

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2018**

Nelson called the Compensation Committee meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.
Scarcello and Nelson present. Walsh was contacted by phone and expressed his approval.

Motion by Scarcello, supported by Nelson, to approve the agenda from the Compensation Committee meeting on July 16, 2018.

Motion carried.

Motion by Scarcello, supported by Nelson, that the Compensation Committee meeting minutes from July 16, 2018, be approved as submitted.

Motion carried.

Nelson asked for any comments from the audience. Hearing none the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by Nelson.

Supervisor Schmitt called the Township Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Supervisor Schmitt, Clerk Tischler, Treasurer Mooney and Trustees Nelson, O'Reilly and Scarcello

Absent: Cook

Others Present: Sandra LaJoie, Deputy Clerk

Supervisor's Report

Schmitt commented that today is the 17th ~~day of the~~ year anniversary we will never forget. Schmitt commented the pet scanners are now available.

Clerk's Report

Tischler noted 884 dog licenses have been purchased compared to 890 last year and 43 cat licenses have been issued compared to 65 last year.

Tischler stated a FOIA request from United Impact Group for copies of Absentee Ballot envelopes, applications and ballots from the November 8, 2016 election have been requested. A

response was prepared and both e-mailed and hard copied advising an estimated cost to produce the request with a response date and required deposit by November 1, 2018. Tischler further noted that every local unit of government in the entire State has received this request. This is a Democratic funded request with the suggested purpose of researching why voters do not vote the entire ballot.

Tischler commented that preparations are underway for the November Gubernatorial Election, the ballot will contain three State proposals, seven Bingham Farms proposals and one proposal in Franklin along with candidates for Village Council seats. Tischler noted straight party voting will not be possible due to court order so voting time will increase as a vote for candidates will require the filling in of each box next to each candidate's name. The ballot is double sided.

Tischler called to the Boards attention the September issue of the Michigan Township Focus magazine page 32 titled "Around the State" Townships in the Spotlight", which this month features Southfield Township.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mooney stated to date we have received 77% of the summer taxes with 3 days left before the deadline.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT CONTAINED ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA:

No one wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF JULY 10, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

O'Reilly noted on page 8 second "WHEREAS" last sentence, strike "reviewing" after the word "and." Also on page 8 O'Reilly noted "NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED" BE IT RESOLVED"
number 1 first line after "specific add "to".

Motion by Mooney, supported by O'Reilly to approve the July 10, 2018 as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO ACCELERATE FORFEITURE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY:

RESOLUTION TO ACCELERATE FORFEITURE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

Motion by Mooney, seconded by Nelson, the resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, the governing body of Southfield Township determines that parcels of abandoned tax delinquent property exist;

WHEREAS, abandoned tax delinquent property contributes to crime, blight, and decay within Southfield Township;

WHEREAS, the certification of tax delinquent abandoned property as certified abandoned property will result in the accelerated forfeiture and foreclosure of certified abandoned property under the general property tax act and return abandoned property to productive use more rapidly, thereby reducing crime, blight, and decay within the Township.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Southfield Township hereby notifies residents and owners of property within the Township that abandoned tax delinquent property will be identified and inspected and may be certified as certified abandoned property under the Certification of Abandoned Property for Accelerated Forfeiture Act and subject to accelerated forfeiture and foreclosure under the general property act.

ROLL CALL:

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF OPEB RESOLUTION:

Supervisor Schmitt asked Nelson to review the following Resolution:

Clerk Tischler is the only Township employee who is, or will be, eligible for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), specifically retiree medical insurance. The Township's liability for this benefit is in the area of \$155,000. In a fund restricted to retiree health insurance the Township has approximately a corresponding \$155,000. The Compensation Committee was asked to study the situation and make a recommendation to the Township Board whether the

Township should transfer the restricted funds to a trust solely under the control of the employee and be relieved of all further liability and reporting of the OPEB funds.

Attached are proposed minutes of the committees meeting held July 16, 2018. While they are only proposed, as of this writing, they are expected to be finalized and approved in exactly the attached form before the September Township Board Meeting.

Suggested Resolution:

Resolved by _____, seconded by _____, that an actuarial study will be made to determine the amount of the Township's retiree healthcare liability as of September 30, 2018; Further, MERS will provide an accounting of the value of the MERS Retiree Healthcare Trust as of September 30, 2018; Further, the lesser of the MERS assets or the actuarial liability, minus the cost of the actuarial study, will become the amount of the lump sum payment offered to Clerk Tischler: Further, Clerk Tischler will then have the option of accepting or refusing the lump sum offer. Should she accept the offer, the MERS account will then be restructured as an individual account and continue to be administered by MERS, but managed by Clerk Tischler. Additionally, upon completion of the transfer, the Township's OPEB trust will terminate and the Township will have no further OPEB liabilities.

It is further resolved, Clerk Tischler shall have 14 days after receipt of both the actuary study and the MERS report to accept the Township's offer. Failure to accept constitutes ~~and~~ a rejection. Upon acceptance of the offer, the Township Attorneys will draw up the necessary documents to direct MERS to proceed with transferring the account into Clerk Tischler's name, and the Township Supervisor is authorized to sign such documents as are necessary to complete the transaction.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

Motion by Treasurer Mooney, supported by O'Reilly, to table this Resolution until we have a full representation from the Board. This is a critical decision and the entire Board needs to be involved in the decision.

Motion carried ~~unanimously~~.

Nay- Schmitt

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF JULY EXPENDITURES:

Motion by Nelson, supported by O'Reilly, to approve the July expenditures as follows:

101 General Fund	\$ 36,266.59
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$ 4,360,356.71</u>
Total	\$ 4,396,623.30

Mooney answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AUGUST EXPENDITURES:

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

101 General Fund	\$ 57,602.31
703 Tax Fund	<u>\$ 7,703,706.92</u>
Total	\$ 7,761,309.23

Tischler answered all questions.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

No one wished to be heard.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

Scarcello thanked Schmitt for his opening comments.

Meeting adjourned 7:58 p.m.

Phillip Schmitt, Supervisor

Sharon Tischler, Clerk