

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON MARCH 11, 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 Holloway, Koss, Nelson and Walsh

Absent: None

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Bill Dwyer, County Commissioner
Fred Gallasch, Franklin
Pam Rijnovean, Beverly Hills

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt thanked Trustee Holloway for his efforts on the Animal Control Project. Supervisor Schmitt commented the Board of Review has met since March 4th and Wednesday, March 12th is the last day to appeal assessments. Supervisor Schmitt noted this year the Board of Review has gone very smoothly.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler mentioned the e-information packet sent on Feb. 24th contained the Liability and Property Pool Insurance proposal for the Township. An additional endorsement to cover the contractual agreement for Building Services by the City of Royal Oak was required to provide indemnification and hold harmless liability insurance. This endorsement will increase our premium by \$125.

Clerk Tischler stated the Bureau of Elections will be upgrading the Qualified Voter File computer system to Windows 7. The Clerks department has two systems dedicated to the QVF. The State will replace the hard and software for the main system. The second system is a slave to the State system and is a Township responsibility. While the QVF software will not be an expense to the Township the hardware and the operating system will be. Contact has been made with our IT Vendor to solicit costs for the hardware and operating system to accommodate the upgrade. The cost to accomplish the upgrade should be less than \$1,000.

Clerk Tischler noted, to date 484 Dog licenses have been sold compared to 299 last year and 21 Cat licenses have been issued this year compared to 9 last year.

Clerk Tischler mentioned 12 Merchant's Licenses have been issued out of a possible 16.

Clerk Tischler made note of the Group Insurance Programs replacement pages supplied this evening for insertion into the Township Personnel Policy specifically pages 2, 13-16, 30-34 and 37 and documentation for agenda item # 8 was also e-mailed early this afternoon.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney stated the Township has collected 98.1% of the summer taxes and 96.8% of the winter taxes. The overall tax collection by the Township is 97.8% which is above last year's collection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

Commissioner Dwyer gave an update to the Board on the following:

- County financial position.
- Road Funding - Borrowing funds from the County.
- Water/Sewage problem with Detroit.
- County budgeted \$200,000 for Buy Local- supporting Local Businesses- the program has not yet been implemented.
- May is Mental Health Month

Trustee Koss asked Dwyer if the Township could receive e-mails regarding storms and their status which could be posted to our website.

Commissioner Dwyer responded storm information can be provided by e-mail for the website.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Trustee Holloway noted on page 3, under "Discussion and Possible Approval of 3% Penalty Waiver on Deferred Parcels", second paragraph after "mentioned" strike "typically," and after "Commissioners" in the same line insert "typically".

Motion by Holloway, supported by Walsh, to approve the February 11, 2014 Board meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES:

Supervisor Schmitt commented Trustee Holloway has worked diligently with A & D Animal Control to remove ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal services from the contract. This change would save approximately \$40,000- \$50,000 per year. Supervisor Schmitt noted currently Animal Control does three things:

- 1) Domestic Animals- Dog catcher services.
- 2) Sanitation- picking up road kill and dead deer.
- 3) ~~Wild Life~~ Wildlife Animal Control.

Supervisor Schmitt stated ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal control service is not a municipal function. Supervisor Schmitt recommended that Trustee Holloway continue to negotiate with A & D to lower the price until the fall. If A & D will not lower the contract price the Township should go out for bids in the fall without a ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal provision.

Supervisor Schmitt opened the floor for discussion.

Trustee Koss asked for a more specific definition of a ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal, questioning if a resident had a rabid opossum in their yard, would A & D response?

Treasurer Mooney questioned who will handle the rabid opossum?

Supervisor Schmitt responded ~~a possum is a domestic animal~~ and the County would take care of the animal. We have a contract with the County if we eliminated Animal Control.

Treasurer Mooney asked for clarification as to whether or not we would call the County and hope they would respond in a reasonable amount of time.

Trustee Koss asked if that is how the situation is handled now.

Supervisor Schmitt responded yes.

Clerk Tischler explained the contract with the County for Animal Control is boarding of domestic animals and disposal of animals if required.

The Board discussed the following items:

- A & D Contract expiration 4/30/2015.
- Notify residents regarding input of service-due diligence to residents.
- Elimination of ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal services- Residents pay taxes for partial Animal Control Service.

- Six month trial period- June 1, 2014- November 30, 2014- Animal Control invoicing ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal services to residents.

After general discussion of the above items, it was the consensus of the Board to pass the following Resolution:

Motion by Holloway, supported by Koss, to authorize Animal Control to proceed with a 6-month test to determine the response received from homeowners from June 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014.

Rijnovean questioned why everyone should pay for a service that only several hundred residents take advantage of.

Gallasch suggested a change needs to be made in the Animal Control Services.

Motion by Holloway, supported by Koss, the Township modify the contract with A & D Animal Control to eliminate the Township providing ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal services for the period June 1 thru November 30, 2014 and otherwise the contract remains in force as it exists.

Trustee Koss requested an addition be added to the motion that the Township provide the residents with sufficient notice.

Supervisor Schmitt asked Trustee Koss if she was amending the motion to provide notice by website.

Amendment to Motion by Koss, supported by Holloway, that the Township provides notice by website and community announcements.

Supervisor Schmitt noted there has been a motion to amend the motion by Koss, supported by Holloway.

All in favor say Aye

Opposed: Tischler

Motion to amend passed 6-1

Supervisor Schmitt restated the motion as follows.

Motion by Holloway, supported by Koss, the Township modify the contract with A & D Animal Control to eliminate the Township's providing ~~wild-life~~ wildlife animal services from the period June 1 ~~thru~~ through November 30, 2014 otherwise the contract remains in full force and that the Township provide notice by website and community announcement as possible.

ROLL CALL:

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

Motion passed 5-2

Rijnovean volunteered to write an article and submit to two papers regarding the Animal Control issue.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF MILLAGE INCREASE:

Supervisor Schmitt does not believe a millage increase is necessary and would resolve that we keep the millage at the same rate .60 mills for the next fiscal year. Trustee Holloway stated he would support that motion.

Supervisor Schmitt asked the audience if there was any discussion.

Trustee Holloway asked Treasurer Mooney what her thoughts were on the millage increase.

Treasurer Mooney commented with the change in Animal Control the Township should remain at .60 mills for the next fiscal year.

After general discussion and review of the backup documentation, it was the consensus of the Board not to increase the millage rate but rather leave the millage rate at .60 for the next fiscal year.

Gallasch inquired as to what has changed in 30 days to have the Board question the increase in the millage rate.

Motion by Schmitt, supported by Holloway, to maintain the millage rate at .60.

ROLL CALL:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2013/2014 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET:

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION
TO AMEND 2013/14 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET**

Resolved by Tischler, supported by, Mooney, that the following Resolution be adopted:

WHERE AS Section 12: Budget Monitoring of the Township of Southfield General/Special Revenue Appropriations Act requires that when it appears expenditures shall exceed an appropriation the budget must be adjusted, and

WHERE AS it is the responsibility of the Chief Administrative Officer to present to the Township Board a recommendation to prevent expenditures from exceeding available revenue or appropriations for the current Fiscal Year, and

WHERE AS the current Fiscal Year budget contains sufficient funds to adjust those departments where expenditures might exceed the budgeted recommendations,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Southfield Township Board of Trustees does hereby authorize the following budget adjustments in order to comply with the Townships 2013/14 Fiscal Year Appropriation Act.

In the Township General Fund:

FROM:	101-209-801.100	Legal Fees	\$10,000.00
TO:	101-253-716.000	Hospitalization	\$ 5,000.00
	101-430-801.505	ACO-Contract	\$ 5,000.00

ROLL CALL:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TOWNSHIP GENERAL/SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015:

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Holloway, to adopt the Township of Southfield General/Special Revenue Appropriations Act April 1, 2014/15 by reference, with revenue and activity expenditures as indicated in Sections 5 and 7 of this Act. [see Exhibit A]

ROLL CALL:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERMIT APPLICATION:

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the request from Fiber Technologies Networks and the response from our attorney noting our requirement to approve the application and permit.

RESOLUTION APPROVING TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERMIT APPLICATION

At a regular meeting of the Southfield Township Board of Trustees, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Board Chambers at 18550 West Thirteen Mile Road, Southfield Township, Michigan, on March 11, 2014; the following Resolution was offered by Board member Mooney and supported by Board member Nelson.

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Extension Telecommunications Rights-of-Way Oversight Act, Act No. 48 of the Public Acts of 2002 (the “Act”) took effect November 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Act, as amended, among other things, provides for a uniform permit and permit application for access to and use of the public rights-of-way by telecommunications providers; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously adopted Resolutions regarding implementation of that Act, including the establishment of fees; and

WHEREAS, on or about January 16, 2014 the Township received for a Metro Act Permit submitted by Fiber Technologies Networks L.L.C. dated January 14, 2014 and a proposed Bilateral Form Metro Act Permit for issuance upon approval by the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that a Municipality shall not unreasonably deny an application for a Metro Act Permit where the application complies with the requirements of the Act subject to the Municipality’s imposition of conditions as provided by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the January 14, 2014 Metro Act Permit Application and proposed Bilateral Form Act Permit submitted by Fiber Technology Networks, L.L.C. (“Fiber Technology”) materially complies with the requirements of the Act; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the attached Telecommunications Permit Application is hereby approved and the Township Clerk is authorized and directed to promptly sign and date two (2) originals of the attached Bilateral Form Permit and submit those to Fiber Technology's METRO Act Administrator, Judith Newkirk, 300 Meridian Centre, Rochester, NY 14618 with instructions that Fiber Technology sign and date the Acknowledgment of Receipt and return one (1) original to the Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY EXPENDITURES:

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

101 General Fund	\$ 35,231.56
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$2,122,237.63</u>
	\$2,157,469.19

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Koss thanked the Board for all their hard work and well wishes.

Trustee Walsh commented the South Oakland County Water Authority will meet on Wednesday, March 12th at the Clawson Community Center at 8:30 a.m.

Treasurer Mooney mentioned after 40 years of private law practice, Supervisor Schmitt will be retiring at the end of March. Treasurer Mooney wishes him well.

Trustee Holloway thanked the Board for their support regarding Animal Control.

Trustee Nelson thanked the Public Works at the Village of Beverly Hills for all the fine snow plowing. Trustee Nelson added a resident contacted him regarding Animal Control response and after investigation, the result was that the resident never contacted the Township but rather the City of Southfield.

Trustee Nelson wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 8:50 P.M.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk