

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD
ON AUGUST 13, 2013**

Supervisor Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Supervisor Schmitt, Clerk Tischler, Trustees Holloway, Koss, Nelson and Walsh

Absent: Treasurer Mooney

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Michelle Bruner, Bingham Farms
Fred Gallasch, Franklin
Pam Rijnovean, Beverly Hills

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt informed the Board that Treasurer Janet Mooney's father, Robert Laduke, passed away on August 10, 2013. He was 86, and his funeral took place today. Supervisor Schmitt extended condolences on behalf of Southfield Township to Janet, John, Tara, Dan and all of the family members.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler stated Legislative leaders are moving toward a package that raises money for roads, without forcing lawmakers to directly do it, and hike state support for education at the same time.

Clerk Tischler commented there is movement toward a one-penny sales tax increase that voters could decide on this November. As part of the ballot language to boost the sales tax, from six to seven cents, would be a provision to protect the state's prevailing wage law. The plan's selling point is that lawmakers will not be forced to vote for any gas tax or fee increase to come up with the \$1.2 billion the Governor requested. By using all of the sales tax currently collected at the pump and diverting that from schools and cities to the roads, that would provide the \$1.2 billion. The one-penny sales tax, if approved by the voters, will raise enough to replace the \$700 million and \$500 million that the pump sales tax currently provides for schools and cities.

Clerk Tischler noted a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate is needed to place the plan before voters and September 6th is the deadline for placing the sale tax question on the November ballot.

Clerk Tischler stated a November election was not included in this year's Township budget and reimbursement from the State for the cost of this election should this take place, but has not been confirmed.

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Clerk Tischler noted an e-mailed item of interest from Aug. 9th is a letter from Joseph Rozell, Oakland County Director of Elections, advising the change in charges for canvassing Elections and Personnel Policy Updates which were included in the Board Packet.

Clerk Tischler commented as of July 31, 687 Dog Licenses have been purchased compared to 714 at this time last year and 32 Cat Licenses have been issued compared to 44 at this time last year.

Trustee Koss commented on how tight the September 6th cutoff date is for a possible November Election.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

Fred Gallasch asked the Clerk if other items could be placed on a November ballot, if there was going to be an Election.

Clerk Tischler responded yes, however the deadline is September 6th.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Holloway, supported by Walsh, the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF JULY 9, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Trustee Holloway commented on page 3 under "PRESENTATION BY BASCC JOINT SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE AND POSSIBLE MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT", second paragraph down, first sentence, after "Director" insert a comma.

Motion by Koss, supported by Walsh, to approve the July 9, 2013 Board meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING POLICE AND FIRE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS:

Supervisor Schmitt opened the Public Hearing for comments on the Police and Fire Special Assessment Districts for Township Only Residents from the Village of Beverly Hills, Franklin/Bingham Farms Volunteer Fire Department and Police Services from the Village of Franklin for 2013-2014 at 7:38 p.m.

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Trustee Holloway inquired about the 9.90 mil levy in Beverly Hills.

Clerk Tischler responded the 9.90 mills is a voter approved Beverly Hills millage for Public Safety services.

Trustee Nelson inquired as to the BAC Home Services Loan listed next to a parcel number in the Resolution and inquired if the Bank owns the home.

Clerk Tischler responded that it does.

Fred Gallasch inquired about a Resolution for the Police Services in Franklin.

Clerk Tischler responded there are three Resolutions in this evening's packet with one for the Police Services in Franklin.

Trustee Holloway inquired about the Resolution to Adopt Special Assessment District for Police and Fire Protection by the Village of Beverly Hills for 2013-2014 in the last paragraph should it be changed from "The charge for 2013-2014" to "Charge for sidwell number 004 in the amount of \$1,838.40.

Clerk Tischler noted the asterisk explains the reason the sentence reads like it does.

Supervisor Schmitt closed the public hearing at 7:40 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION BY THE VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS FOR 2013-2014;

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the proposed Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION BY THE VILLAGE OF BEVERLY HILLS FOR 2013-2014

Resolved by Walsh, seconded by Tischler, the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the voters of the unincorporated area of Southfield Township having expressed their desires for the setting up of special assessment districts for fire and police protection; and

WHEREAS, the Southfield Township Board of Trustees is cognizant of the need for such special assessment districts.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, since a public hearing has been set for estimates of costs and expenses for the establishment of fire and police protection special assessment districts pursuant to MCL 41.801 et seq. the following shall be levied for the unincorporated area of Southfield Township to be serviced by the Village of Beverly Hills at a rate of 9.90 mills per 1,000 Taxable Value.

<u>SIDWELL:</u>	<u>NAME:</u>	<u>TV:</u>	<u>FEE:</u>
T 24-01-301-003	Robert & Kathleen Hayward 17342 W. 13 Mile Road	\$ 83,140	\$ 823.09
T 24-01-301-004*	Acacia Park Cemetery 31300 Southfield Road	\$114,900	\$1,138.40 <u>+700.00</u> \$1,838.40

* The charge for 2013-2014 is in the amount of \$ 1,838.40. This amount has been based on a final figure of a \$700 charge for the property and the remaining balance of \$1,138.40 is based upon 9.90 millage rate times the building Taxable Value of \$ 114,900.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Tischler, Holloway, Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt
Nays: None
Absent: Mooney

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FIRE SERVICES BY THE BINGHAM/FRANKLIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 2013-1014:

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the proposed Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FIRE SERVICES BY THE BINGHAM/FRANKLIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 2013-2014

Resolved by Koss, seconded by Nelson, the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the voters of the unincorporated area of Southfield Township having expressed their desires for the setting up of special assessment districts for fire protection; and

WHEREAS, the Southfield Township Board of Trustees is cognizant of the need for such special assessment districts.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, since a public hearing has been set for the establishment of a fire protection special assessment district pursuant to MCL 41.801 et seq. for the unincorporated area of Southfield Township to be serviced by the Bingham Farms/Franklin Fire Department at a rate of 2.00 mills per 1,000 TV for the following properties:

<u>SIDWELL:</u>	<u>NAME:</u>	<u>TV:</u>	<u>FEE:</u>
T 24-06-101-001	Harold R. Marderosian 27360 W. 14 Mile Road	\$194,560	\$389.12
T 24-06-101-002	Susan M. Farbman, TTEE 27272 W. 14 Mile Road	293,220	586.44
T 24-06-101-003	BAC Home Loans Servicing 27220 W. 14 Mile Road	193,570	397.14
T 24-06-101-004	Bank of America 27190 W. 14 Mile Road	180,560	361.12
T 24-06-101-005	Allen S. & Danielle Shifman 27170 W. 14 Mile Road	207,430	414.86
T 24-06-101-006	Gary R. Rentrop 27160 W. 14 Mile Road	109,640	219.28
T 24-06-101-007	Richard & Ellamae Gagne 27158 W. 14 Mile Road	91,020	182.04

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Holloway, Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler
Nays: None
Absent: Mooney

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR POLICE SERVICES BY THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN FOR 2013-2014:

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the proposed Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR POLICE SERVICES BY THE VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN FOR 2013-2014

Resolved by Tischler, seconded by Holloway, the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the voters of the unincorporated area of Southfield Township having expressed their desires for the setting up of special assessment districts for police protection; and

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WHEREAS, the Southfield Township Board of Trustees is cognizant of the need for such special assessment districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, since a public hearing has been set for estimates of costs and expenses for the establishment of a police protection special assessment district pursuant to MCL 41.851 et seq. for the unincorporated area of Southfield Township to be serviced by the Village of Franklin at a rate of 4.00 mills per 1,000 TV for the following properties:

<u>SIDWELL:</u>	<u>NAME:</u>	<u>TV:</u>	<u>FEE:</u>
T 24-06-101-001	Harold R. Marderosian 27360 W. 14 Mile Road	\$194,560	\$ 778.24
T 24-06-101-002	Susan M. Farbman, TTEE 27272 W. 14 Mile Road	293,220	1,172.88
T 24-06-101-003	BAC Home Loans Servicing 27220 W. 14 Mile Road	198,570	794.28
T 24-06-101-004	Bank of America 27190 W. 14 Mile Road	180,560	722.24
T 24-06-101-005	Allen S. & Danielle Shifman 27170 W. 14 Mile Road	207,430	829.72
T 24-06-101-006	Gary R. Rentrop 27160 W. 14 Mile Road	109,640	438.56
T 24-06-101-007	Richard & Ellamae Gagne 27158 W. 14 Mile Road	91,020	364.08

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Holloway
Nays: None
Absent: Mooney

Resolution declared adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPOINTING
MICHELLE BRUNER AS PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER TO FILL VACANCY:**

Supervisor Schmitt commented long-time Planning Commission member and current Vice Chair, Dorothy Warren, has asked that she not be reappointed to the Commission. Dorothy's term expires September 14, 2013, and she will be sorely missed.

Mrs. Warren has recommended Michelle Bruner, also of Bingham Farms, whom she knows through the Neighborhood Watch Program, to replace her on the Commission.

Michelle Bruner has generously agreed to accept the appointment.

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Supervisor Schmitt noted Planning Commission members are required to have staggered terms, as practical, and appointing Ms. Bruner through 2015 will help balance the terms and reinforce the geographic-balance, of the Commission.

Supervisor Schmitt asked for comments.

Trustee Koss commented Dorothy Warren will be missed but looks forward to working with Michelle Bruner in the future.

Bruner commented she has been a resident of Bingham Farms for over 30 years and welcomes the opportunity to work on the Southfield Township Planning Commission.

Rijnovean inquired about the process for filling a vacancy on the various Boards and she would like to see the vacancies posted so residents can apply and be interviewed prior to selection.

Clerk Tischler responded on several of the necessary Boards appointments, those Boards have conditions and time lines and all types of efforts are done to find residents interested in serving as members. A Planning Commission member is an appointment of the Supervisor and serves with the approval of the Township Board.

Resolved by Holloway, supported by Schmitt, to appoint Michelle Bruner to the Southfield Township Planning Commission, with a term expiring December 31, 2015.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Holloway
 Nays: None
 Absent: Mooney

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RESOLUTION ADOPTING REVISED LIFE AND DISABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE AND POLICY:

Supervisor Schmitt advised the Board the Township's current insurance company, American United Life, is not renewing life and disability coverage, which will end August 31, 2013. Previously, all trustees, officers, and deputies have been covered by life insurance (officers and trustees for \$10,000 on a decreasing scale set by age, and deputies for \$15,000). The 2 deputies were also covered by disability insurance, with limitations of 66-2/3% of salary or a maximum of \$350/week for up to 26 weeks (which works out to a maximum of \$9,100 for each), with a 7-day waiting period. The current premiums total \$2,754 for the life insurance, and \$1,260 for the disability insurance.

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Supervisor Schmitt added the Township's insurance benefit coordinator has proposed 2 options to meet the September 1 deadline: If the Township adds 1 extra waiting day (8 instead of 7) before the same disability benefits are paid, Guardian Insurance will provide converge (up to \$350/week for 26 weeks) for an annual premium of \$588 for the two deputies. Guardian will discontinue life insurance coverage for the Trustees and provide \$15,000 coverage for the deputies and \$10,000 for the Clerk, Treasurer and Supervisor for \$819.60. This would result in a savings of 65% over what the Township pays now. The second option, Lincoln Financial, would offer the same coverage as Guardian, but the premiums would be \$1,159.20 for the disability insurance and \$890.40 for the life insurance.

Supervisor Schmitt commented we do not know if the insurance company will allow us to exclude the Supervisor from the life insurance policy to save money, but if so, it would be recommended.

Clerk Tischler commented on the letter from the attorney's that was provided this evening regarding self-funding this coverage through the use of the MESC fund.

Rijnovean commented that she assumes all sick and vacation time has to be used before the employee receives disability insurance.

Clerk Tischler responded the employee only has to cover an 8 day waiting period.

Rijnovean clarified the employee does not have to use of their sick/vacation prior to receiving disability.

Supervisor Schmitt responded the disability insurance is the last effort.

Gallasch commented in the Guardian quote all full time active elected officials and trustees are referred to.

Clerk Tischler responded Guardian looked at the census that was provided. The quote is only for the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer. Trustees are not considered full time.

Clerk Tischler noted the pages from the Personnel Policy with changes regarding Disability/Life Insurance have been attached as a draft with the changes incorporated if the proposal is approved.

Resolved by Walsh, seconded by Koss, that Southfield Township accepts the proposal from Guardian Insurance to provide life insurance for the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and deputies, and disability insurance with an 8-day waiting period for the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer. The Township shall discontinue providing life insurance coverage to the Trustees and to the Supervisor if the insurance company permits it. The Disability/Life Insurance section of the Personnel Policy is hereby amended accordingly.

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ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Holloway, Koss
 Nays: None
 Absent: Mooney

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF JULY EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Walsh, supported by Koss, to approve the July expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$ 139,226.49
703 Tax Fund	\$ <u>4,010,848.75</u>
	\$ 4,150,075.24

Clerk Tischler answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Rijnovean complimented the Township landscaping.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

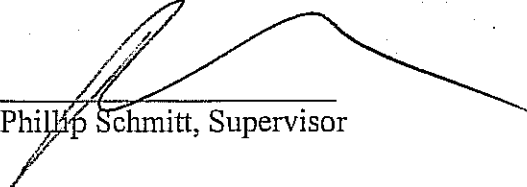
Trustee Koss wished everyone a Happy Labor Day.

Trustee Walsh noted the SOCWA meeting will be held on August 14th at the Birmingham Department of Public Works at 8:30 a.m.

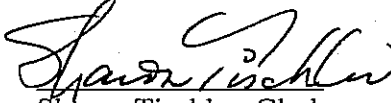
Clerk Tischler wished everyone a safe Labor Day Holiday.

Trustee Nelson noted on the Animal Control Log the villages were listed and it appears the residents of Franklin are provided with an excellent service; for a quarter of the number of residents as Beverly Hills, ACO is receiving the same amount of calls.

Supervisor Schmitt congratulated Michelle Bruner on her appointment, welcomed her to the Township family, and adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.



Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor



Sharon Tischler, Clerk