



**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 22, 2019
TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**

New Trier Township
Cook County
State of Illinois

PRESENT: Alan Goldberg, Supervisor
Jerome Hoynes, Clerk
Gail Schnitzer Eisenberg, Trustee
Stefan Mozer, Trustee
Elliott Robbins, Trustee
John T. Thomas, Trustee
Jan Churchwell, Assessor
Diane Tye, Director of Administration and Finance
Sandy Forrester, Deputy Clerk

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

Following a roll call of attendees, Clerk Hoynes announced that a quorum for conducting official business had been established. Supervisor Goldberg called the Meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Supervisor Goldberg then led the reciting of the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America*.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES:

Trustee Thomas moved and Trustee Robbins seconded approval of the October 22, 2019 Township Board meeting minutes; motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Goldberg informed the Board that he had been approached by a medical doctor who voiced his opposition to the usage of recreational marijuana and expressed his hope that local governments here would pass resolutions banning the sale of recreational marijuana within our area. After discussion, it was agreed that the Board did not wish to get involved in this issue; the clear consensus was that as far as a township government this was not our business.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Clerk Hoynes continued the conversation concerning recreational marijuana as it was the topic of the Cook County Township Trustees Division meeting earlier in October. There are many ramifications in terms of employee conduct issues due to the legalization of recreational marijuana on January 1, 2020. The Board recommended that we examine our Township Employee Personnel Manual to see what policy and language changes might be necessary.

Clerk Hoynes also congratulated Trustee Eisenberg and Communications Director Macholl for their effort and involvement in a Township Educational Forum held at the Township Hall earlier this month; he stated it was a wonderful and informative event.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

Assessor Churchwell provided a detailed written report stating that after a very busy summer helping residents with property tax appeals, the office is now "quiet". She noted residents who have submitted an appeal of their property tax bill now have a two-week window after their hearing date to submit additional information if necessary.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Director Tye reported that the second batch (out of three) of agency check payments will be sent at the end of October.

TAX LEVY ORDINANCE 2019-02:

Director Tye presented the Tax Levy Ordinance 2019-02, which showed 7/31/19 financial activity representing 42% of Fiscal Year 2019 vs. the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. The proposed Tax Levy Ordinance seeks a 1.9% increase for the Town Fund in 2020 with no Tax Levy increase for the General Assistance Fund.

Supervisor Goldberg stated the Board will vote on the Tax Levy at its November meeting. He emphasized that all numbers published must be accurate.

Trustee Eisenberg moved and Trustee Robbins seconded tabling the Levy decisions to the Board's November meeting; motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORTS:

- Trustee Thomas reported that the Mental Health Committee has completed its agency hearings. He remarked that due to normal yearly cost of living increases, agencies should be requesting increases yearly. Board members had an interesting discussion about this issue, questioning whether our funding application process actually discourages agencies to ask for a funding increase.
- Trustee Mozer characterized the Money Follows the Person Committee (MFP) as a sharp group that did its work meticulously.

- Trustee Robbins related that the Agency Oversight (AOC) Committee has had outstanding attendance and will review funding for the North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic at its next meeting.
- Trustee Eisenberg reviewed two upcoming special projects: 1. reviewing our Employee Manual, and 2. updating the Township's Strategic Plan that has not been revised in years.

CONSENT AGENDA: STAFF REPORTS:

- A. Community Services Administrator- Brian Leverenz
- B. Communications Director – Jack Macholl
- C. Social Services Administrator- Jeanne Rosser

Trustee Thomas moved and Trustee Eisenberg seconded to accept the written Staff Reports as presented in its Board meeting packet; motion passed on a voice vote with Trustee Mozer abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board reviewed the Township's methods of supplementing our Pantry's food and home products supply. Beyond ongoing successful food drives (noting Congregation Hakafa's latest very substantial donation), Director Tye stated that we have made progress in keeping the Food Pantry well stocked, purchasing items tax-free and buying products at Walmart and Target.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Goldberg called attention to the upcoming Township Officials of Illinois (T.O.I.) Annual Educational Conference in Springfield asking which officials and staff members plan to attend the event.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Trustee Thomas moved and Trustee Mozer seconded approval of the New Trier Township Town Fund checks for the period September 19, 2019 through October 22, 2019, numbered 24676 through 24720, noting voided checks numbered 24607, 24613, 24614 and 24661, for a total disbursement of \$51,011.78; motion passed on a roll call vote.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain

Trustee Thomas moved and Trustee Mozer seconded approval of Payroll checks for the period September 1 through September 30, 2019 numbered 7471 through 7487, for a total disbursement of \$24,090.42; motion passed on a roll call vote.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain

NEXT MEETING:

The next Board meeting was scheduled for November 19, 2019.

New Trier Township Board Meeting
October 22, 2019

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Supervisor Goldberg shared with the Board that an official hearing concerning a complaint from a Food Pantry client has been completed and the decision is pending. The administrative hearing included Supervisor Goldberg, Attorney Kelly, Social Services Administrator Rosser and Community Services Administrator Leverenz.

Trustee Eisenberg moved and Trustee Robbins seconded adjournment; Supervisor Goldberg adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome Hoynes, Township Clerk