

MORAIN TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
January 24, 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: Assessor Mark Lindsay, Clerk Gail Feiger Brown, John Ropiequet, Chair, Moraine Township Citizen Advisory Grant Committee, Bobbie Hinden (Family Focus of Highland Park) and Susan Resko, Josselyn Center and Family of Service of Lake County.

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Brown led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agency Presentation

Bobbie Hinden, Family Focus Highland Park

The Township was thanked for its grant which supports the Right From The Start home visiting program. 2 bilingual doulas and home visitors visited 136 children and expecting mothers in the Township in their recent fiscal year. Through their Home Connections initiative, community resources are shared.

Susan Resko, Josselyn and Family Service of Lake County (FSLC)

The Township was thanked for its grants supporting mental health services at Josselyn, and counseling and Latino programming at the former Family Service of Lake County, now part of Josselyn. The 2023 grants were issued to each agency separately prior to the merger of FSLC into Josselyn. Since the merger, the FSLC locations in Highwood and Highland Park are both operating at capacity, with a waitlist in Highland Park. Medicaid patients can now receive mental health services in Highland Park, and there are 11 full-time clinicians there.

Approval of Bills

Trustee Shafer moved, seconded by Trustee Levin, to approve bills for the period January 11, 2024 to January 24, 2024, in the amount of \$32,378.63 for the Township Corporate Fund and \$9,618.74 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

Auditor Engagement Letter

Trustee Haggarty moved, seconded by Trustee Alvarez, to authorize Supervisor Bassi to sign the audit engagement letter with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP, Certified Public Accountants.

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

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

Reports

Assessor's Report: Assessor Lindsay

Assessor Lindsay presented his budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to the Supervisor and Trustees. A discussion was held. The Board concurred that the Assessor budget should be folded into the Supervisor's proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Bassi

- a. A copy of the Emergency Assistance/General Assistance report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 was distributed to Trustees.
- b. Supervisor Bassi and Administrator Sanela Abazovic will meet with Heartland IT at the end of January about performing a cyber-security penetration test.
- c. Staff and volunteers have been assembling materials for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. The first walk-in session will be held Saturday February 3. A total of 24 volunteers have been certified: fourteen preparers, including three co-coordinators, eight intake workers, and two translators.
- d. Thanks to Bob Laemle for taking the Board photo, which will be posted on the Moraine Township website.
- e. Trustees discussed a possible 708 Mental Health Board referendum and steps to consider.
- f. The letter carrier food drive will be held Saturday May 11. Thanks to volunteer Lisa Greene for agreeing to co-chair. Supervisor Bassi helped underwrite the cost of purchasing shopping bags.
- g. Thanks to Highland Park Senior Center members for knitting and donating hats for our clients.
- h. A discussion was held about the Door-to-Door Van program and our partnerships with GoGoGrandparent and Southeast Lake County Faith in Action. A proposal for offering residents rides for local errands on Thursdays starting May 1 was discussed.

Latino Advisory Committee Report: Trustee Alvarez

The Committee met on January 18 and featured guest speakers from Highland Park Community Nursery School & Day Care Center and Open Communities. The Committee is planning a resource fair at Highland Park High School in mid-April.

Food Pantry Report: Supervisor Bassi

- a. The Food Pantry usage report was distributed to Trustees.
- b. Thanks to Trustee Alvarez for representing the Township at the City of Highland Park Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, and to volunteer Sam Shepard for transporting two carloads of food donations from the event to the Pantry.

Food Insecurities Report: Supervisor Bassi and Clerk Brown

- a. Thanks to PORCH Chicagoland North for their donation of 20 bags of food and \$500 for school food programs.
- b. Clerk Brown delivered snack food to the Highland Park High School Drop-In Center, Sherwood School, Edgewood School and Wayne Thomas School.
- c. Bags of food have been made available to qualified Oak Terrace families every Friday afternoon in January.

Old Business

Moraine Township Website: Supervisor Bassi and Trustee Levin

Trustee Levin may help us identify a volunteer to create a new webpage on the Moraine Township website with information about the Moraine Township Charitable Trust, Inc., also know as the Community Chest.

New Business

None

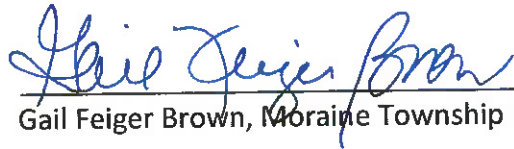
Executive Session

There was no executive session.

Adjournment

Supervisor Bassi adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gail Feiger Brown, Moraine Township Clerk