

**SPRING ARBOR TOWNSHIP  
BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Spring Arbor Township Board was held Monday January 13, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present Supervisor Marston Fortress, Clerk Julia Stonestreet, Treasurer Colleen Gibbs, Trustees James Buck, Joel Freehling, Dave Herlein and Troy Ganton. Absent: none. The Pledge of Allegiance was led Supervisor Fortress.

Guests: Tim McEldowney, Earl Poleski and Russ Ratkiewicz.

**Public Comment:** Opened at 7:03 p.m. Earl Poleski, state representative, reported that the state will begin the budget process. Supervisor Fortress presented a written report from Julie Alexander, County Commissioner, which included information regarding animal control changes due to the elimination of an officer, jail visitation changes and the projected time frame on the repair of the Cross Road Bridge. Public comment closed at 7:09 p.m.

**Expenditures:** Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Buck to approve the following expenditures for December: (Checks 53665 through 53812 were used for December expenditures) General Fund expenditures totaling \$63,748.75; Fire Department Fund expenditures totaling \$46,381.45; Street Light Fund totaling \$3,893.10; Public Improvement Fund totaling \$7,880.00; Building Inspection Fund expenditures totaling \$4,094.36; Sewer Fund expenditures totaling \$57,043.10; Water Fund expenditures totaling \$47,899.30; Cunningham Historical Fund expenditures totaling \$165.00; West House Historical Fund \$1,028.29; Trust and Agency Fund (Check # 2049 through 2050) totaling \$177.00; Current Tax Collection (Check #49995 through 5009) totaling \$241,813.75. Roll Call: 7 yes. Approved. Motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Freehling to pay outstanding invoices totaling \$156,007.20. Roll Call: 7 yes. Approved

**Minutes:** Motion was made by Buck and seconded by Freehling to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2013 regular board meeting with correction of the day of December meeting. Approved.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion was made by Stonestreet and seconded by Herlein to accept the following items under the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports for December 2013; the general ledger report of revenues and expenditures for December 2013; Zoning/Building permit report for December 2013; Senior Center Advisory Board meeting minutes of December 22, 2013; Planning Commission meeting minutes of December 10, 2013.

The financial report showed the following balances as of December 31, 2013:

General Fund Cash	\$86,410.04
Certificate of Deposit	742,156.54
Fire Operations Cash	(50,739.34)
Fire Operations CD	880,598.72

Street Light Fund Cash	21,785.46
Street Light Fund MM	2.37
P.I.F. Cash	(28,720.29)
P.I.F. Certificate of Deposit	68,763.22
Building Inspection Fund Cash	10,603.44
Building Inspection Fund CD	63,937.20
Historical Fund Cash	(499.68)
Historical Endowment Fund CD	30,173.34
West House Historical Fund Cash	67,769.11
West House Historical Fund CD	241,516.16
Sewer Funds	836,852.90
Water Funds	323,172.53
Current Tax Collection	285,833.38
Total	<b><u>\$3,579,615.10</u></b>

Approved

**REPORTS:**

**Police and Fire Report:** A motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Freehling to accept the police department and fire department reports. A thank you note from a township resident to Chief Ratkiewicz was shared with the board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Treasurer's Office Expenditure:** Treasurer Gibbs presented drawings and costs to the board to purchase walls for her desk area at the December meeting. Action on this request was postponed until the January meeting. Trustee Ganton made a motion to deny the expenditure. Motion was seconded by Buck. Yes – Buck, Fortress, Freehling, Ganton, Herlein and Gibbs. No – Gibbs. Approved.

**Township Cleanup Day:** Supervisor Fortress asked for input as to whether we should continue having cleanup days for the Township. After some discussion, Dave Herlein will consider chairing the event and will bring information including but not limited to suggested date and costs.

**Committee Appointments:** Supervisor Fortress presented the following committee appointments for confirmation:

Construction Board of Appeals	Jeff Barton	1/31/19
Sewer and Water Committee	Stan Lyon	2/28/17
Electrical Board of Appeals	James Buck	3/31/17
Planning Commission	Doug Martz	2/28/17
	Melvin Rice	2/28/17
Plumbing Board of Appeals	Tom Zeller	3/60/19
Rental Inspection Review Board	Greg Scholl	3/31/17
	Jack Ripstra	3/31/17
Sewer Board of Review	Charles Tomasello	2/28/17

A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to accept the list of committee appointments made by the Supervisor. Approved

**Street Address Change:** The Township office building address has traditionally be 107 Teft Road. At one time the office was accessible from Teft and the address was acceptable. Since the actual drive/access for the building is now from Main Street and the new outdoor sign will be closer to that entrance, Supervisor Fortress recommended that we change the address to 107 E. Main Street. Ganton moved that we change the address to 107 E. Main Street and Jim Buck seconded. Approved.

**Utility Bill Penalty:** Supervisor Fortress presented a suggested policy to consider “forgiving” utility bill penalties for residents with property tax exemptions for poverty or military reason. After as short discussion, Ganton moved that we postpone consideration of this subject until next month so that there could be more information gathered. Seconded by Buck. Approved.

**PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT:** none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made by Fortress and seconded by Ganton to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. unanimously approved.

Julia Stonestreet  
Township Clerk

Approved at the February 10, 2014 board meeting