

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

Supervisor Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:30 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: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Bill Dwyer, County Commissioner
Kathy Hagaman, Bingham Farms Clerk
Fred Gallasch, Franklin

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt offered condolences and sympathy on behalf of the Township to Treasurer Mooney on the recent loss of her Aunt. Supervisor Schmitt deferred the rest of his comments to the Agenda items.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler mentioned the Southfield School District has placed a millage renewal question on the upcoming November ballot. Several residents who live in Bingham Farms are in the Southfield School District. Since the number of residents who would be eligible to participate is minimal, they have been moved to the voter registration rolls in the City of Southfield.

Clerk Tischler added all affected registered voters have been notified via first class mail of the change in polling location for this Election along with a copy of ballot language, map indicating the polling location change for this Election and an absentee ballot application. It is anticipated this change will save the Southfield School District approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Clerk Tischler noted at this point, the State is still looking at February or May as a possible Election date for placement of the request for a sales tax increase for road repair funding.

Clerk Tischler commented as of August 31st, 710 Dog Licenses have been purchased compared to 725 at this time last year and 32 Cat Licenses have been issued compared to 45 at this time last year. No new cat licenses have been issued since July 26th.

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Clerk Tischler informed the Board that audit adjustments have been provided and made to adjust the budget year 2012/13 to actual and appended adjustments to budget year 2013/14. Adjusted year to date totals will appear on September month end documents.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney noted the last day to pay summer taxes is Monday, September 16, 2013. To date, we have collected just under 70% of our total summer tax dollars.

Treasurer Mooney mentioned every year merchants who hold a liquor license are required to pay a fee to the State of Michigan. A portion of the fee is returned to the municipality to cover efforts in monitoring the license. The Township has one liquor license that is currently in escrow.

Treasurer Mooney added for a number of years and for some unknown reason, our portion of that fee went to Oakland County. Last year, it was brought to Public Safety's attention that the money was indeed going to the County, not to the municipality. The necessary forms were completed so the money now comes to the Township and Beverly Hills is entitled to the money since the Township has a 425 agreement with Beverly Hills.

Treasurer Mooney noted Public Safety will be responsible for reporting to the State on an annual basis and once the liquor license is out of escrow, Public Safety will also be responsible for monitoring for underage drinking, etc. Treasurer Mooney added the Township will have to create a line item in the budget to account for the receipt and disbursement of the funds. This year the first installment is \$330.00. Public Safety Director Torongeau will complete the necessary forms.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

Commissioner Dwyer noted an article regarding the seventeen deaths in Novi due to gun violence. Dwyer reviewed the Gun Violence report from Oakland County and encouraged the Board members to go to the County website and read the report.

Trustee Walsh inquired about the open carrying laws. Dwyer added research is being done to address that issue as well as making libraries, hospitals and schools no carry zones.

Dwyer indicated the County just approved a 3 year rolling budget, 2014-2016. The Budget is balanced and the County has one of the lowest millage rates. Oakland County maintained their AAA bond rating.

Dwyer noted the Medicaid expansion and commented that he and Commissioner Marcia Gershenson co-sponsored a Resolution supporting Medicaid reform.

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Dwyer mentioned a program to help the fallen officers' families called the Benevolent Association 501-C which Dwyer founded 19 years ago. The Association started as a local effort in Farmington Hills and has increased to other jurisdictions in southeastern Michigan.

Dwyer asked the Board if they had any questions.

Clerk Tischler complimented Dwyer on the outstanding job he is doing as County Commissioner and his efforts with the 501-C.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AUGUST 13, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Koss, supported by Walsh, to approve the August 13, 2013 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY TO RESEARCH AND PREPARE SELF-INSURING LIFE AND SHORT TERM DISABILITY PROGRAM:

Clerk Tischler noted the Board discussed the possibility of Self- Insuring earlier in the year. Clerk Tischler mentioned our carrier cancelled the Township coverage as of August 31st and another carrier agreed to provide coverage for the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and two deputies.

Clerk Tischler commented the Township Board has authorized research on Self-Insuring our Life Insurance and Short Term Disability benefit. Clerk Tischler reviewed the response from our attorneys along with a quote for preparing a plan to administer it.

Supervisor Schmitt expressed concerns regarding any HIPPA regulations and specifically the cost if there is a need for a third party administrator.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to table this item.

Motion by Koss, supported by Walsh, to table this item until we have a better idea where we are going to with health care coverage.

Motion carried unanimously.

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DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ASSESS 3% TAX PENALTY FOR THE 2013 TAX YEAR:

**RESOLUTION TO ASSESS 3% TAX PENALTY
FOR THE 2013 TAX YEAR**

Resolved by Mooney, seconded by Holloway, the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, with the passage of Public Act #206 of 1893, as amended, MCL 211.44, as amended, which authorizes the Township of Southfield Board of Trustees to impose a penalty on all late payments of unpaid property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the last date to pay taxes by law is February 14th; and

WHEREAS, all taxes paid after February 14th and before March 1st are termed late; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees authorizes the Township Treasurer to levy a 3% penalty on all late taxes paid after February 14, 2014 through February 28, 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be published in The Birmingham/Bloomfield Eccentric and a notice be included in the mailing of all tax statements to alert all taxpayers of this enactment.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP SHREDDING PROGRAM:

Clerk Tischler noted the Township Board has for several years authorized free shredding of documents for Township residents.

The program has become popular, as each time we have provided the service, the volume of resident's participation has increased. At the May shred date this year the truck was almost filled.

Absolute Shreds was contacted to obtain a cost for the program for 2014 and has advised that the price for one truck for two hours would be \$250. The cost in 2013 was \$250.

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If the Board wishes to proceed with the program, a spring date seems to have the biggest draw and a Saturday date in May has been the month of choice. Saturday dates in May are the 3th, 10th, 17th or 24th. Beverly Park Clean Up is scheduled for May 10th rain date May 17th and last years shred date was the first Saturday in May. Clerk Tischler added by deciding to proceed with the program now, the date can be put in the Beverly Hills calendar, added to the village websites and newsletters, as well as flyers during winter tax season.

Motion by Tischler, supported by Holloway, to contract with Absolute Shreds for a 2014 Shredding Program to be held on May 3rd at a total cost of \$250.00 for one truck for two hours.

Kathy Hagaman mentioned Bingham Farms has received requests for the Township to hold a second shred date. Hagaman requested the Township Board at least consider in the next fiscal year budget funding for a fall Household Shredding date.

Gallasch asked what is the origin of the Shredding.

Clerk Tischler noted the amount of vehicles versus the volume of information that is shredded.

Gallasch commented he understands the Township does not check the driver's license of the residents who bring information to be shredded.

Clerk Tischler stated most of the residents have used the service before and advertising the Shredding date has been changed, so generally only residents are aware of the program.

Trustee Nelson commented he does not feel it is a good use of the Township's money.

Motion carried. Nay- Nelson

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING SUE EILERTSEN AS PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER FOR A THREE- YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016:

Supervisor Schmitt stated Planning Commission member Sue Eilertsen's appointment expires this October. Planning Commission members are generally appointed for three-year terms and we do our best to balance the Commission geographically and with chronological expirations. Ms. Eilertsen lives in Beverly Hills, meets both these criteria, and has agreed to be re-appointed.

Resolved by Nelson, supported by Mooney, to re-appoint Susan Eilertsen to the Southfield Township Planning Commission for a three-year term, until December 31, 2016.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

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Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION RE-AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY BUILDING SERVICES:

Supervisor Schmitt stated Southfield Township has been using the Village of Beverly Hills and vicariously the City of Royal Oak and the City of Birmingham for its building services. Last March the Board discussed having the Village of Franklin handle the residential services (because 7 of the 8 Township-only residences are contiguous with Franklin) and the Village of Beverly Hills handles the commercial services (since all commercial businesses are contiguous with Beverly Hills). It now appears we will soon be in position to present to the Board proposals to accomplish the bifurcation of the building services contract. The agreements will be presented to the Board in October, but everything has been slower than anticipated.

In the interim, Schmitt requested the Board's authorization/re-authorization to use the building services of Village of Beverly Hills/Royal Oak/Birmingham on an as-needed basis.

Resolved by Schmitt, seconded by Walsh, that Southfield Township administration is granted authority to use the building services of the City of Birmingham, the City of Royal Oak or the Village of Beverly Hills on a temporary basis until further review by the Board of Trustees, with such temporary authorization not to extend past the March 2014 Board of Trustees meeting.

Clerk Tischler raised her concerns for the need of using one source as our Building department.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION HONORING DOROTHY WARREN FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICES TO THE TOWNSHIP:

Resolved by Holloway, supported by Koss, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Dorothy Warren has served as a member of the Southfield Township Planning Commission/Zoning Board from January of 2002 thru September 2013; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy's expertise in local municipal government was a tremendous asset to the Planning Commission /Zoning Board by her involvement in the updating of the Townships Master Plan in 2002, 2007 and 2012, and the development of a Township Capital Improvement Plan, and Planning Commission/Zoning Board By-Laws; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy representing Bingham Farms on the Board brought valuable insight into amending several sections of the Township Zoning Ordinances which included the addition of a Temporary Use Permit process; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy also served her community as a Precinct Inspector working Absent Voter County Boards at all the major Elections; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it is with deep appreciation the Southfield Township Board of Trustees does hereby express on behalf of the resident's our gratitude for her willingness to serve, her personal friendship and further to extend our best wishes for continued good health and success in any future endeavors.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AUGUST EXPENDITURES:

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

101 General Fund	\$ 50,252.31
703 Tax Fund	\$ <u>5,528,750.22</u>
	\$ 5,579,002.53

Treasurer Mooney answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

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COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Walsh noted SOCWA will meet tomorrow at the Troy City Hall at 8:30 a.m.

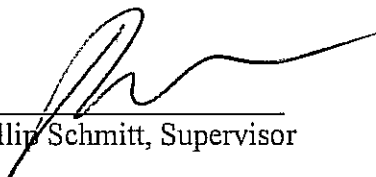
Treasurer Mooney thanked the Board for their support, the flowers and card on the loss of her father.

Clerk Tischler noted information from the Auditor will be available for next month's agenda.

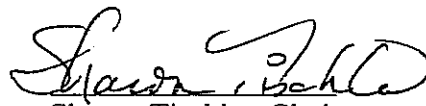
Clerk Tischler stated the Life & Disability Insurance that was tabled this evening does not have anything to do with healthcare.

Trustee Nelson congratulated Commissioner Dwyer on continuing as our Commissioner, as opposed to becoming Police Chief of Detroit.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.



Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor



Sharon Tischler, Clerk

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