

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

February 14, 2023

A Regular Meeting for the Milton Township Board was held in the Board Room of the Milton Town Hall, 1492 N. Main Street, Wheaton Illinois, on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

Board Members Present: Chairman John Monino, Clerk Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Trustees, Jeff Castle, Drew Ellis, and Dan Milinko. Guests Signed in: Erica Nelson and Paula McGowan. Trustee Soto joined the meeting at 6:50 PM.

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Monino at 6:30 P.M. Erica Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present and acting and due notice had been posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Milinko, seconded by Trustee Ellis, to approve the agenda as presented. On voice vote, all those present voted aye. The motion passed.

Trustee Ellis moved, seconded by Trustee Castle, to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting January 10, 2023. On a voice vote, all those present voted aye. The motion passed.

Having concluded the audit of the Township bills in the earlier segment of the meeting, Trustee Milinko moved, seconded by Trustee Ellis that the bills be approved after been audited be paid and charged to the proper accounts, and certificates of accounts be filed by the Clerk for inspection by the citizens of the Township. Following discussion, on a roll call vote: Trustee Castle, Ellis, Milinko, and Chairman Monino. The motion passed.

### Public Forum

- a. Erica Nelson, Wheaton – Ms. Nelson apologized for missing the township board meetings over the past few months. She thanked Clerk Nathwani for his timely response to her inquiry. She asked the township to include more detailed minutes going forward. Doing so would help communicate the board's thought process on specific issues. She was also happy to see the budget being discussed in a professional manner.

### Chairman's Report:

- A. General Assistance Department – Chairman Monino mentioned that there has been a slight uptick in demand from the townships GA department. Mr. Monino believes this is attributed to the township communicating the services offered.
- B. Food Pantry – Chairman Monino and Trustee Castle led the board in the discussion regarding the food pantry. They were happy to announce new partners with the township food pantry, Whole Foods and Caputo's. Also, the food pantry has expanded which will ultimately benefit the community. The expansion will allow the township to install more refrigerators and qualify for more grants through the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The previous layout did not allow the township to serve the community's needs effectively. The additional refrigerators will allow the township to diversify the type of products that are stored and offered. To date, the township has received a \$50,000 grant. Chairman Monino would like to host a open house on April 28, 2023.
- C. Newsletter for Milton April & September – Chairman Monino mentioned that the Spring newsletter is being drafted and edited by township staff. The newsletter will be used to communicate new services offered by the township.
- D. Misc/Other – Chairman Monino mentioned that additional safety features will be installed to ensure the staff's and building's safety during the day.

### Officials & Committee Reports:

- A. Town Clerk – Clerk Nathwani mentioned that he and Andrew have successfully reserved a room at the Wheaton Park District for the annual meeting. The minutes binder from

2022 has been completely updated. Clerk Nathwani also reminded the board to complete their statement of economic interest. The County Clerk will open the filer portal as of March 1, 2023. Finally, Clerk Nathwani thanked Ms. Nelson for her comments. He mentioned that he would take more care in the minutes to help the community and future leaders understand the decision-making process.

- B. CERT – No report.
- C. Seniors Committee – No report.
- D. Cemeteries Authority – Chairman Monino picked up on a subject covered at the last meeting. He and Trustee Ellis are going to explore changing the dates of the cemeteries events to see if that helps boost attendance. The dates for this year are: 1) Jewel Grove, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2) Pleasant Hill Cemetery June 24<sup>th</sup>, and 3) St. Stephen Cemetery, August 26<sup>th</sup>.
- E. Trustees – None

#### Unfinished Business

- A. None

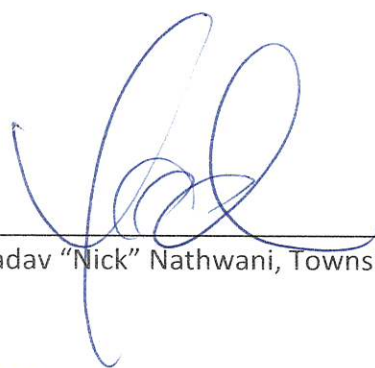
#### New Business

- A. Chairman Monino presented resolution R-23-1, “Township Board Meeting Dates”, to the township board for approval. After discussion, Trustee Soto, seconded by Trustee Ellis to approve Resolution R-23-1. On a roll call vote the motion passed. Chairman Monino mentioned that the meeting May is not the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. This is because there is a conflict in schedule.
- B. Budget Workshop – Chairman Monino lead the board in a discussion regarding the township budget for the next fiscal year. Monino mentioned that the budget was increased in line to match the cost of living index, however stayed under 5% so that the township did not have to publish a black box. Chairman Monino also mentioned that the township receives monies outside of property taxes. For example, CERT is funded through a partnerships across DuPage County. Chairman Monino reviewed each line item with the board. In detail, Chairman Monino and the board reviewed the Capital Projects line item. They reviewed projects that have been completed in the past year, and projects that will be completed as funds become available. Trustee Castle shared his vision for that line item for the next few years. He would like to install a dumpster corral in place of where the current dumpster is located. Trustee Ellis highlighted the Contingency line item in the budget. He mentioned that despite the board having the flexibility to use that line item, little to no money was spent from that line item, the line item hasn’t been “abused.” Chairman Monino presented the assessors budget to the board. Since the assessor is in a general re assessment year, Chairman Monino allocated additional dollars to pay for appraisals and other reports his office may need to justify values. The board noted that the Cemeteries line item no longer pays stipends as the Trustees have been planning events. Trustee Castle mentioned that he would like to see more dollars allocated to maintenance and repairs of the cemeteries, as dollars need to be reinvested. He also shared his vision for the cemetery which included investment into the cemetery in the unused portion could benefit the food pantry. Chairman Monino also reviewed the budgets for Mental Health, Special Police, and Mosquito Abatement (MAD). The board is committed to fully supporting the mental health board and will raise its budget by 5% for the next fiscal year. The Special Police budget was constructed using an existing contract with the Sheriff’s office. MAD will be increased by 4.998% to budget additional sprayings if needed.
- C. Misc/Other – None.

Trustee Milinko moved, seconded by Trustee Ellis to adjourn the February 14, 2023, Township Meeting. On a voice vote, all those present voted ayes. The motion passed.

The meeting retired at 7:37 P.M.

The meeting stands adjourned.



Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Township Clerk

Date minutes were approved March 14, 2023