

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD

January 14, 2025

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 14, 2025.

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

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Monino at 6:30 P.M. Mike Harvey 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 Ellis, to approve the agenda as presented. On voice vote, all those present voted aye. The motion passed.

Trustee Soto moved, seconded by Trustee Milinko to approve the minutes from the Regular meetings from December 10, 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 Ellis moved, seconded by Trustee Milinko 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.

### Public Forum

- A. Erica Nelson, Wheaton – Erica thanked Kara Murphy for her leadership on the 708 board. Erica plans on submitting a short email about the budget that will be discussed at tonight's meeting.
- B.

### Chairman's Report:

- A. Newsletter - Chairman Monino announced that the newsletter is being finalized and will be circulated for review soon.
- B. Senior Luncheon - Chairman Monino announced this past week the township hosted a Senior's event at the VFW on Papworth. The event was successful.
- C. Misc. – None

#### Officials & Committee Reports:

- A. Town Clerk – Clerk Nathwani announced his office has been busy preparing for electoral board hearings. Also, he has been notified by the county that the township needs to update their list of individuals required to file a Statement of Economic Interest.
- B. CERT - Dave S mentioned that CERT will be performing a homeless count on January 29, 2025. Also, CERT will start a 4-week class next month.
- C. Food Pantry - Dave S. reported that the township served over 12,512 individuals last year. Also, the township collected 20,900 pounds of food.
- D. SALT- Chuck Smith held another meeting with over 30 individuals attending. Guest speaker with Amy G. who spoke about services the county offers to support seniors. Also, ComEd recently changed all their account numbers. This has unfortunately created an opportunity for scammers to target seniors.
- E. 708 Board – Shannon thanked Kara Murphy for her service on the 708 board. Also, it was announced that the 708-board awarded \$900,000 to 18 different organizations. Kara has resigned from the board, and there is a replacement ready for her vacancy. Also, the 708 board would like to expand their board from 7 to 9 members.
- F. Cemeteries Authority – Looking forward to events in 2025.

#### Unfinished Business

- A. Approval of Website Redevelopment - Chairman Monino announced that the board received 3 bids to redevelop the township website. He emailed the bids out a week ago. Trustee Ellis moved, seconded by Trustee Soto to accept the bid from Digital Rein.

Trustee Castle mentioned that he would like to hold off on any approval. One of the three bids was no bid. It is best practices to receive 3 bids. Trustee Castle announced that he would like to understand why SEO Level Up did not opt to bid since the township already spent \$20,000 with them.

Chairman Monino mentioned that the township website is in desperate need to be updated.

Trustee Milinko also expressed that he would like to see 3 bids.

On a roll call vote Trustee Ellis and Chairman Monino voted to adopt the bid from Digital Rein, Trustee Castle, Milinko, and Soto voted against the bid. The motion did not pass.

#### Trustee Comment:

Trustee Milinko announced January 9, 2025, was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Also, January 13, 2025, was the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Milton Township.

Trustee Castle commented that Chairman Monino followed the agenda process, however removed Trustee Comment from the agenda. Monino also added that the Trustees should email him when they want to go into executive session.

#### New Business

- A. Annual Town Meeting - Chairman Monino announced that the annual town meeting will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Clerk Nathwani will contact the Park district to schedule this event.
- B. 708 Board moving to 9 members - Tabled
- C. 708 Board Retro Appointment Drew Ellis and Shannon Hartnett - Trustee Castle seconded by Soto to reappoint Drew Ellis and Shannon Harnett to the 708 board. On a roll call vote, Trustee Castle, Ellis, Soto, Milinko, and Chairman Monino voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- D. 708 Board Appointment Sarah O'Donnell - Trustee Soto moved, seconded by Trustee Milinko to appoint Sarah O'Donnell to the 708 board. On a roll call vote, Trustee Castle, Ellis, Soto, Milinko and Chairman Monino voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.
- E. Special Police Intergovernmental Agreement - Chairman Monino presented an agreement between the township and Sheriff's office for police services. Trustee Ellis moved, seconded by Trustee Soto the adopt the updated intergovernmental agreement. Trustee Milinko, Soto, Ellis, Castle, and Chairman Monino voted in favor of the agreement.
- F. Discussion/ Budget Workshop - Abby presented a PowerPoint for the 2025-2026 budget. Abby reviewed fixed costs of the budget including but not limited to, insurance, unemployment, health insurance, social security and Medicare costs. She also reviewed revenues for the upcoming budget by each source of revenue. Abby adjusted each fiscal year based on projections she received from the county. She also proposed lowering some of the expenses when line items weren't spent in the previous fiscal year.

Assessor Budget - Abby worked with the Assessor to craft his budget for the upcoming year. Abby mentioned that most of his line items stayed the same. Most of the line items increased by 3%.

Cemeteries - The upcoming budget is less than the previous fiscal year. Abby mentioned that monies will be set aside to replace the fence at the cemetery. Also, there was mention of hiring an arborist to visit Jewel Grove Cemetery to inspect the trees. The budget proposed increasing spending for public events from the previous fiscal year.

CERT - Added phone expense including a cellphone plan for senior members of CERT. Also, added a separate line item for fuel for the CERT van. Also, the new budget decreased salaries slightly.

GA Revenue - Abby presented a budget separating each source of GA revenue. Trustee Ellis mentioned that the board passed a policy regarding fund balances. Administration should test this policy annually.

Special Police - Levy and expenses increased by 3% from the previous fiscal year.

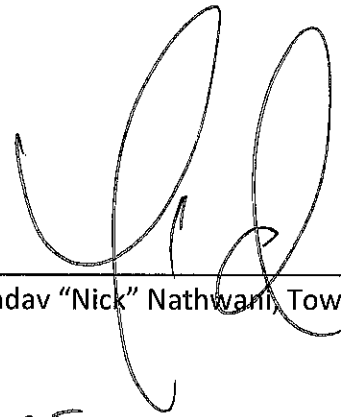
Mosquito Abatement - Also increased by 3% from the previous fiscal year.

Mental Health - Included interest income as a revenue source for the upcoming fiscal year. Expenses increased by 3% for the previous fiscal year.

Having concluded the Regular Meeting, Trustee Soto, seconded by Ellis, to adjourn the January 14th Regular Board Meeting. On voice vote all those present voted ayes. The motion passed.

The meeting retired at 8:01 P.M.

The meeting stands adjourned.



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Yadav "Nick" Nathwan, Township Clerk

Date minutes were approved February 11, 2025



Erica Nelson &lt;npdnelson1@gmail.com&gt;

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**January 14, 2025 Milton Township Meeting**

1 message

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**Erica Nelson** <npdnelson1@gmail.com>

Sat, Jan 11, 2025 at 1:02 PM

To: John Monino &lt;j.monino@miltontownship.net&gt;, d.milinko@miltontownship.net, a.ellis@miltontownship.net, j.soto@miltontownship.net, Jeffrey Castle &lt;j.castle@miltontownship.net&gt;

Cc: Yadav Nathwani &lt;y.nathwani@miltontownship.net&gt;, "noed3@aol.com" &lt;noed3@aol.com&gt;

Bcc: Erica Nelson &lt;npdnelson1@gmail.com&gt;

Good afternoon,

This week's Milton Township meeting includes VI. New Business item F. Budget Workshop. Here are some questions and requests for this year's budget process for 2025-2026. Township Government may be the most misunderstood form of elected governance, and the Township Board should meet the challenge of educating taxpayers and community members on the roles, responsibilities, and costs associated with meeting Township government responsibilities.

The current budget posted under Finances > Monthly Reports > 2024 November is linked as our reference. The budget YTD figures align with the budgeted amounts. Our central questions and requests for information are related to the lack of detail for taxpayers on the largest costs associated with the operating budget and tax dollars: Salaries and Benefits. Additionally, there is a lack of budget notes/details to explain a cost or expense for the general public.

<https://miltontownship.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Combined-Monthly-Reports-December-2024.pdf>

1. General comment: Budget display on the website needs to be corrected. See pdf pages 15-21, 51 and 52. Unable to associate these items to the previous page(s).
2. Budget detail:
  - a. Under Salaries:  
-pdf page 2: **Township P&L**. Add each position and the current salary. The same request for **General Assistance** pdf page 24. Specifically for ALL paid positions across the budget.
  - b. Under Benefits:  
-pdf page 2: **Township P&L**. Detail Health Insurance cost under Benefits for each position. What percent of the position's salary is associated health insurance costs – 20%, 25% and how do you project that will increase for 2025-2026?
  - c. Why does the **Road and Bridge P&L** have Health Insurance listed as a line item and the other budgets do not? PDF page 28. Why is the health insurance cost for November 15-December 10 over twice the amount of salaries that month?

Thank you. We look forward to Tuesday's meeting.

Sincerely,

Erica and Barry Nelson

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630.956.6337 (Barry mobile)