

**PALOS TOWNSHIP
GENERAL MEETING
10802 S. ROBERTS ROAD PALOS HILLS, ILLINOIS 60465**

April 6, 2020 – 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order

The General Meeting of the Palos Township Board was called to order by **Supervisor Schumann**. The meeting was held via internet conference call pursuant to the Executive Order of the Governor. It was held via video/audio conference on [WWW.ZOOM](http://WWW.ZOOM.US). US at 5:30 P.M.

All persons interested in attending will be able to do so by visiting our website at WWW.palostownship.org and selecting the link to JOIN THE MEETING.

All persons wishing to address the board will be permitted to do so through the web-conference platform following the standard rules previously adopted by the Board.

The Township Hall was not opened for the meeting.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by the Clerk of the Township, **Jane Nolan**. Present were Trustees Jeanes, Riley and Woods, Supervisor Schumann. Also present was Township Attorney, Erik Peck.

Absent: Trustee Brannigan (at this time)

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Schumann led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes

a. Approval of the Minutes - General Meeting March 9, 2020

Trustee Jeanes moved to approve the minutes of the General Meeting of March 9, 2020. **Trustee Riley** seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Ayes: Trustees Jeanes, Riley and Woods, Supervisor Schumann. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Special Presentations/Communications

Due to the Governor's Ruling for COVID-19 there were no special presentations or communications at this meeting.

Reports of Officials

a. Supervisor/Treasurer

1. Discussion of Donation to the Center

Supervisor Schumann discussed The Center which includes the farm there and the church. She is looking for a way to help them as they are in need. Many employees had to be furloughed. She stressed that The Center is a vital part of Palos Township.

Trustee Woods stated that he feels the Center does important work in Palos Township as it works with people with addictions, does training, etc. They help residents of all nationalities and religions and save communities money with the work they do. He stated the township could help them out with \$1,000.00 or more considering the amount of money communities spend on drug addictions. **Trustee Jeanes** stated that she agreed with this.

Attorney Peck stated that this item should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting. **Supervisor Schumann** stated that this will happen.

Supervisor Schumann stated that the Township is closed to the public. The lobby is open for residents to file their appeals as Palos Township is in appeal season. The employees are working diligently with the food pantry and many donations have been received. The Easter Distribution will be

done via the mail and the baskets will be picked up in the lobby area by the residents with no other contact. The township has been busy, and many residents are calling for assistance.

b. Clerk

1. Ethics Statements Due May 1, 2020 FYI

Clerk Nolan stated that everyone knows about the Ethics Statements deadline. She has only received three to date. They are her own, Trustee Jeanes' and Trustee Brannigan's. She asked, once again, if the Board members and officials would provide her with a copy of their Ethics Statements. She must keep these each year.

2. Annual Town Meeting April 14, 2020 7:00 P.M. FYI

Clerk Nolan will address this in Unfinished Business

Attorney's Report

Attorney Peck stated he had no report for the Board.

Reports of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Administration – Trustee Woods

Trustee Woods is still waiting for the revenue estimates from the accounting firm so he can complete the budget. He only has the estimates through the month of December. He has made a telephone call to the accounting firm.

b. Policy and Personnel – Supervisor Schumann

Supervisor Schumann stated that there are no new changes to Policy and Personnel.

c. Technology, Automation and Information – Trustee Riley

Trustee Riley stated that he had no report for the Board.

Trustee Woods stated that he would like to have a meeting with an IT person for the proposed server. Trustee Riley and Supervisor Schumann will attend when it is scheduled.

d. Building and Grounds – Trustee Jeanes

Trustee Jeanes stated that she has not called the person for the township cameras because there can be no meeting with them at this time. She will call when a meeting is possible.

e. Public Services and Health – Trustee Brannigan

Trustee Brannigan did not attend the meeting so there was no report given. Supervisor Schumann informed the Board that the 2nd POD will be kept because it is still needed. The POD is helping with the food that is being given to residents as so many more are in need.

Unfinished Business

Clerk Nolan informed the Board that she has called Springfield with questions concerning the Annual Town Meeting. She stated that as of now it will still happen. She feels it can be done by zoom. She stated she could attend by phone. The question that only township residents can attend is a problem. The Attorney General can make a ruling or the Governor may make a decision before April 14, 2020 concerning this.

New Business

There was no new business for the Board.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Trustee Woods explained how someone could speak at the meeting if they attended by zoom.

Speaker #1

Did not give their name but asked why his name was changed. He asked questions concerning a problem at a previous meeting. He wanted to know how the Board is keeping those who attend our meetings safe. He stated that the Board has hired incompetent security people who only protect the Board, and never take their side (protestors and activists) on anything. Supervisor Schumann stated that the security protects everybody.

Speaker #2

This activist is Mark Kuchner. He asked who the security people are supposed to take care of. He stated the he was not blocking he door at the last meeting.

Speaker #3

This man's name was Samir. He wanted to know why no one is providing answers. He was told it was not a question and answer session. He stated that if the Board refused to answer it is a representation of our politics – not his.

Speaker #4

Bassam Kawar

He had several questions. The main one concerned essential township services. He asked if the essential services the township provided could be stated. He asked how these services are being provided, and what are their numbers? He feels that there are many non-profits in the area that provide essential services and deserve the \$1000.00 donation the Board wants to make. It was stated that he can put his questions in writing and they will be answered.

Speaker #5

This person was a woman who asked where Sharon was, and shouldn't she be here? Also, she wanted to know why the Board does not know why she is not here. She asked what the township was doing in connection with COVID-19. She was told cleaning, closing the building to the public, cancelling the use of the

meeting room, etc. These are the same things townships are doing across the state.

Speaker #6

This person was known as "Unknown #3". They did not answer

Sharon Brannigan joins the meeting at this point at 5:45 P.M. She was having trouble accessing the meeting.

Speaker #7

This is Nick Saus. He stated that the racist has just joined us. He thinks it is funny that no one knew where she was during this entire meeting. He said the Board is wasting money sanitizing a building that no one is using but yourselves if you are not working from home.

This falls under Sharon's work because it has to do with health. He has questions about what the Board is doing concerning COVIC-19. He stated he has not heard a single descriptive response concerning this throughout the meeting except for Easter Baskets. He stated that giving these out could spread the virus to families.

Supervisor Schumann answered that the residents chose to pick up the Easter Baskets and the food from the township.

Speaker #8

A woman asking if we are keeping track of the chat? She can see that someone wants to get in.

Speaker #9

Thada Morras

The question was why no one has commented on the chat. People are calling out the racism of Sharon Brannigan, and no one is responding to the questions of the community. She wants to know why the Board does not address the reasons

there is no response to the community's questions. Is it because we are uneducated, etc.?

Person #1 again

This is Hasam who did not give his name before when he spoke. (Speaker#1) Why are you cutting people's time off? You are cutting people off. You have to be respectful of people. What are you doing about the meeting in May? Are you still going to have this "stupid zoom meeting where you are changing people's names?" What are you going to do about it? What else are you going to do except sanitize the stupid building?"

Trustee Woods stated that zoom meetings will continue as long as the Governor's order stays in place.

Trustee Woods stated that he did not mute anyone. They muted themselves.

Supervisor Schumann stated that this is not a dialogue. It is for public comment.

Executive Session:

There was no motion to enter Executive Session.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board. **Supervisor Schumann** asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Trustee Riley** moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 P.M. **Trustee Jeanes** seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned

Jane A. Nolan

Clerk

Palos Township

