



**Minutes
Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington - Special
Meeting Monday, November 3, 2025 - 5:30 PM**

The City of Bloomington Township Board convened in special session in the Government Center Boardroom at 5:30 PM. The meeting was called to order by Trustee Brady who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Trustee Dan Brady
Trustee Jenna Kearns, Remote 5:33 PM
Trustee Micheal Mosley
Trustee Sheila Montney
Trustee John Danenberger
Trustee Cody Hendricks
Trustee Mollie Ward
Trustee Kent Lee
Trustee Abby Scott

Absent: Trustee Michael Straza

Elected Officials/Staff Present: Deborah L. Skillrud, Township Supervisor; Steve Scudder, Township Assessor; and Leslie Smith-Yocum, Township Clerk.

Trustee Ward made a motion, seconded by Trustee Danenberger, to allow Trustee Kearns to attend remotely due to traveling for work.

Trustee Brady directed the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Brady, Mosley, Montney, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion Carried.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Regular Session

Item 5.A. Consideration and Action to Pass the Ordinance Authorizing the Implementation of an Emergency Food Benefit Program (EFBP) for Eligible Residents of the City of Bloomington Township, as requested by the Township Department. (Recommended Motion: The Ordinance authorizing the implementation of the EFBP be passed for Fiscal Year 2026.)

Township Supervisor Deb Skillrud updated the Board on the urgent need for an emergency food benefit program in response to delays in the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") funding. She explained that, due to uncertainties and recent partial funding announcements by the Trump administration, the Township set aside \$150,000 from Fiscal Year 2026 grant funds to help residents not currently receiving SNAP. The Program's benefit amounts were adjusted to stretch resources: \$200 for one person, increasing with household size, with a cap at \$500 for families of four or more. Supervisor Skillrud described close collaboration with the Illinois Department of Human Services to identify eligible recipients, prioritizing Bloomington residents, families, seniors on Supplemental Security Income, and low-income individuals within 200% of the poverty level. The program was designed quickly to address immediate needs, with processes established to verify eligibility and coordinate with existing social service programs.

Trustee Scott and Supervisor Skillrud discussed how people had begun reaching out to inquire about aid.

Trustee Ward expressed concern that the emergency food benefit could only be used at a single Kroger location on Main Street, which she believed placed an undue burden on residents without cars, childcare, or reliable mobility, particularly those living farther from that store. Supervisor Skillrud explained that there was only one participating location as they were currently set up to accept the Township's benefit card. She went on to explain what would be required to expand to additional sites, but that in order to make the program available quickly, the current process had to be followed.

Trustee Ward supported the Township in planning proactively for broader access in the future. She then sought clarification on the estimate that only about 300 families might be served, asking if this was because the benefit would be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis as a one-time lump sum per household. She further inquired whether it would have been feasible to split the benefit into two installments. Supervisor Skillrud explained that the number of families served depended on applications and noted the significant burden on administrative workload if payments were split into multiple installments, but stated she would look into it further for future distributions.

Trustee Hendricks thanked Supervisor Skillrud for bringing the program forward quickly and described the situation as an emergency and a crisis. He then asked whether there were plans in place in case demand became very high and the Township exhausted the allocated funds, specifically inquiring about the possibility of making a budgetary amendment to increase funding. He added that he would be willing to attend special meetings as frequently as every Monday, if necessary, to stay on top of the issue, and asked whether any long-term plans had been considered for that scenario. Supervisor Skillrud explained that any fund transfers required a 30-day wait period and a public hearing. Trustee Hendricks asked Township staff to monitor fund balances and requested to hold a special meeting for the purposes of transferring funds if they dwindled quickly and additional support was still anticipated.

Trustee Hendricks and Supervisor Skillrud then discussed public outreach efforts.

Trustee Lee confirmed with Supervisor Skillrud how SNAP benefits were distributed from the Federal government and used by individuals.

Trustee Ward and Supervisor Skillrud discussed procedures and processes related to consent forms, status verification and application forms.

Trustee Kearns thanked Supervisor Skillrud and her staff for their work and dedication.

Trustee Kearns made a motion, seconded by Trustee Hendricks, to approve the Item as presented.

Trustee Brady directed the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Brady, Kearns, Mosley, Montney, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion Carried.

Item 5.B. Consideration and Action to Approve the November 3, 2025, General Town Fund Request for Payment, as requested by the Township Department. (Recommended Motion: The November 3, 2025, Request for Payment be approved.)

Trustee Ward made a motion, seconded by Trustee Scott, to approve the Item as presented.

Trustee Brady directed the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Brady, Kearns, Mosley, Montney, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Trustee Ward made a motion, seconded by Trustee Hendricks, to approve the Item as presented.

Trustee Brady the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Brady, Kearns, Mosley, Montney, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion Carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 PM.

City of Bloomington



Dan Brady, Board Chair

Attest



Amadna Stutsman, Deputy Township Clerk

