

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

January 9, 2024

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 9, 2024.

Board Members Present: Chairman John Monino, Clerk Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Trustees, Jeff Castle, Drew Ellis, Joe Soto, and Dan Milinko. Guest signed in, Erica Nelson.

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 Castle, 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 Soto to approve the minutes from the Regular meetings from December 12, 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 Soto moved, seconded by Trustee Milnko 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, Soto, and Chairman Monino. The motion passed.

Supervisor Monino presented a Proclamation to the Wheaton Lions Club. The Proclamation acknowledged and commended the service groups commitment to the community over the past 100 years.

Public Forum

- A. Erica Nelson, Wheaton – Erica complimented the Town Board for supporting the vision of the 708 board by increasing their levy. Erica Nelson asked why one trustee voted against the levy, Dan Milinko. Erica also questioned the \$1.9MM in salaries at the township. She would appreciate an easier way to access this information. She also mentioned that she couldn't setup a meeting with the township's GA Director. The website should be updated to reflect the new GA Director. Erica also mentioned that if the township plans on buying a building, they should engage the community. There is a process set forth to follow. Erica submitted the following questions to the Clerk to make part of the permanent record:

Here are my questions from this evening's Trustee Meeting - 1/9/2024

Relative to:

Item VII. New Business

A. "Discussion for new facility off site for Assessors side."

What is your plan to seek public input on moving the Assessor's Office?

What assumptions are being made regarding cost impact on Township residents, debt, and what the operational costs will be and how financed?

What feedback will residents see from Assessor LeVan about the possibility of moving the office out of the Township building and the impact?

Chairman's Report:

- A. Budget Meetings February – Chairman Monino mentioned that he would like to incorporate the budget meeting with our regular board meeting. He would seek the board's opinion.
- B. Milton Township Toy Drive – Chairman Monino was happy to announce the township held a toy drive and over 440 children attended. He also commended Trustee Milinko and Castle for adopting a family.
- C. Seniors Luncheon VFW January 8, 2024 – Chairman Monino mentioned that the township held its first seniors' luncheon in 2024 at the VFW. Trustee Castle and Soto dressed up as snowman. The VFW allowed the township to use their facility at no cost. 96 seniors from the community attended the luncheon.
- D. Food Pantry/Assessor Parking – Chairman Monino mentioned that with the additional services offered by the food pantry and letters going from the assessor's office there is an issue with parking at the township. He is asking employees to park in the 5/3 parking lot.
- E. Midwest Shelter for Homeless – Chairman Monino mentioned that the township will receive \$1,900 to purchase garments for the Midwest Shelter.
- F. Misc. – None

Officials & Committee Reports:

- A. Town Clerk – Clerk Nathwani mentioned that his office filed the levies and truth in taxation approved by the board shortly after the board meeting in December 2023. He also received one FOIA in December. Finally, all elected officials are required to complete the Statement of Economic interest. The clerk is responsible for submitting names to the county by February 3, 2024.

- B. Food Pantry – Dave S. was happy to announce that the food pantry has another partner, Aldi. Dave also shared that the food pantry's foot traffic is up from previous years, because of the board's decision to invest monies to upgrade the food pantry. In 2022, the food pantry served 1,076 households, that increased to 2,561 in 2023. Over 8,000 individuals visited the food pantry in 2023. Debbie is also applied for grants totaling \$100,000. Last year the food pantry received \$50,000 in grants. Trustee Ellis recommended having visitors of the food pantry schedule their time to cut down.
- C. CERT – Dave presented a report for CERT. The lighting upstairs was updated with LED lights. CERT will be activated January 31, 2024, to conduct a homeless count in the area. Also, there will be a March class, 40 individuals have signed up for training.
- D. SALT- Chuck Smith presented a report for SALT. Chuck announced a newsletter went out earlier in the week highlighting the committee's accomplishments. The January meeting had 30 people. At the last meeting SALT helped individuals navigate through the Medicare signup process. Chuck also passed out a sheet detailing new scams.
- E. 708 Board – Chairman Monino announced the second round of funding will take place next month.
- F. Cemeteries Authority – Trustee Ellis mentioned that the fence at Pleasant Hill will be rehabbed. The township will receive 3 bids this Spring. Trustee Castle recommended installing a rolling gate and a single person gate. Also, the township should install a lockbox instead of passing keys out. Trustee Castle also asked the board to pledge to another community service project this year. Chairman Monino announced the township will have its first burial in this boards term. Trustee Castle also recommended a prescribed burn at St Stephen Cemetery.
- G. Trustee – Trustee Castle mentioned he attended TOI workshops in Springfield. He mentioned that attending workshops were valuable as it helps him understand best practices. Trustee Soto commended Emmy for her contributions to the township newsletter.

Unfinished Business

- A. None

New Business

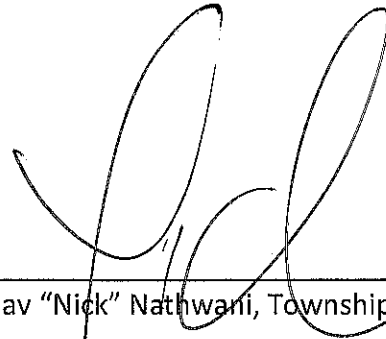
- A. Discussion for new facility off site for Assessors Side – Chairman Monino lead the discussion by stating the board will complete an evaluation to see what kind of space is needed. Also before moving ahead with any plans, defining how the vacant space will be used. The board should also set a budget and location. Also, hire the appropriate realtor to find the property. Trustee Milinko proposed a needs assessment be completed for the assessor's side. Also, the rent should be included in the assessors budget. Trustee Castle stated that he recognized the township needs additional space to continue to serve the community, as the township has expanded the services it

offers. If adopted, Milton Township is following the same structure as other townships, having the assessor's office off-site. Trustee Castle also mentioned he is not in favor of purchasing any property.

Having concluded the Regular Meeting, Trustee Soto, seconded by Milinko, to adjourn the January 9th Regular Board Meeting. On voice vote all those present voted ayes. The motion passed.

The meeting retired at 7:31 P.M.

The meeting stands adjourned.



Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Township Clerk

Date minutes were approved February 13, 2024