

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

May 11, 2020 – 6:30 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 internal conference call pursuant to the Executive Order of the Governor. It was held via video/audio conference on [WWW.ZOOM](https://www.zoom.us). US at 6:30 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 Brannigan, Jeanes, and Woods, Supervisor Schumann. Also present was Township Attorney, Erik Peck.

Officials Present: Clerk Nolan
Assessor Maloney

Absent: Trustee Riley

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Schumann led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Disposition of Minutes from Previous Meeting

a. Approval of the Minutes - General Meeting April 6, 2020

Trustee Jeanes moved to approve the minutes of the General Meeting of April 6, 2020. Trustee Brannigan seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Ayes: Trustees Brannigan, Jeanes, and Woods, Supervisor Schumann. Nays: None. Motion carried 4-0.

Special Presentations/Communications

There were no special presentations or communications at this meeting.

Reports of Officials

a. Supervisor/Treasurer

1. Discussion of Sexual Harassment Training for Employees

Supervisor Schumann informed the Board that there will be a new sexual harassment training for all employees this year. Clerk Nolan stated that the training must be completed by December 31, 2020 according to the new law from the state as of January 1, 2020. Part time employees are included in the training. Supervisor Schumann will inform the Board concerning this training as she moves forward with the details. The state has set up information townships can take advantage of or each township can prepare their own training.

Clerk

1. Dates for 2020 Budget Hearing

Clerk Nolan stated the dates for the 2020 Budget Hearings will be discussed at a later date due to the Governor's directive.

2. Items for Virtual Town Hall.

Clerk Nolan informed the Board that she has not received any information from TOCC concerning ideas for a virtual town hall as the Township Day in September has been cancelled.

Supervisor Schumann informed the Board that she has spoken to Alicia who will cancel the vendors for Township Day. Some of the vendors had already accepted to attend our Health Fair which Palos Township had during the 2019 Township Day.

Clerk Nolan explained the purpose of Township Day for those listening to the meeting electronically.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Peck stated that he had no report for the Board.

Reports of Standing Committees

a. Finance and Administration – Trustee Woods

Trustee Woods stated that both the Town Fund and the General Assistance Fund tentative budgets have been completed. He is working on the Road and Bridge District tentative budget.

b. Policy and Personnel – Supervisor Schumann

Supervisor Schumann stated that policy and personnel issues do tie in with the Sexual Harassment Training discussed before, and she had no other issues for discussion.

c. Technology, Automation and Information – Trustee Riley

There was no report from Technology, Information and Automation as Trustee Riley did not attend the meeting.

d. Buildings and Grounds – Trustee Jeanes

Trustee Jeanes reported that every thing she is doing is on hold right now. She has someone coming to look at the lights in the township to see if money can be saved concerning the lighting. She has changed that appointment again and is still working on the township cameras.

e. Public Services and Health – Trustee Brannigan

Trustee Brannigan stated that she had no report for the Board.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for the Board.

New Business

There was no new business for the Board.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

Speaker #1

This speaker was Mark Kuehner.

He called on the Board to take some action against Sharon Brannigan who is now involved with the "Open Illinois Movement" which deals with people with mottos from Nazi Death Camps, Confederate flags and swastikas. He feels the Board should do something about this and he also asked, again, when the Board was going to do something about censoring Sharon Brannigan

Speaker #2

Mr. Bob Franklin asked how many cases of COVID-19 are there in Palos Township?

He stated that the township has no report to give on COVID-19 since Sharon Brannigan is too busy attending rallies to find out the information. He stated that there are 677 positive cases in Palos Township according to the Department of Health. The Board has no public report on that pandemic. The Board should know what is going on. We should know what you are doing to protect the township resident concerning this. There are zero testing sites on the Department of Health websites for zip codes in Palos Township. You are giving zero updates on Public Health. Maybe you can give the residents information on public health instead of supporting Sharon Brannigan.

Speaker #3

Sara Omar stated that she is very concerned about the direction of the township. The trustees are polarized and make every issue a partisan issue just to "piss off" the protestors. You all refuse to condemn a racist amongst you. You call the cops on us and have us arrested. You allow people to verbally and physically assault us. Now Sharon, your Public Health Trustee, does not have updates and is encouraging people to ignore all Health Care experts' advice, and go and protest a necessary lockdown. "You, all as a Board should be ashamed of yourselves."

Trustee Brannigan asked Clerk Nolan to mark that "none of the above is true."

Speaker #4

Shannon Brannigan

This person never came on. A recording played with a group of people yelling "Nazis Go Home" and "Standing Up for our Rights."

Speaker #5

Nadish told the audience the number of COVID cases in the United States and in the state of Illinois at the time of the meeting. We all deserve protection from COVID-16. Anti-quarantine protesting makes the COVID-19 virus stronger over time. Now Sharon wants to open-up Illinois which shows that she is insensitive to the families who have had members pass away or become ill from the virus. She is also insensitive to the frontline workers, especially the nurses who have to wear

masks their entire shifts. You should not be in a position where you oversee public health, nor in a place where you represent the people. Quarantine is not taking your civil liberties away, but is protecting you from a global pandemic. You need to be resigned period.

Speaker #6

Rezan stated that she is echoing what all the other speakers said. We have been here for two years. You don't do anything about racism. You just sit around and mock everybody. You know nothing that is going on in your community. You cannot ever answer a simple question. "Why are you a Board?" Where is the proof you are competent to be a Board? We need the proof that you are competent to be a board. We need answers. You are shutting us out. You are ignoring our requests. There needs to come to an end to this.

Speaker #7

Nanya stated that this township is very incompetent and very racist. It is racist of you Brannigan to ask people to go to "open Illinois." Covid-19 is affecting black people more than any other race, and that is why you don't care. You are proving yourself to be a racist again, again and again. I don't think you mind if kids die because you can send flowers to their parents from your "stupid flower shop." Why aren't you opening test sites? Why aren't you giving food and any assistance to people who must file for unemployment and can't work? You have been doing nothing. You are all just as racist and incompetent as Brannigan. All of you must go one by one. All of you must resign and all of you must never, ever again run for a seat. You are never going to be good at being a politician. "We are going to go after you guys no matter where you end up." "We are going to be there and protest you everywhere you go." All you care about is yourselves.

Speaker #8

Omar stated that you can try every tactic to stop us. Even if you bring hate groups to try to stop us, or people to hurt us, you will not stop us. You can try your best to stop us from attending your 3-minute meeting, but we will show up. You are never trying to improve and are never going to listen.

Speaker #9

Samir said that during these times of crisis this Board has demonstrated that they do not care about the people who live here. Brannigan now ignores every person who lives here. By advocating for re-opening Illinois, you have put every person at risk. Do you care about human lives? How can a person in charge of public health not do something, anything to help? You need to think about what you can do for the people you represent. Right now, it looks like you are doing nothing. Show us you care. Show us you have been elected for a reason, and that you can actually help when your people need it the most.

Speaker #10

Amira had a question for the Clerk. According to the Illinois law what is the procedure for scheduling a meeting at the Township? Township meetings must be posted at the office 48 hours before the meeting, and Amira stated it was not there. Therefore, the township violated the law. It was also only posted on the website on Monday morning. Clerk Nolan answered that she posted the agenda on the outside board at 1:00 P.M. Saturday, May 9, 2020. This was 48 hours before the meeting. She had no comment concerning the website.

Speaker #11

Mohammed feels that it is sad that we mute them and try to get them arrested at meetings. He is speaking as a U.S. citizen and an employee at the Department of Labor. He stated he is a Federal Agent. He looks every day at the website. You should be trying to get rid of the bad apples on the Board, which is everybody, basically. You have not apologized to anybody or said you would look into anything. The next time we should file a lawsuit against the whole township. "We are going to get rid of you, we will get rid of you whether it is through protesting or talking, we will get rid of you." We will not waste our tax money on pigs like you that are sitting on the Board.

Speaker #12

Sief Aldine Sala thinks that as public servants your number one priority should be

the safety of your constituents. If you have Board members that are jeopardizing people's lives because they want hair salons and coffee shops opened then it is obvious that this Board does not understand collective responsibility. The fact that you have a member directly attacking a marginalized community proves that this Board is supporting a system built on racism, disenfranchisement, and oppression. It is time for this Board to resign.

Speaker #13

Tammy Georgiou had a question for Sharon. She asked if Sharon is listed on the website, as the Chairman of Public Services for the Township, how is it that you have no report tonight when there are over 600 cases of COVID-19 in the Township? Have you talked to the Illinois Department of Health? Have you worked out a plan? Have you requested testing sites? Have you requested help? Have you collected food for families who may be out of work? Have you done anything to help the township – anything at all? The second question was for Clerk Nolan. She stated she went to the township yesterday (Sunday) and took pictures and time stamped of all the windows and doors and there was nothing on the windows notifying that there was a meeting. **Clerk Nolan** answered that she did put up the notice on Saturday, May 9, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. **Supervisor Schumann** explained that the meeting notices are placed in the locked box on the outside of the township, not on the windows or doors. **Clerk Nolan** echoed the same.

Speaker #14

Nearman is shocked at no public health report as we represent seven cities. What kind of Board is this? Have some respect and just resign. You are not productive or efficient. You are not decent, hardworking representatives.

Supervisor Schumann answered that she does not know where the misinformation concerning the food pantry is coming from. The township has responded to every person who has called and requested food above and beyond what we normally have done. She has been at the township personally to see the people come and receive the food. The township has not only helped the people, but their pets' feeding has also been taken care of. The building had been open

for Stagg students to come and drop off food for our food pantry. The misinformation is wrong.

Speaker #15

This person stated that for the past two and one-half years they have been dealing with Brannigan's racism, her hate speech and her Islamophobia. We have been dealing with her weak explanations of being constantly misunderstood. Every time something racist comes out, she claims people are misunderstanding her. Who exactly supports her? Local Palos area Haters, Active America (who she invited to the meetings) and Nazi's. She protested at the "Liberate My State" protest which had the potential to endanger everyone's health.

Speaker #16

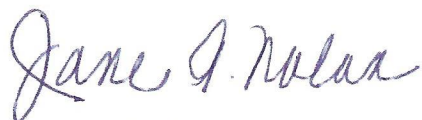
Nick Saus asked when will the Board will have a session where we can get answers to our questions? You didn't answer most of the questions. Specifically give us the numbers, such as, how many people received food?

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 Woods** moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 P.M. **Trustee Jeanes** seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. Ayes: Trustees Brannigan, and Woods, Supervisor Schumann. Nays: None. **Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.**



Jane A. Nolan

Clerk

Palos Township