

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 2014**

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 Koss, Nelson and Walsh

Absent: Trustee Holloway

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Marianne McLennan, Beverly Hills

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt commented the Bingham Center suit settled for less than what it would have cost to take the issue to court.

Supervisor Schmitt mentioned Michael Allison, Franklin Board of Review Member, is moving to Arizona. Supervisor Schmitt has one potential candidate and asked the Board for suggestions.

Supervisor Schmitt noted Rana Emmons, Township Auditor, explained how GASBY 67 & 68 requires our balance sheets to reflect pension, rather than just a footnote in the audit. Supervisor Schmitt noted GASBY 69 will require the same for OPEB.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler mentioned the November General Election is well under way and over seventeen hundred ballots have been issued to voters who either expect to be absent from the community or qualify by age to receive an absent voters ballot. Clerk Tischler added all the election equipment has been tested and a county wide mock election is scheduled to take place on October 21st. Our public accuracy test is scheduled for October 23rd at 10 a.m.

Clerk Tischler noted Paul Van Ermen, a government teacher at Groves High School, has requested assistance in hosting a mock election for the students in his classes. A vendor was contacted on the off chance that a new offering in electronic election equipment might be available for the students to test. However, since vendors and suppliers are busy with supplies and ballots for the upcoming election, the vendor was unable to honor our request.

Clerk Tischler commented the default program, to honor the schools request, is the use of our equipment with additional ballots printed specifically for the mock election. The county was advised and provided specific instructions on the printing of ballots and the use of equipment.

Arrangements with the printer have been made to supply 600 mock election ballots at a cost of less than \$200. The equipment will be moved by custodial personnel from Groves and a dozen students will be trained on the equipment and work as precinct inspectors for the election.

While it would be nice to create an operational precinct it is impractical, so Mr. Van Ermen has chosen a simple format to offer the students, who wish to participate, an opportunity to experience voting. Training for the student precinct workers has been scheduled for October 16th and 21st with Election Day scheduled for October 27th.

Clerk Tischler mentioned to date, 891 dog licenses have been issued, compared to 738 last year, with 48 cat licenses issued compared to 29 last year.

Clerk Tischler commented the Cemetery Section of the Zoning Ordinance has been reviewed by our Attorney's and their findings have been distributed this evening for review and discussion at a later date.

Clerk Tischler noted prior to working on next year's budget; the Board should consider sprucing up the lobby and office areas.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney agreed with Clerk Tischler and encouraged the Board to look closely at the lobby and the office this evening. Treasurer Mooney noted summer tax collection went very smoothly and to date, 95.1% of the summer taxes have been collected. Treasurer Mooney added dog/cat license information will be included in with the winter tax bills.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Supervisor Schmitt requested item 7a- Resolutions Reappointing Lawrence Needham and Daniel V. Nelson to the Planning Commission and 7b- Resolutions Reappointing Antonia Grinnan and Daniel V. Nelson to the Zoning Board of Appeals be added to the agenda.

Motion by Mooney, supported by Koss, the agenda be amended to include items 7-a and 7-b.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Mooney, supported by Walsh, to approve the September 9, 2014 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION RESTRICTING RETIREE HEALTHCARE:

Supervisor Schmitt commented in the past, the Board has discussed reducing its OPEB obligations and specifically its retiree healthcare coverage, to eliminate all persons hired after the turn of the century. This would also reduce the Township's accrued liability and reduce its actuary obligation.

Supervisor Schmitt proposed the following Resolution for adoption:

Resolved by Schmitt, seconded by Walsh, that Southfield Township will no longer provide retiree healthcare to anyone hired after January 1, 2000, and further, the Policy and Procedure Manual is amended according to the attached page. [Exhibit -A]

Supervisor Schmitt opened the floor for discussion.

Clerk Tischler noted changes can be made at any time by a new Board to the Personnel Policy; however, a change to our insurance ordinance is more difficult to change. If the Board wishes to make this change more permanent, the Board should consider changing our ordinance.

Supervisor Schmitt asked if there were any comments from the audience.

No one wished to be heard.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LAWRENCE NEEDHAM AND DANIEL V. NELSON TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

Supervisor Schmitt noted Planning Commission members are generally appointed for three-year terms. Commission Needham and Trustee Nelson's terms expire this year. Both members have agreed to accept reappointment.

Supervisor Schmitt asked if there were any comments from the Board or audience.

No one wished to be heard.

Resolved by Nelson, supported by Mooney, to reappoint Lawrence Needham to the Southfield Township Planning Commission for a three-year term, expiring December 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Schmitt, to reappoint Daniel V. Nelson to the Southfield Township Planning Commission for a three-year term, expiring December 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF ANTONIA GRINNAN AND DANIEL V. NELSON TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Supervisor Schmitt stated Zoning Board of Appeals members are generally appointed for three-year terms. Grinnan and Nelson's terms expire this year. Both members have agreed to accept appointment.

ZBA members are required to have staggered terms, and reappointing both members through 2017 does not upset the term balance.

Supervisor Schmitt asked if there was any discussion.

No one wished to be heard.

Resolved by Nelson, supported by Walsh, to reappoint Antonia Grinnan to the Southfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term, expiring December 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

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

Resolved by Koss, supported by Mooney, to reappoint Daniel V. Nelson to the Southfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term, expiring December 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER EXPENDITURES:

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

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 101 General Fund | \$ 41,941.10 |
| 703 Tax Fund | <u>\$19,937,270.76</u> |
| | \$19,979,211.86 |

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Koss inquired about when information would be available regarding healthcare for next year.

Clerk Tischler responded DRS Services will contact us as soon as there is renewal information available from Blue Cross/Blue Shield and as soon as the information becomes available, it will be supplied to the Board.

Trustee Koss inquired about the bid process for Animal Control.

Supervisor Schmitt responded the Animal Control Contract does not expire for seven months and a proposal has been put together which is being reviewed by our attorneys. Once a final draft is available it will be provided to the Board.

Trustee Walsh commented the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority met last Wednesday, with discussion focused on the Great Lakes Water Authority.

Trustee Nelson asked Trustee Walsh if water consumption was down this summer.

Trustee Walsh responded that it was and consumption has been down for the past couple of years.

Treasurer Mooney commented on an e-mail and articles from a resident asking the Board to consider an ordinance to ban horizontal oil and gas fracking. Treasurer Mooney mentioned to the Board, she replied to the resident indicating that the Township is not directly impacted by fracking, but would mention his suggestion at the Board of Trustees meeting tonight.

Treasurer Mooney noted if anyone is interested in the articles or has an interest in making this agenda item, the information is available.

Nelson commented; see everyone at the Halloween Hoot.

Treasurer Mooney added the Halloween Hoot is on October 26th.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk