

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2013**

Supervisor Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. at the Township Hall.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Fred Gallasch, Franklin
Nancy Scott, Deputy Treasurer

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt noted the Board of Review met for the last time this year this morning. The Township Assessor stated that throughout the Township residential homes prices have gone up approximately 12% and Taxable values will increase a little over 1.6%.

Trustee Holloway verified with the increase the revenue for the Township will increase.

Supervisor Schmitt noted the Township is currently looking for contractors to inspect and possibly provide a quote for a new roof. Supervisor Schmitt asked the Board for recommendations.

Trustee Nelson noted the roof was recently inspected and inquired if there was a problem.

Supervisor Schmitt responded there is not a problem however the roof is reaching its 25 years of life expectancy and would like an updated opinion.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler commented Budget preparations are underway for the 2014/15 Budget and will be provided with the January Board packet.

Clerk Tischler mentioned Holiday office hours are as follows, the Township Office will be closed Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25th, Thursday, December 26th, Tuesday, December 31st, and Wednesday, January 1st.

Clerk Tischler noted year end dog license sales are as follows: 2012 – 757; 2013 – 741; and so far this year 44 have been purchased. Cat licenses: 2012 – 45; 2013 – 33; and so far this year 1 cat license has been provided.

Clerk Tischler commented Hardship applications and Merchant Licenses information will be mailed on January 6th and 2014 availability surveys to precinct workers will be mailed at the end of January.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney commented the rough estimate of personal property tax loss for 2014 is conservatively around \$6,000.00.

Treasurer Mooney noted that just under 14% of the winter taxes have been collected.

Treasurer Mooney mentioned the website is in the final stages of beta testing and should be online by the end of the year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

Fred Gallasch commented on the need to publicize the availability of the website.

Treasurer Mooney responded all options that will not cost the Township money will be utilized such as through the village websites, newsletters and a notation on tax bills.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Clerk Tischler requested an additional item be added to the agenda; 12a: Acceptance of Gift from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Motion by Mooney, supported by Walsh, the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 12, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Trustee Nelson requested on page 9 “Under Comments from the Board” first sentence after “there” strike “will be a” and insert “were” and after the word “increase” add an “s”.

Motion by Holloway, supported by Koss, to approve the November 12, 2013 Board meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SETTING 2014 MEETING DATES:

Clerk Tischler commented Township Board meeting dates for the upcoming year need to be approved by the Township Board.

Resolved by Holloway, seconded by Tischler, that the following Resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED the Southfield Township Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 18550 West Thirteen Mile Road, Southfield Township, Michigan. The dates are as follows:

January	14	May	13	September	9
February	11	June	10	October	14
March	11	July	8	* November	11
April	8	August	12	December	9

The asterisk by the November 11th date is due to the fact the office is closed on that date, but the Board will meet as usual. Additionally, the January 14th meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Tischler, Mooney, Holloway, Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt

Nays: None

Absent: None

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR TOWNSHIP BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015:

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the process for adoption of the Township budget noting the requirement to hold a Public hearing.

RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE

Motion by Mooney, seconded by Walsh, the following Resolution be adopted:

The Southfield Township Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing with regard to the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Township Budget on February 11, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. The Public Hearing will be held at the Township Hall located at 18550 W. Thirteen Mile Road, Southfield Township, Michigan.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR BUILDING OFFICIAL AND INSPECTION SERVICES:

Supervisor Schmitt presented the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement for Building Official and Inspection Services for the Township of Southfield, and opened the floor for discussion and comment.

Treasurer Mooney inquired about the need for a Building Official for the Township Only residents.

Trustee Walsh expressed a concern that the Village of Beverly Hills administration has chosen not to replace the Building Official after he retired.

Gallasch inquired as to whether or not the Township Building Codes are being used.

Supervisor Schmitt responded that the Township's Zoning Ordinance along with the current Construction Codes will be used.

Resolved by Schmitt, seconded by Koss, that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees approves entering into the Intergovernmental Agreement for Building Official and Inspection Services between the City of Royal Oak, the Village of Beverly Hills and the Township of Southfield, including the attached fee schedule, and all future amendments by the City of Royal Oak, to the schedule are hereby included as part of the contract. Further, the Supervisor and Clerk are authorized to sign the contract on the Township's behalf. [See Exhibit A]

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared passed 5-2

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF POVERTY INCOME STANDARDS:

Supervisor Schmitt commented the Township Poverty Standards Guidelines provide the potential for the Board of Review to grant poverty tax reductions for persons with assets less than a quarter of a million dollars, and whose income does not exceed the Federal Poverty Income Standards as of 12-31-13.

Resolved by Schmitt, supported by Koss, that Southfield Township adopt, in conformity with the Federal Poverty Income Standards as of 12-31-13, the following income standards for its 2014 Poverty Guidelines:

<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>Poverty Guidelines</u>
1	\$11,490
2	15,510
3	19,530
4	23,550
5	27,570
6	31,590
7	35,610
8	39,630
For each additional person, add	4,020

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS OF HEALTH CARE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING 2014 HEALTH CARE INSURANCE:

Trustee Koss presented potential options to the health care and salary Resolutions passed at the November Board meeting. She requested time for additional research on other options, and a special meeting to review and possibly modify the November Health Care insurance and salary Resolutions.

Treasurer Mooney asked if a motion to reconsider is in order.

Supervisor Schmitt responded if the Board tables this item, the Board can reconsider the tabled motion at the next meeting.

Motion by Koss, supported by Holloway, to table Item#11- Discussion and Possible Amendments of Health Care Resolutions regarding 2014 Health Care Insurance (including salary increases), and that Koss will continue research on various options.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mooney, supported by Tischler, to set a special meeting for December 17, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at the Township Hall.

Ayes- 6 Nays- 1- Nelson

Motion carried 6-1.

DISCUSSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:

Clerk Tischler stated the Daughters of the American Revolution gave the Township a donation of \$75.00 in appreciation for the use of the Township's meeting room. By policy, acceptance of the donation requires Township Board approval.

Motion by Tischler, supported by Mooney, to accept the gracious donation of \$75.00 from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Walsh, supported by Nelson, to approve the November expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$ 37,381.85
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$253,495.84</u>
	\$290,877.69

Clerk Tischler answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Nancy Scott thanked the Board and those that put all their effort into the Health Care research.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Holloway mentioned there will be an Animal Control Meeting at 10:30 a.m. on December 11th, at the Township Hall.

Supervisor Schmitt, Treasurer Mooney and Trustee Koss wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Trustee Walsh commented that SOCWA will meet tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. at Pleasant Ridge Community Center.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk