brown, Arianna Soheil (Fenix Family Health Center), and Robbie Boudreau (Southeast Lake County Faith in Action).

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Brown led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agency Presentation

Arianna Soheil, Fenix Family Health Center

The Township was thanked for its grant which supports health care services for uninsured and underinsured clients. With two therapists on staff, they're able to integrate mental health care into their services. 1,651 or 49.30% of their total clients are Moraine Township residents.

Robbie Boudreau, Southeast Lake County Faith in Action

The Township was thanked for its grant which supports its Let's Go Seniors' transportation, behavioral health, volunteer caregiving and social support services for 26 Moraine Township residents. Their behavioral health specialist provides in-home counseling for their clients.

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Haggarty moved, seconded by Trustee Shafer, approval of the minutes from the board meeting of December 19, 2023.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Approval of Bills

Trustee Shafer moved, seconded by Trustee Levin, to approve bills for the period December 20, 2023 to January 10, 2024, in the amount of \$34,975.23 for the Township Corporate Fund and \$18,682.68 for the General Assistance Fund.

Voting Aye by roll call vote: Supervisor Bassi, Trustees Alvarez, Haggarty, Levin and Shafer.

Voting Nay: none. **The motion passed.**

Action Items

Approval of Resolution Establishing a New Fund for Capital Maintenance for Moraine Township Building

Trustee Shafer moved, seconded by Trustee Haggarty, to table the Resolution Establishing a New Fund for Capital Maintenance for Moraine Township Building.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Reports

Assessor's Report

No report

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Bassi

- a. A copy of the December 31, 2023 Bank Balance Report was distributed to Trustees.
- b. A copy of the Emergency Assistance/General Assistance report for Fiscal Year End 2023-2024 was distributed to Trustees.
- c. A copy of the 15-month service report through December, 2023 was distributed to Trustees.
- d. A copy of the website analytics report through December, 2023 was distributed to Trustees.
- e. The Township has retained an attorney for the excess accumulation lawsuit.
- f. The Lake County State's Attorney has settled one of the two civil tax objection lawsuits on behalf of the Township and other named governmental bodies.
- g. Supervisor Bassi and Administrator Sanela Abazovic met with a prospective new auditor on January 10.
- h. Supervisor Bassi is in discussions with Heartland IT Solutions to conduct a penetration test of the Township's IT system.
- i. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program opens Saturday February 3.
- j. Thanks to Trustees Haggarty and Shafer for volunteering to be the contacts for the Lake County Emergency Management Agency.
- k. Supervisor Bassi is still checking on the Treasurer Statement.
- l. Staff attended the College Bound Opportunities (CBO) job fair to identify and interview prospective summer interns. Many thanks to CBO alum and intern Leslie Barranco for returning to the Township in December and January.
- m. Thanks to Staff Rosa Machabanski for planning the staff holiday party luncheon at La Casa de Isaac and Moishe. Thanks to Trustees Levin and Shafer for covering the office during the luncheon.
- n. Employee health insurance is increasing by 22% in 2024, or an increase of \$1,956.63. 90% of that amount is a Township expense.
- o. The Board concurred to provide a letter of support to A Safe Place for capacity building for their shelter expansion for abused women and their children.
- p. Supervisor Bassi shared with Trustees written letters of appreciation from residents who received gifts at the Holiday Gift Drive.
- q. Supervisor Bassi discussed the Township's informal policy regarding employee health club membership reimbursement. A policy will be drafted and presented to Trustees for approval.
- r. Thanks to Bob Laemele for taking the Board's photograph for the website.
- s. Supervisor Bassi discussed with Trustees the possible 708 Mental Health Board.
- t. Trustees were given a copy of the staff wage history and Fiscal Year End 2024-2025 proposal in preparation for a Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.
- u. Supervisor Bassi renewed the contract with the Township cleaning service.

Latino Advisory Committee Report: Trustee Alvarez

The Committee met January 4 for a mini retreat and lunch at the Highland Park Public Library to review 2023 and work plan for 2024.

Food Pantry Report: Supervisor Bassi

- a. The Food Pantry usage report was distributed to Trustees.
- b. A copy of the 2023 cash donations report was distributed to Trustees.

- c. A copy of the Township's article appearing in the February Highlander was distributed to Trustees.

Food Insecurities Report: Supervisor Bassi and Clerk Brown

- a. Thanks to PORCH Chicagoland North for their donation of 31 bags of food.
- b. Clerk Brown delivered snack food to the Highland Park High School Drop-In Center, Sherwood School, Indian Trail School, Edgewood School and Wayne Thomas School.
- c. Bags of food will be available to qualified Oak Terrace families every Friday afternoon in January.

Old Business

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Event: Trustee Alvarez

Trustee Alvarez confirmed that Moraine Township will participate in the drive-through donation drop-off at Target on Monday January 15 as part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service event. Thanks to volunteer coordinator Sara Hoffman for arranging for volunteers.

New Business

None


Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

Supervisor Bassi adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gail Feiger Brown, Moraine Township Clerk