



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           | Present |
| Trustee Mark Collins             | Excused |
| Trustee Peggy Tolleson           | Present |
| Trustee Kitty Kendrick           | Present |

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Assessor Scott Bagnall | Present |
|------------------------|---------|

**Staff Members:**

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

Trustee Kendrick **moved** and Trustee Gelfund **seconded** to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2023 Board Meeting. **Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.**

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT :** Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti reported that we had our grand reopening of our food pantry this past Saturday. Despite the rain, it was well attended. Soul Good Coffee Truck was on hand to pass out coffee and pastries. She indicated that approximately 70 pasties were distributed. Senator Ram Villivalam was awarded a plaque of appreciation for his efforts in obtaining a grant that covered the majority of the expenses to build the addition onto our food pantry. Senator Laura Fine, Representatives Kevin Olickal and Jennifer Gong Gershowitz were also in attendance. Trustee Tolleson manned a table for us representing Niles Township Government. Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti gave special thanks to Tony Araque, our Food Pantry Manager for giving tours of the newly expanded food pantry, and Jenny Araque who

spent their Saturday morning helping to organize the event.

Tomorrow evening she will be presenting along with our social worker, Ruth Orme-Johnson to the board from District #219 in hopes of renewing the IGA (Inter-Governmental Agreement) we've had with them for the past two years. This allows us to allocate funds to families whose children attend District #219 to avoid evictions, avoid cut off notices for electricity and gas, and provide child care scholarships to younger children so that their older siblings can continue to focus on school and studying. It also provides services for mental health, behavioral health, and Occupational Therapy for students in need whose families cannot afford to pay for services.

Jenny Araque has ordered all of the school supplies that will be delivered directly to the schools who have students that receive free and reduced lunches. We are now receiving numbers directly from the school districts so we no longer need to guess at how many school supplies are needed. Thanks for the 501C3 that is run by the Niles Township Food Foundation for helping to provide those funds. Volunteers will be needed for packing days of the school supplies taking place on Friday July 28th, and Monday July 31st, 2023.

Supervisor Kahn Ognisanti attended a presentation earlier today from Connections for the Homeless at Hilda's Place. U.S. Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky secured a two million dollar grant for Connections for the Homeless. Our own Respite Center is modeled after their organization. They share their policies with us, their successes and help us solve issues as they come up. She will be meeting next week with two representatives from Hilda's Place to find out how we can expand services.

#### **REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**Clerk Levy:** No report.

**Assessor Scott Bagnall:** Assessor Bagnall reported that his office has done everything possible to inspire people to file tax exemptions on time. Assessor Bagnall would like to encourage 100% of exemptions to be filed on time, especially when considering that certificate of error refunds come out of future agency budgets and can now be retaxed years later.

He was happy to return to a sense of normalcy by participating in the 4th of July parades for Morton Grove and Skokie. He thanked Administrator Krier for hosting the luncheon between the two parades at his house.

His office is back to scheduling seminars, some of which are already scheduled for September and October.

**Trustee Tolleson:** No report.

**Trustee Gelfund:** Trustee Gelfund reported that he is looking for volunteers to assist him on Sunday July 30, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. to about 9:30 p.m. in the beer tent for Lincolnwood Fest. He will be emceeding the event, encouraging people to add to the tip jar that will be donated to our Food Pantry. He reminded everyone who offers to volunteer at the Food Pantry, that this is a great opportunity to benefit the Food Pantry.

Tuesday, August 1, 2023 are the Lincolnwood and Skokie National Night Out for the Police Departments. The Police Departments are hosting, however he will be cooking hot dogs for the Lincolnwood event taking place at Proesel Park while Trustee Tolleson will be working at Skokie's event taking place at Oakton Park. He is looking for one additional township person to man the table for Lincolnwood while he is preoccupied with cooking!!! The events will take place from 4:30 or 5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

**Trustee Kendrick:** No report

**Trustee Collins:** Excused

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Excused

**LEGAL ADVISOR:** Excused

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR:** Excused

**BILLS PAYABLE:** Trustee Tolleson **moved** and Trustee Kendrick **seconded to approve the distribution of funds from June 23, 2023 through July 06, 2023 as presented:** Total Town Fund: \$165,599.50; Total General Assistance Fund: \$34,703.91 with a total of all funds: \$200,303.41. **Motion passed by roll call. All Ayes.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Trustee Gelfund **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Next Regular Board Meeting July 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Levy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Charles Levy, Clerk