

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 11, 2014**

Supervisor Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Supervisor Schmitt asked the Board to take a moment to reflect on this being Veteran's Day and all of the men and women that served our country and made it a better place for all of us.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Marianne McLennan, Beverly Hills

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt noted that in your packet was the draft copy of the Animal Control Request for Proposal. Supervisor Schmitt requested the Board review the draft and respond with any comments or changes to him no later than the end of the week, so it can be sent out for bids.

Supervisor Schmitt mentioned attending a meeting of the Southfield Corridor Steering Committee where several plans were presented making Southfield Road a boulevard from 10 mile up through north of 13 mile to approximately Taco Bell. Supervisor Schmitt added the purpose is to provide for Michigan left turns. Supervisor Schmitt noted Chris Wilson and he were opposed to that plan. Supervisor Schmitt stated the intent is to allow for dual left lanes at 13 Mile and Southfield Road. Supervisor Schmitt commented he does not think that idea is acceptable.

Supervisor Schmitt noted there will be a Business meeting at Lathrup Village Offices on November 20th from 12 noon - 2:00 p.m. and a public hearing from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Schmitt commented the various areas will be broken apart and the suggested roundabouts are out of the picture.

Supervisor Schmitt answered all questions.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler mentioned the mock election held at Groves High School went well, with approximately 200 students participating.

Clerk Tischler noted the General Election held on November 4th produced a 61% turnout with 7,321 voters' taking part. The process ran smoothly, with all precincts reporting in before 9:30.the close down process took some additional time because of the number of write in candidates who filed for open seats, available in the Villages for Council positions.

Clerk Tischler commented as of the close of business on Monday, the County Board of Canvasses had not certified the Township returns.

Clerk Tischler noted to date, 900 dog licenses have been issued, compared to 727 last year and not all of the issued licenses were for new dogs in the Township or those purchasing licenses late; some of the tags were replacement tags. Clerk Tischler added that 49 cat licenses were issued this year, compared to 33 last year.

Clerk Tischler noted the 2015/16 budgeting process will begin next month.

Clerk Tischler commented the MERS quarterly statement for 7/1/14 thru 9/30/14 was included in the information items e-mailed on Nov. 6th.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney noted to date, we have collected 95 ½ % of the summer taxes. Winter taxes bills will be mailed on December 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 14, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Koss, supported by Nelson, to approve the October 14, 2014 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION OF ACTION
INCIDENT TO THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION
ACT:**

Supervisor Schmitt noted everyone will recall the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act (MCL 15.561-15.569), mandates that certain public entities, specifically including townships, may pay no more than certain threshold amounts for employee health care, or face sanctions. Southfield Township's penalty would be a reduction of 10% of its Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) payments (formerly Statutory Revenue Sharing, with a few tweaks). Since the Township does not now receive EVIP funds, nor do we expect to because of the wealth of the Township, the sanctions are of little significance.

Under the Act, in 2013 Townships are allowed to pay no more of their employees' health care insurance costs (including HSA contributions or other deductible coverage, but excluding dental insurance) than the following **(these are 2014's numbers, so 2015's will be slightly higher)**:

Option A (MCL 15.563, Sec. 3) - Hard Cap: \$5,858 for individuals, \$11,715 for employee and spouse, and \$15,975 for families, for a total of \$38,956 for Southfield Township, allocated as the Board sees fit, with the remainder being paid by the employees; or

Option B (MCL 15.564, Sec. 4) - 80/20: Upon vote by a majority of the Board of Trustees, the Township may instead elect to pay no more than 80% of health insurance costs, allocated as the Board sees fit, with the balance being paid by the employees (so long as each elected official pays at least 20% of his or her costs); or

Option C (MCL 15.568, Sec. 8) - Annual Opt Out: Upon 2/3 vote of the Board of Trustees, the Township can exempt itself from both A and B; however the vote must be renewed annually and take place before the year of implementation.

Each year, since this law went into effect in 2012, the Southfield Township Board of Trustees has "opted out".

If the Board elects to Opt Out, employees would still be required, under Township policy, to pay 15% of their own insurance costs.

Option D (MCL 15.569, Sec. 9): Do Nothing: If the Township fails to comply with the law by not voting for Options B or C, the Act provides that the Township would forfeit 10% of its EVIP payment. Next year we do not expect to receive any EVIP funds, so the statutory penalty would be zero. However, on the previous advice of Township counsel, this method is discouraged.

Trustee Koss questioned what percent of the premium the employees are contributing?

Clerk Tischler responded 15%.

Clerk Tischler mentioned the insurance rates did increase by 5.9%, effective January 1, 2015.

Resolved by Koss, seconded by Walsh, that Southfield Township exempts itself from the requirements of the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act for 2013, as provided by MCL 15.568, Sec. 8.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OCTOBER EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Walsh, supported by Holloway, to approve the October expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$	46,420.69
703 Tax Fund	\$	441,747.81
	\$	488,168.50

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Walsh commented Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority will meet on Wednesday, November 12th at the Berkley Public Safety Hall at 8:30 a.m.

Trustee Walsh asked about House Bills 5636 and 5045 allowing golf carts to be driven around local streets without being licensed.

Trustee Koss responded it passed with certain regulations, like the size of the jurisdictions and the age of the driver.

Trustee Mooney offered to look up the information.

Trustee Walsh requested the Cemetery Access Road be placed on the December Agenda.

Treasurer Mooney would like to thank our veterans for serving our country giving us the freedoms we enjoy and would also like to commend Clerk Tischler for an Election well run. Patrick Bresnahan, our new Election Custodian, is doing an outstanding job.

Clerk Tischler commented the precinct workers did an outstanding job, noting that some of the precinct workers were new and added the closing of the schools was very helpful. Clerk Tischler thanked the Treasurer's Dept. for all of their help during the Election process.

Clerk Tischler wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk