



TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2023

Alan J. Goldberg Conference and Community Room
Township of New Trier, County of Cook, State of Illinois

PRESENT: Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg, *Supervisor*
Jerome Hoynes, *Clerk*
Katherine Casale MacNally, *Trustee*
Stefan Mozer, *Trustee*
Elliott Robbins, *Trustee*
Danielle Zinn Ruben, *Trustee*
Jan Churchwell, *Assessor (via Zoom)*
Lorrecia Hopkins, *Township Administrator & Deputy Clerk*

ALSO PRESENT: James Howard, *Governmental Accounting, Inc. (via Zoom)*
John J. Falduto, *Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC*

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Supervisor Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg called the Meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Following a roll call of attendees, Township Clerk Jerome Hoynes announced that a quorum for conducting official business had been established. Trustee Mozer came in later in the meeting after roll call. Supervisor Eisenberg then led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- Attended Age Options legislative breakfast at North Shore Senior Center. It was a great event.
- Community Support Grants went out. Confidential thank you notes were included in the board packet.
- Optimistic that Warming House will have a new home. Please do not mention new partner as the pairing has not gone through yet.
- Allocations for agencies have gone out.
- Personally handed the check to Our Place. Participants art will be in our board room and the choir will be performing at the Annual Town Meeting.
- Started a menstrual cup pilot in the pantry. Not having proper menstrual products takes people out of school and work.
- Legislative update: The bill regarding Child Care responsibilities (Open Meetings Act) and General Assistance bill for more flexibility made it out of committee.

- Statement of Economic Interest requirements have not changed. If it is not completed, elected officials can lose their office. Trustee Casale MacNally explained what the process looked like when she was completing her Statement of Economic Interest.
- There was a gas leak in the building in February. The gas was turned off and the building was evacuated. There is no current danger. Discussion ensued.

APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Clerk Hoynes and Deputy Clerk Hopkins presented a draft copy of the Meeting Minutes for Board approval: Trustee Casale MacNally moved and Trustee Ruben seconded approval of the **February 14, 2023, Township Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Changes were made by Trustee Casale MacNally and Supervisor Eisenberg.** Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Hoynes presented the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting. Trustee Casale MacNally moved and Trustee Robbins seconded approval of the Annual Town meeting agenda. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Discussion ensued and some changes were suggested by Trustee Casale MacNally. Trustee Robbins raised a question regarding length of time for public comment. Discussion ensued regarding public comment for the Annual Town Meeting. Supervisor Eisenberg highlighted the Cook County Against Hate Resolution to be presented by Commissioner Scott Britton at the Annual Meeting. The agenda was adopted as revised by unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Hoynes discussed which awards will be handed out at the meeting. Supervisor Eisenberg then transferred the Clerk duties to Deputy Clerk Hopkins.

FINANCIAL REPORT

James Howard of Governmental Accounting, Inc. gave the financial report for the month of February 2023. Most property tax money has come in for the year. Mr. Howard gave the percentages of expenditures and revenues and we are trending better than budget. We are well protected with our investments and bank accounts.

Trustee Mozer asked what the extra income is and why it is not in the pie chart. Mr. Howard will look into the deposit tickets and pull the details out for the trustees.

VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS

Trustee Mozer moved, and Trustee Casale MacNally seconded a motion for verification of claims dated February 1 to February 28, 2023; passed by roll call vote:

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain

SAWYER FALDUTO ASSET MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION – JOHN FALDUTO

Mr. Falduto walked the board through the portfolio that he brought into the board meeting. He went over various investment scenarios and gave different interest rates for the best return on the investments.

Trustee Mozer expressed concerned about investing money from the Angel Fund account with Schwab as a depository.

Mr. Falduto continued to explain how the Schwab accounts would be set up and the use of Money Link in order for funds to be requested if need be. Sawyer Falduto can answer any questions that we have regarding our accounts.

Mr. Falduto made some suggestions for changes to the New Trier Township investment policy. There were no questions on the changes to the investment policy from the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding GA fund account balances.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT- ASSESSOR JAN CHURCHWELL

There is no written report for the month of March. The first tax bill is 55% of the previous year's bill. There are no adjustments. Those adjustments appear on the 2nd tax bill.

Assessor's Budget – Jim Kelly (Township Attorney) was not aware that there was a specific time in which the Assessor's budget is due. Discussion ensued regarding budget line items on the Assessor's budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION OF TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Supervisor Eisenberg presented proposals for the FY 2024 budget along with actual figures from last year's budget. Supervisor Eisenberg would like to make the actuals and proposed budget items as close to one another as possible for audit purposes.

Discussion ensued regarding the passport application process and how long it is taking applicants to get their passports returned to them in the mail.

Agency programs – Career Resource Center has closed, so we will not be funding them.

Child care – Proposing an increase to \$50,000 for Before/After School programming.

Dial-A-Ride – Proposing a decrease to \$10,000 due to non-usage of the program.

We applied for a grant for Mobility Plus and hope to get that grant to increase usage.

Trustee Casale MacNally had a question about the profit/loss for Dial-A-Ride. Mr. Howard will look into it further as it may be due to the document being a draft and not final.

Peer Jury – Keeping the line item amount the same. We did not give a scholarship this year.

Community Support Grants – Proposing a \$10,000 increase due to applicant numbers going up.

Annual Town Meeting – Proposing a decrease from \$3,000 to \$1,000
Printing and Publishing – Proposing a decrease of \$10,000
Website Maintenance – Proposing \$13,625 which is the exact amount of our contract
Legal Fees – Proposing a decrease to be more close to actual usage
Consulting Fee – Proposing \$35,000
Contract Hire – Proposing a decrease to \$5,000
Virtual Webmaster is being deleted as it is in our contract for website maintenance.
Digitization line item will stay the same as we are working on records disposal and emptying the vault.
Telephone – Proposing a decrease to \$4,000
Personnel – Numbers were approved at previous Board meeting

Trustee Robbins mentioned being happy with the savings in the new proposed budget. There was no additional discussion of the proposed line item budget.

Trustee Robbins moved, and Trustee Casale MacNally seconded a motion to approve the proposed budget being placed into the budget ordinance; passed by roll call vote.

COMMITTEE LIASON REPORT

Mental Health Funding and Oversight Committee: Trustee Casale MacNally reported that there was a meeting and discussions regarding changes to applications and procedures moving forward. Community Partnerships Coordinator Steven Anderson did a great job running the meeting.

Life-Stages Funding Committee: Trustee Ruben reported that there was an overview regarding funding and which steps will be taken next with Warming House.

Disability Support Funding and Oversight Committee: Trustee Mozer reported that there was discussion regarding Warming House. There were also corrections made to agency letters. There was low attendance.

Peer Jury: Trustee Robbins reported that there were meetings with Loyola and New Trier. There is a new bill in the house which is proposing to end police ticketing in schools. This could be positive for the Peer Jury program. Trustee Robbins mentioned that there is a direct correlation between decrease in Peer Jury cases and monetization of juvenile offenses in the Township.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STAFF REPORTS

- A. Township Administrator- Lorrecia Hopkins
Trustee Casale MacNally asked a question about concerns after asbestos abatement. Trustee Casale MacNally asked if we can purchase an AED machine.
- B. Community Services Administrator- Brian Leverenz
Trustee Mozer asked a question about the Annual Town Meeting Agenda and adding one of the retiring committee members to the agenda.
Trustee Casale MacNally raised a question regarding food pantry delivery.

- C. General Assistance Administrator- Jeanne Rosser
Trustee Casale MacNally attended the Hoarding Task Force meeting. Jeanne Rosser did a great job running the meeting.
- D. Outreach and Communications Director- Julie Koenigsberger
- E. Community Partnerships Coordinator- Steven Anderson

INVESTMENT POLICY

Trustee Robbins moved and Trustee Casale MacNally seconded a motion to approve the changes to the New Trier Township Investment policy. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Casale MacNally received emails from constituents for New Trier Township to participate in the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. Trustee Casale MacNally shared her research with the Board. Discussion ensued and there were some concerns about New Trier Township getting involved with the pledge. Trustee Casale MacNally will do more research and present more information at the May 2023 Township Board of Trustees meeting as there are many options for Township participation in the pledge.

Trustee Robbins moved and Trustee Ruben seconded a motion to table the Mayors' Monarch Pledge pending more investigation. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Trustee Robbins mentioned that the salary for Supervisor Eisenberg needs to be changed. Assessor Churchwell and Trustee Mozer mentioned that it cannot be changed by the Board at this time. The salary would have to be changed 6 months before the next election.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Trustee Casale MacNally moved to adjourn; seconded by Trustee Robbins. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Supervisor Eisenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrecia Hopkins / Deputy Clerk