

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON APRIL 12, 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, Scarcello and Walsh

Absent: None

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Schmitt noted the Board of Review concluded on March 16th. Poverty applications were down this year.

Supervisor Schmitt noted April is Severe Weather Awareness Month and this is Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Tischler stated as of March 31st 730 dog licenses have been issued compared to 706 in 2015 and 34 cat licenses have been issued compared to 35 in 2015.

Clerk Tischler mentioned an invitation to Oakland County Clerks to attend a demonstration of the new election equipment quoted to the State to replace the M-100's and Auto Marks is taking place at on April 28th. Farmington Hills will host the event.

Clerk Tischler noted April 19th is the last day to file petitions to run for positions on the Township Board. Withdrawal date is April 22nd.

Clerk Tischler stated petitions to run for open positions on Village Councils are available at the Township Office and at each Village Office. The filing deadline is 4:00 p.m., July 26th.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney commented the Township has settled with the County and balanced to the penny. Re-imbursement for delinquent taxes will be forthcoming from the County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Nelson, supported by Scarcello, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 15, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Supervisor Schmitt offered the March 15, 2016 meeting minutes for approval.

Trustee Nelson noted on page 6, under “Comments from the Board” first paragraph second sentence strike the sentence and reword for clarification to “Trustee Nelson suggested more lighting is needed at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Polling Location on Election Day.”

The Board made the following corrections to the page 4: “e” that was struck, is to be eliminated and “f” becomes “e” and “g” “Bid Process” eliminated and “h” will become “f” and “i” will become “g”.

Motion by Cook, supported by Mooney, to approve the March 15, 2016 Board meeting minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OAKLAND COUNTY ASSESSMENT SERVICES-THREE YEAR CONTRACT (REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTIES):

Supervisor Schmitt presented the County’s proposed assessing contract for the next three years and noted the current three year contract had no increase in fees ~~for three years~~. The proposed rates go up from \$14.70 to \$15.10 per parcel for real property, and from \$12.40 to \$12.80 per parcel for personal property. This is an increase of 3%, which was anticipated and included in our 2016/2017 Township Budget.

Supervisor Schmitt added the contract language is also unchanged, except for sec. 6, which previously had verbiage providing that the personal property rates would be renegotiated for various outcomes of the August 2014 personal property tax election. Those contingencies have been eliminated and the resulting agreement is much smoother and in line with prior agreements.

Trustee Cook inquired if the County charges the same for other communities.

Supervisor Schmitt responded it does not have to be the same, but by in large is the same.

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Walsh, that the Southfield Township Board approves renewing the proposed assessing contract for real and personal property with Oakland County for 3 years, July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. Further the Clerk and Supervisor are authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Township. [see permanent assessing file]

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIMOTHY A. MERCER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FILLING THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF LAWRENCE NEEDHAM;

Supervisor Schmitt noted as you will recall, last meeting the Board accepted the resignation of long time Planning Commission member Larry Needham.

Tim Mercer is a Beverly Hills resident and immediate past Council President and has graciously agreed to accept appointment to the Planning Commission. Mercer's application was included in the Board packet for review.

Planning Commission members are required to have staggered terms and, as practical, the practice has been to geographically balance the board. Appointing Mercer through 2017 will help balance the terms and reinforce the geographic, balance of the Board.

Resolved by Schmitt, supported by Mooney, to appoint Timothy A. Mercer to the Southfield Township Planning Commission with a term, expiring December 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF TAX COLLECTION AGREEMENT FOR BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Treasurer Mooney presented a new Tax Collection Agreement with Birmingham Schools covering tax collection for 2016 through June 30, 2019 to the Board. The Township agreement with Birmingham Schools is to collect and disburse taxes on their behalf.

Treasurer Mooney commented that a comparison of what the Township currently charges and what other municipalities charge was done and has found that the Township requested fee is very competitive, actually at the high end of the spectrum.

The agreement was reviewed and approved by our Township Attorney ~~and the School District.~~

It was the consensus of the Board, after general discussion to adopt the following Resolution:

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Walsh, to approve a three year agreement with the Birmingham Public Schools to collect and disburse their taxes beginning with the July 2016 tax season at \$3.75 per parcel and authorize the Supervisor and Treasurer to enter into the agreement on behalf of the Township. [See Exhibit A]

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF MARCH EXPENDITURES:

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

101 General Fund	\$ 56,915.14
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$ 342,479.69</u>
Total	\$ 399,394.83

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Supervisor Schmitt inquired as to how many residents had filed petitions to run for the Township Board.

Clerk Tischler responded two filings for Township Trustees, 1 filing for Township Supervisor, 1 for Township Clerk and 1 for Township Treasurer.

Treasurer Mooney noted Jason Gross from Jason's Outdoor Services will begin spring cleanup within the week.

Trustee Walsh noted the South Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) will be meeting tomorrow at the Pleasant Ridge Community Center at 8:30 a.m.

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Supervisor Schmitt adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk