

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 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, and Nelson

Arrived Late: Trustee Holloway – 7:58 p.m.

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Rana Emmons, Auditor from Post, Smythe, LLP

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt commented we should all be happy we survived the recent storm and congratulations to all that installed a natural gas backup generator.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler commented preparations are under way for the November General Election and the Election Commission meeting will be scheduled for later this month, at which time precinct worker assignments will be approved.

Clerk Tischler mentioned at this time approximately 1,500 requests for an absentee ballot have been processed.

Clerk Tischler noted to date, 873 dog licenses have been issued, compared to 703 last year, with no change in cat licenses from last month.

Clerk Tischler added the Township Attorneys are reviewing the Cemetery Section of our Zoning Ordinance in order to provide us with options to address the road issue.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney noted to date, 71.6% of the summer taxes have been collected and the last day to pay taxes is on Monday, September 15th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AUGUST 12, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Nelson, supported by Koss, to approve the August 12, 2014 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE TOWNSHIP AUDIT BY POST, SMYTHE, LUTZ AND ZIEL, LLP:

Supervisor Schmitt introduced Rana Emmons, Auditor from Post, Smythe, Lutz and Ziel (PSLZ LLP). Emmons presented the Southfield Township Audit for fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Emmons discussed the following areas: Property Tax collection noting a slight increase in taxable value. Pension programs for employees will be incorporated in next year's audit and appear in with fixed assets. Emmons commented on the decreased number of Michigan Tribunal Cases and the consistency of the millage rate.

Emmons stated there are no specific recommendations for the Township and noted the audit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014 was favorable and is clean and in good standing.

Emmons noted all the necessary forms have been filed with the State prior to the deadline of September 30th.

Supervisor Schmitt thanked Emmons for the presentation.

Trustee Koss thanked Emmons for all of her help during the year.

Motion by Koss, supported by Walsh, to receive and file the March 31, 2014 Township Audit.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ASSESS 3% TAX PENALTY FOR THE 2014 TAX YEAR:

RESOLUTION TO ASSESS 3% TAX PENALTY FOR THE 2014 TAX YEAR

Treasurer Mooney proposed the following Resolution be adopted:

Resolved by Mooney, seconded by Koss, 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 17, 2015; and

WHEREAS, all taxes paid after February 17, 2015 and before March 2, 2015 are termed late;

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 17, 2015 through March 2, 2015; 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, Koss, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt

Nays: None

Absent: Holloway

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS MODIFYING ADOPTED FEE SCHEDULE REGARDING BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS; REZONING, SITE PLAN REVIEW AND LAND SPLITS:

Trustee Holloway arrived at 7:58 p.m.

Supervisor Schmitt proposed the following Resolutions be adopted:

RESOLUTION MODIFYING ADOPTED FEE SCHEDULE

Resolved by Schmitt, supported by Nelson, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Township of Southfield has a Fee Schedule for Rezoning, Site Plan Review and Land Splits, and

WHEREAS, the Township has contracted with a Planning Consultant to review any plans requiring Rezoning, Site Plan Review or a Land Split,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if a higher fee is charged by the Township's Planning Consultant, for Rezoning, Site Plan or Land Splits, than the higher fee shall apply.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

RESOLUTION FOR BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Nelson, to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Southfield Township has entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Building Official and Inspection Services with the City of Royal Oak, and

WHEREAS, Southfield Township has adopted the Single State Construction Code Act, Act No. 230 of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, and State Construction Code prepared and promulgated as provided in that Act within the boundaries of the Township, and

WHEREAS, these Public Acts provide for the establishment of a fee schedule for the issuance of permits and inspections, and

WHEREAS, the building official of the City of Royal Oak represents Southfield Township for permits and inspections of Township Only properties located in Southfield Township,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board does hereby establish and adopt by reference the current permit and inspection rates in effect in the City of Royal Oak at the time the permit is issued which will replace the current fee schedule of the Village of Beverly Hills, for Building and Plumbing Permits.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AUGUST EXPENDITURES:

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

101 General Fund	\$ 65,003.59
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$5,643,051.20</u>
	\$5,708,054.79

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Trustee Nelson inquired about when the Township was going to gather information and go out for bid on Animal Control.

Supervisor Schmitt responded in October.

Trustee Nelson asked if there was any information about the Bingham Center.

Supervisor Schmitt responded there was not.

Trustee Nelson questioned the presence of the Water Resource Commission (WRC) which has been flushing out the sewers in his area and noted it might have helped prevent sewer backups in the area.

Trustee Nelson inquired about the voting equipment in the meeting room and enquired if it could be stored elsewhere.

Clerk Tischler responded storage space is limited and the equipment will be needed for the November election.

Supervisor Schmitt asked Trustee Walsh if he had any information on the water settlement from the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority.

Clerk Tischler responded a tentative agreement was announced today.

Trustee Walsh commented the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority will meet on Wednesday, September 10th at 8:30 a.m. at the Birmingham Department of Public Works.

Trustee Walsh noted if a settlement is under consideration information will be available at the meeting.

Treasurer Mooney commented it would be to the advantage of the Township to gather information on Animal Control sooner rather than later, so the Township can go out for bids.

Trustee Koss asked if we had heard from Roberta Oldford, from DRS services regarding health care options and costs for next year.

Clerk Tischler responded the Township should hear from DRS as soon as new rates are available and they will look for competitive options for us to review.

Trustee Koss noted Beverly Hills will be providing curbside leaf pickup this fall. Detailed information will appear in the next newsletter,

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk