

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

August 13, 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, August 13, 2024.

Board Members Present: Chairman John Monino, Clerk Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Trustees, Jeff Castle, Drew Ellis, and Joe Soto. Guest signed in: Archbishop Rake, Erica Nelson, Karin Daly, Amin Razor, Sada T. Larry Pitts, Dan Basiley, Scott Hingley, and Marty Keller.

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Monino at 6:30 P.M. Marty Keller 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 Soto, seconded by Trustee Castle, to approve the agenda as presented. On voice vote, all those present voted aye. The motion passed.

Trustee Ellis moved, seconded by Trustee Milinko to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting of July 9, 2024. 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 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 Soto and Chairman Monino. The motion passed.

Public Forum

- A. A concerned resident asked if the bills were posted for the community to audit as well.

Chairman's Report:

- A. General Assistance – Chairman Monino mentioned the township is busy signing up households for LIHEAP. Also, the township has filed a amendment so that higher earners can qualify for the program. He also mentioned that applications for youth scholarships are up.
- B. Decennial Meeting September 10th 5:00 PM Milton Township Office – The township will host its decennial meeting on September 10th. The meeting will respond to recommendations received to make local government more efficient. The meeting will include Trustee Castle and Supervisor Monino.
- C. Newsletter Updates July/August – The township newsletter was received throughout the township. Chairman Monino appreciates everyone's contribution to the magazine.

- D. Memorial Park Concert for Milton Township Food Pantry – Chairman Monino announced the township board was present at a concert in Memorial Park. The concert raised a lot of money for the township food pantry.
- E. 708 Board – The 708 Board had one member resign, Bob Lyons. The 708 board has received two applications for new members.
- F. Misc./Other – none.

Officials & Committee Reports:

- A. Town Clerk – Clerk Nathwani mentioned that his office has received several FOIA's. Some of the FOIAs were forwarded to outside counsel. Additionally, the Clerk will work with outside counsel as the township has an upcoming election May 2025.
- B. Trustee Comments –

Trustee Dan Milinko:

Good evening, everyone. I wanted to take the opportunity to share some observations I've made while conducting one of the most essential duties of a Township Trustee, the auditing of expenditures.

Since I began my term here at Milton Township in May 2021, when reviewing payroll expenditures and records for the Township Assessor's Office, I've noticed payments made to interns in their function to assist with field work that assists appraisal activities. It's likely that many other townships utilize interns as well. Something that sparked my curiosity though, is the fact that three of these interns are the children of an employee working in the Assessor's Office in addition to another intern which appears to be a friend of one of the children. While this could raise red flags, I didn't have an issue with employing college – aged interns that were getting the work done. **However, what did give me pause, was finding that the spouse of the before-mentioned employee at the Assessor's Office was just recently added to the payroll, performing the same type of field work that the interns do.

Another observation that I made was for a new hire found on the payroll in the Assessor's Office to replace a staff member that had resigned. I've learned that this person is the spouse of someone Supervisor Monino has a business relationship with outside Milton Township. Again, what gives me pause in this particular situation is the fact that Supervisor Monino approached the board insisting that this person be hired on the Township side. Trustees Castle and I reminded Supervisor Monino that our budget had been finalized and that no open positions were available for his acquaintance, or anyone else for that matter. I'll also add that this new hire in the Assessor's Office was provided with a salary that is \$20,000 more per year than the person that was replaced in this position.

My purpose in bringing these facts to light is to declare these activities as suspicious, or even questionable. I will lead an investigation that will allow the board to make that determination.

- C. Food Pantry – Dave S mentioned that supply is keeping up with demand at the food pantry. Also, 133 polo vaccines were donated to the food pantry. Also, the food pantry is upgrading to reusable bags opposed to plastics bags.
- D. CERT – Dave S. announced the CERT team has been busy helping the Village of Glen Ellyn. This upcoming weekend CERT will be taking an active role in the Taste of Glen Ellyn. Also, CERT will close the summer out by helping Wheaton their concert series.
- E. Cemeteries Authority – Trustee Ellis mentioned the third event is coming up and will be held August 31st at 11:00 AM. This event is a catholic mass and will be a week before Labor Day weekend. The post card announcing the event has already gone out.
- F. Transportation – Marty Keller has already received phone calls for the transportation services advertised in the last township newsletter. He is averaging 4-5 calls a day. Marty mentioned they need drivers to help.

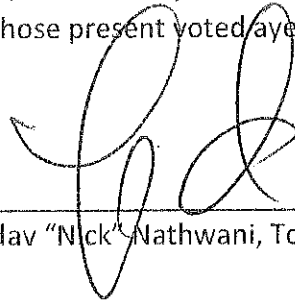
Unfinished Business

- A. Discussion of Pleasant Hill Fence – Chairman Monino stated that he would like to indefinitely table the discussion about the fence at Pleasant Hill cemetery. Trustee Ellis made a motion, seconded by trustee Soto to table any further action on this issue. On a voice vote the motion passed. Trustee Milinko mentioned that he would like to see the project re bid, with a more reasonable scope. The bid needs to reflect the townships budget for the project.

New Business

- A. Milton Township Elected Officials Salary Discussion – Every four years the board decided salaries. Trustee Castle mentioned he would do some research to compare salaries. Wants to make salary decisions based on data available.
- B. Parking Policy – Chairman Monino and Attorney Bond handed out a memo making a policy for parking at the township. The township has expanded the services it offers, and parking is limited. The handout outlines policies and procedures. Trustee Ellis made a motion seconded by Trustee Soto, on a voice vote the motion passed.
- C. Tax Objection Approval – Attorney Bond mentioned the township received a tax objection. If the township received anymore, he plans to try settling them.
- D. Pelego Web Site Mgmt Presentation – Assad Yusuf made a presentation to the board on the services his company provides. Mr. Yusuf presented a power point highlighting his firm's capabilities. They are based in Downers Grove, IL and have been in business for over 20 years. The presentation highlighted deficiencies on the current township website and put a plan in place to fix these issues. Their proposal included a mobile app.

Having concluded the Regular Meeting, Trustee Milinko, seconded by Ellis, to adjourn the August 13th Regular Board Meeting. On voice vote all those present voted ayes. The motion passed.



Yadav "Nick" Nathwani, Township Clerk

Date minutes were approved September 10, 2024