

Supervisor Bonnie Kahn Ognisanti called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge: The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Clerk Levy called the roll (*A quorum was present*).

Supervisor Bonnie Kahn Ognisanti	Present
Clerk Charles Levy	Present
Trustee Donald Gelfund	Excused
Trustee Mark Collins	Present
Trustee Peggy Tolleson	Present
Trustee Kitty Kendrick	Present

Assessor Scott Bagnall	Present
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Staff Members:

Administrator Rick Krier	Present
Township Attorney Ross Secler	Excused
Deputy Clerk Sandie Capsuto	Present
Public Relations Director Mike Isaacs	Present

Trustee Collins **moved** and Trustee Kendrick **seconded** to approve the minutes from the April 10th, 2023 Board Meeting and to Approve the minutes of the April 10th Supervisor's Meeting. Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti abstained. **Both Motions passed by roll call. All Ayes.**

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti was happy to report that we received a check from the state in the amount of \$750,000.00. This was for a grant that was approved in 2020 for the addition that we put on in the Food Pantry. She recognized State Senator Ram Villivalam and Jenny Araque for the tireless effort they put into this to get it approved.

Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti also reported that she will be in Springfield for the TOI

Lobby Day from Tuesday through Thursday. She is hoping that Senate Bill 1430, which amends the Illinois Public Aid Code (it provides that persons shall not be determined ineligible for cash assistance provided under the General Assistance Article of the Code based upon a previous conviction for any drug-related felony under State or Federal law) will be called into Session. This is the bill that Niles Township has been working on for several months.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Clerk Levy: Clerk Levy reported that the Supervisor’s Financial Reports for the Town Fund and for the General Assistance Fund were duly filed with the County Clerk’s office. The Annual Town Hall Meeting was a success and that the **motion** to approve the township ability to buy, sell, or lease property was **passed**.

Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti asked if the date for next year’s town meeting will not conflict with the beginning of Passover, or the end of the Ramadan holidays. Clerk Levy confirmed that we had taken that into consideration when we chose the date for next year’s Town Meeting.

Assessor Scott Bagnall: Assessor Bagnall reported that they have been overrun and overwhelmed with the filing of exemptions on behalf of our residents. Several people spoke up on behalf of Assessor Bagnall for his outstanding service during this hectic time. Assessor Bagnall recognized the efforts of Bert Brooke, our accounts manager for his tireless efforts in scheduling appointments on behalf of the assessors.

Trustee Kendrick: No Report other than L.A. Fitness in Morton Grove is due to open July 1, 2023.

Trustee Gelfund: Excused.

Trustee Tolleson: No Report.

Trustee Collins: No Report.

STAFF REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATOR: Administrator Krier thanked all of the elected officials for filing their Statement of Economic Interest forms into the County Clerk Portal; we also have these forms on file in our office.

He also announced that the large blue bin located in front of our building is for textile recycling (clothing, purses, wallets, shoes, etc.) and the two smaller green bins are for compost. Residents can drop off these items directly into the bins. Helping Hands is

the company who is monitoring the textile bin. They will donate the textiles that are in good condition around the world and will dispose of damaged textiles in an economically responsible manner. The Village of Skokie will monitor the Compost Bins. A small enclosure will be built around the compost bins to keep them from toppling over in high winds and storms. The Village of Skokie will be promoting this from their social media. Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti purchased a small composting item to keep in the staff kitchen here at the township. There is no cost to the township for either of these bins.

All of the Service Provider requests are on a google doc for the board to review. They will need to schedule a time to go through these and make some difficult decisions. The total amount requested by all of the Service Providers comes to \$840,000.00, while we only allocated \$700,000.00 in our budget.

LEGAL ADVISOR: Excused.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OUTREACH COORDINATOR: Mike Isaacs reported that we'll have a lot to promote in the month of May. While the deadline to sign up for sponsors and participants for the Fun Run has passed, we will have an additional few days for people to register late at a discounted rate (without all of the Swag giveaways) before the date of the actual Fun Run taking place on May 21st, 2023.

Ishtar's Circle will be dropping off needed items and monetary donations every Saturday during the month of May. There will be key visits to the Respite Center and an official re-opening of the garden. He will also do media promotion for the new Textile and Compost bins.

Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti mentioned that we have gone through all of the funding from the IGA's through School District 219 and School District 68. She is meeting with their boards in hopes to renew those IGA's to help families avoid evictions. In addition, she is also in contact with School District 73.5 to see if we can get an additional IGA (Inter Governmental Agreement) with them.

BILLS PAYABLE: Trustee Kendrick **moved** and Trustee Collins **seconded** to approve the distribution of funds from April 7, 2023 to April 20, 2023 as presented. For the Total Town Fund \$52,702.11 and the Total General Assistance Fund of \$14,539.38 for a Total of All Funds of \$67,241.49. **Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti **moved** and Trustee Collins **seconded** to approve a request by the Skokie 4th of July Parade Committee for \$10,000.00 to help defray the costs for the 4th of July 2023 celebrations. (Funding for this event was

anticipated and allocated in Line Item 0-313-0 in the 2023-2024 approved budget).

Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.

Trustee Collins **moved** and Trustee Kendrick **seconded** to award a \$5,000.00 College Scholarship to Jocelyn Jude of Skokie, currently a Senior at Niles West High School.

Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.

Trustee Tolleson **moved** and Trustee Kendrick **seconded** to give the Supervisor the authority to award the funding and to enter into an agreement with the following **Service Providing Agencies:**

1. **\$30,000.00 - Connections for the Homeless**
2. **\$10,000.00 - Open Communities**
3. **\$12,249.00 - Douglas Center**
4. **\$6,500.00 - Keshet**
5. **\$30,000.00 - Orchard Village**
6. **\$13,000.00 - Shore Community Services Inc.**
7. **\$7,500.00 - Bundled Blessings**
8. **\$10,000.00 - Community Animal Rescue Effort**
9. **\$5,000.00 - Ark of Chicago**
10. **\$32,500 - CJE Legal Aid**

Total: \$156,749.00

Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.

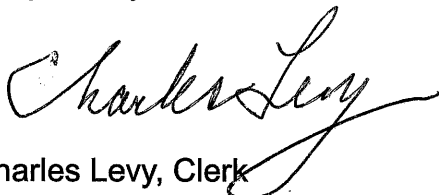
CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Trustee Collins **moved** and Trustee Kendrick **seconded** to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Next Regular Board Meeting May 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles Levy, Clerk