

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 13, 2015**

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 and Trustees,  
Nelson, Scarcello and Walsh

Absent: Cook

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk, Beverly Hills  
Robert Borgon, Councilmen Beverly Hills, Liaison

**Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Schmitt welcomed Trustee Scarcello. Supervisor Schmitt noted the Compensation Committee will have a report at the December meeting.

**Clerk's Report**

Clerk Tischler stated a check in the amount of \$12,219.10 has been received from the State as reimbursement for the May 5<sup>th</sup> Special Election.

Clerk Tischler advised that preparations are underway for the March 2016 Presidential Primary with notices being sent to Election Inspectors requesting their availability to work any of the Elections scheduled in 2016. Items such as Absent Voter Applications and instructions as well as envelopes have been ordered.

Clerk Tischler noted that Absent Voter Applications for the March 8<sup>th</sup> Presidential Primary will be mailed out the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Tischler commented 913 dog licenses have been issued as of September 30<sup>th</sup> compared to 891 at this time last year and 39 cat licenses have been issued compared to 48 last year.

Clerk Tischler advised as a reminder, the Township Board does not have a meeting scheduled for November.

Clerk Tischler stated preliminary information is being gathered for the 2016-17 budget and should be available for the December Board meeting.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mooney commented to date, 95% of the summer tax collection has been received. Treasurer Mooney added the winter rates have been entered into the tax system and taxes should go down slightly compared to last year.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA:**

No one wished to be heard.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Supervisor Schmitt requested a motion to approve the agenda.

**Motion** by Mooney, supported by Walsh, to approve the agenda as presented.

**Motion** carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

Supervisor Schmitt offered the September 8th, meeting minutes for approval.

**Motion** by Mooney, supported by Scarcello, to approve the September 8, 2015 Board meeting minutes as presented.

**Motion** carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING AMIE SALTZMAN TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Planning Commission member Amie Saltzman's appointment expires this year. 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. Saltzman lives in Franklin, and meets both these criteria, and has agreed to be reappointed.

**Resolved** by Nelson, supported by Walsh, to reappoint Amie Saltzman to the Southfield Township Planning Commission for a three-year term, December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2018.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Tischler, Mooney, Nelson, Scarcello, Walsh, Schmitt  
Nays: None  
Absent: Cook

**Resolution** Declared Adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF MICHELLE BRUNER AS PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER:**

Supervisor Schmitt presented Ms. Bruner's letter of resignation for approval:

Good Morning.

I regret that I am moving from Bingham Farms and the Township (October 30) and can no longer serve on the Planning Commission. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with this board, especially one so dedicated to maintaining the integrity of this township and its communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to have been a part of this work.

I will bring the ordinance book to the Township office today.

Again, thanks so very much.

Michelle

**Motion** by Nelson, supported by Tischler, to accept Michelle Bruner's resignation from the Planning Commission with regret.

**Motion** carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT JAMES O'REILLY TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**

Supervisor Schmitt noted Zoning Board of Appeals members are generally appointed for three-year terms. Mr. O'Reilly's term expires this year, and he has agreed to accept reappointment. This complies with the staggered terms and village representation goals.

**Resolved** by Schmitt, supported by Mooney, to reappoint James O'Reilly to the Southfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term, December 12, 2015 through December 31, 2018.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Mooney, Nelson, Scarcello, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler  
Nays: None  
Absent: Cook

**Resolution** Declared Adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPOINTING KATHLEEN MECHIGIAN TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:**

Supervisor Schmitt stated Southfield Township Ordinance #151-173 (A)(1) provides that one member of the Planning Commission also be a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The prior dual member was Trustee Nelson, who has since been replaced on the Planning Commission, thus leaving the Planning Commission member position on the Board vacant. Ms. Mechigian, a member of the Planning Commission has graciously agreed to accept the dual appointment.

Supervisor Schmitt noted ZBA members are generally appointed for three-year terms. Ms. Mechigian resides in Bingham Farms and her appointment would meet our staggered term and village representation goals.

**Resolved** by Tischler, supported by Walsh, to appoint Kathleen Mechigian to the Southfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term, December 12, 2015 through December 31, 2018.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Nelson, Scarcello, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Mooney  
Nays: None  
Absent: Cook

**Resolution** Declared Adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RESOLUTION DISTRIBUTING BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD REBATE:**

Supervisor Schmitt stated the Township received a health insurance rebate check from Blue Cross in the amount of \$49.32. This represented a .1% overcharge of the allowed 2014 Affordable Care Act cost ratios.

Supervisor Schmitt noted it appears the rebate might be able to be applied to next year's premium or refunded to the employees. Supervisor Schmitt used the word "appears" because this is just an opinion. Supervisor Schmitt is more confident in our ability to distribute the money to the employees than putting it back in the general fund for next year. Supervisor Schmitt noted the matter of proper pro-ratio among employees.

Supervisor Schmitt suggested if the Board prefers, for several hundred dollars an attorney's opinion could be requested.

**Resolved** by Schmitt, seconded by Walsh, that Southfield Township distribute the 2014 Blue Cross/Blue Shield rebate of \$49.32 equally among the four employees covered by the Township's health insurance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Scarcello, Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Mooney, Nelson  
Nays: None  
Absent: Cook

**Resolution** Declared Adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO CHANGE  
PRECINCT 3 POLLING LOCATION FROM ASCENSION OF CHRIST LUTHERAN  
CHURCH TO OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS:**

Clerk Tischler reviewed the following items in the memo preceding the Resolution.

- Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church is implementing a nursery school program.
- Due to events that have occurred in schools the Church has requested the cancellation of the use of the Church as a Polling Location.
- The Church has been used as a Polling Location for more than 40 years and has always been very accommodating.
- Contact has been made with Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and Father Scott has given permission to allow their facility to house an additional precinct.
- The Township Election Commission met on October 1, 2015 and approved the change in polling location.
- Precinct boundary lines will not change, only the polling location.
- Voters in Precinct 3 will receive a new voter identification card indicating the precinct change within the next two weeks.
- Clerk Tischler cited Section 168.662 of Election Law which requires the Township Board of Trustees to pass a resolution authorizing the change in polling location.

Clerk Tischler offered the following Resolution for adoption.

**RESOLUTION CHANGING POLLING LOCATION OF PRECINCT 3 FROM  
ASCENSION OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH TO OUR LADY QUEEN OF  
MARTYRS**

At a regular Meeting of the Southfield Township Board of Trustees, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, held on October 13, 2015 the following Resolution was moved, supported and adopted:

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

**WHEREAS**, Michigan Election Law, Public Act 116 Of 1954, MCL 168-662 (1) mandates that  
“The legislative body in each city, village, and township shall designate and

prescribe the place or places of holding an election for city, village, or township election, and shall provide a suitable polling place in or for each precinct located in the city, village or township for use at each election”; and

**WHEREAS,** Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church has requested the cancellation of the use of the Church facility by the Township as a Polling Location due to additional activities at the Church; and

**WHEREAS,** The Southfield Township Election Commission unanimously supported the relocation of Precinct 3-Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at their October 1, 2015 meeting;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees hereby approves the relocation of Precinct 3 from Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church- 16935 W. 14 Mile Rd. Beverly Hills 48025, Michigan to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at 32460 Pierce Rd., Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025 for all future elections beginning in 2016.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to notify all relocated voters pursuant to MCL 168.499(3). Notice to all the registered voters of Precinct 3 will be prepared and mailed as required by law and further that notification of this change be provided to the County and State Election Divisions.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Walsh, Schmitt, Tischler, Mooney, Nelson, Scarcello  
Nays: None  
Absent: Cook

**Resolution** Declared Adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER EXPENDITURES:**

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

101 General Fund	\$	35,010.17
703 Tax Fund	\$	<u>20,596,094.30</u>
		\$ 20,631,104.47

Clerk Tischler answered all questions.

**Motion** carried unanimously.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Councilman Borgon commented on the efficiency of the Board of Trustees meetings.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:**

Trustee Scarcello commented he is looking forward to working with the Board.

Trustee Walsh noted South Oakland County Water Authority will meet tomorrow at the SOCWA office on Webster for a meeting and tour of the facility.

Trustee Walsh asked if the Planning Commission minutes could be included with our information items.

Supervisor Schmitt commented that if a young person is interested in landscaping, Southfield Township can cover them with workman's compensation.

Clerk Tischler informed Trustee Scarcello of the dates and times of the Planning Commission meetings. Clerk Tischler wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Trustee Nelson welcomed everyone and offered a thank you for the maps.

The Township Board members welcomed Trustee Scarcello.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

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Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

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Sharon Tischler, Clerk