

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON JUNE 12, 2018**

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, O'Reilly and Scarcello

Absent: None

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk
Rana Emmons, Auditor

Supervisor's Report

Schmitt thanked Trustee Nelson for planting the flowers at the Township Hall and for attending his last ~~South Eastern~~ Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority meeting which will be tomorrow morning.

Cook inquired as to what type of flowering tree was in bloom in the back of the Township.

Schmitt responded it is a Chinese White Dogwood.

Clerk's Report

Tischler noted 811 dog licenses have been purchased compared to 802 last year and 38 cat licenses have been issued compared to 60 last year.

Tischler mentioned seventeen merchants of nineteen have submitted their merchant license information.

Tischler advised that Voter Registration Day at Groves ~~High School~~ and Seaholm High Schools was successful with over fifty students registering to vote with a majority filling out the necessary application in order to receive an absentee ballot for the upcoming elections.

Tischler noted the necessary maintenance on the Township Hall is continuing with the trimming of shrub's, weeding of the landscaping beds and the planting of annuals by Trustee Nelson. The air conditioning and furnace units have also been inspected.

Tischler stated a copy of the sign ordinance with all the requested changes was provided with board packets and noted that if any corrections or changes do not appear, note it on the copy and return it.

Tischler advised the Board on the updated version of the Qualified Voter File and explained all of the issues that are being encountered with issuing absent voter ballots.

Treasurer's Report

We have received tax rates for summer, 2018. Overall millage rates are down from last year but with the increase of 2.1% in taxable value we should see a slight decrease in taxes.

Mooney mentioned the following Legislative Updates:

1. Disabled Veterans Exemption: There hasn't been much movement there is still optimism that it will become a tax credit instead of a local loss of revenue.
2. There is also proposed legislation for comprehensive Assessing and Board of Review Reform. Essentially, there is an opinion that greater assessing expertise is necessary which would require specific quality standards and possibly regionalizing Boards of Review. On the assessing side, it wouldn't impact us much because we contract with the County which is considered regionalized. No one is sure what impact this will have on local Boards. MTA has expressed concerns with this bill and is paying close attention.

Mooney attended a one-day conference at Oakland Schools by G2G Marketplace. The primary focus was on technology but there were some interesting sessions on cyber security.

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, the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Mooney noted on page 2, under Treasurer's report, third paragraph down, last sentence

after \$5,978.00”, strike “this will be” and insert “which is”. Mooney added the fourth paragraph down, last line after “agreement” insert “unless the Board recommends we purchase the maintenance agreement beyond the first year.”

Motion by O’Reilly, supported by Cook the May 8, 2018 minutes be approved as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION HONORING ROBERT WALSH:

Resolved by Tischler, supported by Schmitt to adopt the following resolution:

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION HONORING ROBERT WALSH

WHEREAS, Robert (Bob) Walsh was appointed to the Township’s Planning Commission/Zoning Board in January 2004 and served until his election to the Township Board in November, 2004 and

WHEREAS, Bob served as Trustee until November of 2016 handling all of the items affecting the residents of the Township with due diligence and research with a common-sense approach to his decision-making process, and

WHEREAS, Bob also served on the Township’s Compensation Committee reviewing employee and elected officials progress in their job descriptions and suggesting compensation equivalent to their performance, and

WHEREAS, Bob, as Trustee, was charged with the task of reviewing Township finances on a monthly basis by reviewing each and every voucher and check written to insure Township funds were being spent as authorized by the Township Board, and

WHEREAS, Bob was appointed to serve as a representative to the Southeastern ~~Eastern~~ Oakland County Water Authority on behalf of Township residents in February of 2011 until June of 2018, and

WHEREAS, Bob’s community service extended beyond the Township to the Village of Beverly Hills where he and Gladys have resided since 1975, and

WHEREAS, Bob served on the Village Planning Board from July 1977 to March 1984 and was elected to Village Council and served from March 1984 to 1986 where he was Council liaison to SEMCOG, Oakland County, Beverly Hills Public Safety Retirement Board and an alternate to the Village Finance Committee, Zoning Board, and

WHEREAS, Bob was again elected to Village Council for a term from March 1998 to March 2002 where his assignment was Infrastructure Chairperson,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees does hereby express its appreciation and sincere gratitude and thanks for the hours given to community projects on behalf of the residents of Southfield Township for his commitment to Community Service, his personal friendship, his willingness to serve and dedication to community involvement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees extends best wishes for continued good health and a happy retirement from government involvement other than voting.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Tischler, Mooney, Cook, Nelson, O'Reilly, Scarcello and Schmitt
Nays: None
Absent: None

PRESENTATION OF AUDIT, RECEIVE AND FILE:

Schmitt introduced Rana Emmons, Auditor from PSLZ LLP. Emmons presented the Southfield Township Audit for fiscal year ending March 31, 2018. Emmons noted the following:

- Southfield Township is in good standing. ~~which is unmodified opinion, the highest level.~~
- Taxable values were up 3.4% this year and the millage rate remained unchanged which equates to \$20,000 more this year than the prior year in property tax revenues.
- Interest income is up this year. Southfield Township is 100% insured and our Treasurer has been investing and maximizing the CD rates.
- Expenditures; If comparing fiscal year 2017 to fiscal year 2018 the operating expenditures were about the same. In Fiscal year 2017 the Township had more Election expenses and in Fiscal year 2018 the Township had more capital expenses.
- The Township came in under budget by \$56,000.00 in the general fund expenditures and added \$22,374 to the General Fund Balance.
- Next year projection will use up approximately \$93,000.00 of the General Fund Balance if everything is spent as budgeted.
- Post-Retiree Healthcare plan at MERS which is an asset to the Township.
- Changes are being made in reporting on some of the Post-Retiree Health plans so if changes are being considered this would be a good year to do it.

Emmons answered all questions.

Schmitt thanked Emmons for her presentation.

Motion by Mooney, supported by O'Reilly, to receive and file the March 31, 2018 Township Audit Report.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF SETTING PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR POLICE AND FIRE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS:

Resolved by Mooney, seconded by Nelson, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Southfield Township Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on July 10, 2018 at the Township Hall located at 18550 West Thirteen Mile Road, Southfield Township, Michigan at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of spreading a Special Assessment for police and fire protection for Township Only parcels.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Mooney, Cook, Nelson, O'Reilly, Scarcello, Schmitt, Tischler
Nays: None
Absent: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF MTA DUES:

Tischler reviewed the invoice from the Michigan Townships Association for membership noting the services provided. Funding of \$6,600.00 has been allocated in line item# 101-100-803.000 in the budget for this expense. The invoice includes a voluntary contribution to the legal defense fund.

Tischler noted last year the Board approved \$6,542.00 which included the legal defense fund contribution. Payment of that fee is at the discretion of the Board.

Tischler opened the floor for discussion. After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to approve MTA dues including the voluntary defense contribution.

Resolved by Mooney, supported by Cook, to approve payment of Michigan Townships Association dues, including voluntary legal fund contribution from 7/1/18- 6/30/19 in the amount of \$6,738.26.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Cook, Nelson, O'Reilly, Scarcello, Schmitt, Tischler, Mooney
Nays: None
Absent: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION SETTING 2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES:

Schmitt opened the floor for discussion.

After general discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to make the following changes and approve the following 2019 Meeting Dates:

Resolved by Mooney, seconded by Schmitt, the following Resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED the Southfield Township Board of Trustees will meet on the second Tuesday of the months listed below at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 18550 West Thirteen Mile Road, Southfield Township, Michigan. The dates are as follows:

January	8**	May	14(no meeting)	September	10
February	(no meeting)	June	11	October	8
March	12	July	9	November	(no meeting)
April	9	August	(no meeting)	December	10

* Any Special Meetings will be posted and noticed as required by law.
** ~~Additionally, the January 8th meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.~~

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Nelson, O'Reilly, Scarcello, Schmitt, Tischler, Mooney, Cook
Nays: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF MAY EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Nelson, supported by Scarcello, to approve the May expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$	40,261.60
703 Tax Fund	\$	<u>0</u>
Total	\$	40,261.60

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Nelson commented he will plant daffodil and tulip bulbs in the fall.

O'Reilly wished everyone a Happy Father's Day, Canada Day, Independence Day and Solace Day.

Nelson commented he spoke with Dave Weber, Animal Control Officer, regarding a chip reader and feels it would be beneficial for the Township to purchase one.

Meeting adjourned 8:13 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk