

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

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,
Cook, Nelson, and Walsh

Absent: Trustee Scarcello

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk, Beverly Hills
Joseph Hlavaty, Bingham Farms

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt mentioned there are a number of changes to the Animal Control Ordinance which are currently being reviewed by our attorneys.

Supervisor Schmitt noted Jason's Outdoor Landscaping is preparing a bid for maintenance of the Township Hall landscaping.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler mentioned 304 dog licenses have been issued as of January 31st compared to 298 in 2015 and 16 cat licenses have been issued in 2016 compared to 17 in ~~as compared to~~ January 2015.

Clerk Tischler noted the Township Office will be closed on Monday, February 15th for Presidents Day.

Clerk Tischler stated as of today, 1,314 absent voter applications have been returned and processed.

Clerk Tischler added documentation for eight (8) merchant licenses have been received and processed.

Clerk Tischler stated at this time residents should have received their 2016 property evaluation notices in the mail.

Clerk Tischler commented the Clerk's Department has issued 17 ballots from Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) which were e-mailed outside of the United States.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney commented to date, we have collected 97 ½% of the summer taxes and just under 83% of the winter tax collection with one week left for the winter tax collection.

Treasurer Mooney noted the Board of Commissioners authorized the Oakland County Treasurer to waive all County interest and fees thru April 30, 2016 for deferred parcels.

Treasurer Mooney mentioned the Village Women's Club will be meeting on Wednesday evening at the Township Hall to prepare Valentine Bags for Beverly Hills residents who have signed up for the Adopt-A-Senior Program. The bags will be distributed next week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Trustee Cook requested item 9a-Discussion of Grant money offered by DEQ for Recycling Purposes for Townships be added to the agenda.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Supervisor Schmitt offered the January 12th meeting minutes for approval.

Trustee Nelson requested on page 2 under "Clerk's Report," first paragraph, second line down, after 2 strike "to" and insert "as compared to January of." Trustee Nelson requested on page 3 under "Approval of December 8, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes," 6th line down, 4th word from the end of the sentence, strike "swat" and change it to "S.W.A.T."

Motion by Walsh, supported by Cook, to approve the January 12, 2016 Board meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017:

Supervisor Schmitt opened to the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m.

No one from the public wished to be heard.

Supervisor closed the Public Hearing at 7:41 p.m.

BOARD COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017:

Supervisor Schmitt asked the Board if they had any comments on the proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Treasurer Mooney requested the “Requested” “Current Property Tax” column be changed from “575,000” to “585,000”.

The Board discussed the following items: Anticipated Revenue, Election Reimbursement, Compensation Study, Setting aside money for New Election Equipment and Shred days.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RESOLUTION TO UPDATE SIGN ORDINANCE:

Supervisor Schmitt reviewed the memo noting that recently the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a ruling that invalidates a portion of many municipal zoning/sign ordinances, arguably including Southfield Township’s Ch. 151.120 et seq.

If we do nothing, and if a portion of that part of the zoning ordinance is challenged successfully, the Township could be subject to an injunction (or not entitled to obtain an injunction, as the case may be), or subject to damages, including attorney fees. Costs of amending the ordinance could easily be \$3,000.00. Other parts of the Zoning Ordinance, such as building heights and setbacks should be upheld.

Trustee Cook questioned the Township attorney review of the documents as opposed to a Planner.

Supervisor Schmitt responded the Township does not have a contracted Planner.

Resolved by Nelson, seconded by Walsh, the Township’s attorneys are directed to review and revise, if necessary, the Township’s sign ordinance in alignment with the recent U.S. Supreme Court Ruling.

ROLL CALL:

Yes: Tischler, Mooney, Cook, Nelson, Walsh, Schmitt
No: None
Absent: Scarcello

DISCUSSION OF GRANT MONEY OFFERED BY DEQ FOR TOWNSHIP RECYCLING PURPOSES:

Trustee Cook noted information supplied by Michigan Township Association, regarding the ability of applying for a grant from the DEQ for Township Recycling and inquired if the villages could apply separately for that grant from the DEQ or if the Township could apply for the villages.

Trustee Nelson mentioned Beverly Hills had a pilot program on the East side of the Village using large recycle bins.

Joseph Hlavaty mentioned starting this Thursday in Bingham Farms, Simply Recycling will be following the trash collectors and they will pick up the green plastic bags which will have clothing, shoes and miscellaneous items.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to have the Clerk call and inquire about who applies for the grant money which is due March 31, 2016.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF JANUARY EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Walsh, supported by Nelson, to approve the January expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$ 45,866.51
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$ 1,525,272.62</u>
Total	\$ 1,571,139.13

Clerk Tischler and Treasurer Mooney answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Clerk Tischler noted Info Item 2-59 Information from Bill Dwyer, County Commissioner. Clerk Tischler mentioned Dwyer is going to provide this information on a regular basis to keep the Board informed of what is going on at the County since it is difficult to attend all the meetings.

Treasurer Mooney wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Page 5- Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes- February 9, 2016

Trustee Walsh noted tomorrow South Oakland County Water Authority meeting will be at the Ferndale Public Library at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk