

**SPRING ARBOR TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Spring Arbor Township Board was held Monday, October 10, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present: Supervisor Marston Fortress, Treasurer Colleen Gibbs, Trustees James Buck, Joel Freehling, Troy Ganton and David Herlein. Absent: Clerk Julia Stonestreet. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Fortress.

Guests: Julie Alexander, Alexandra Brankovich, Emma Eddy, Mary Ley, Tim McEldowney, Howard Noppe, Earl Poleski, Russ Ratkiewicz, Cindy Sherwood, and Ken Wyatt, Jackson Citizen Patriot.

Public Comment: Public comment opened at 7:02 p.m.

Betsy Burns commented on police activity. Mary Ley submitted a response to the board response sent to her after last months meeting and request. She asked that her new letter be included in the board minutes. Earl Poleski, state rep 064, reported on the new legislation impacting lifetime healthcare for legislators being discontinued. He also reported a town hall scheduled for October 11, 2011 at the First United Methodist church in downtown Jackson. Julie Alexander, County Commissioner, reported on activity at the airport being on schedule, the Register of Deeds office and their new software, the "Math Makes a Difference" campaign, the new child care center and introduced new County Administrator Mike Overton. Mr. Overton said that he looks forward to the challenges of Jackson County and hopes to work with other governmental agencies on efficiencies.

Expenditures. Motion was made by Buck and seconded by Freehling to approve the following expenditures for September: The General Fund expenditures #50674-50805 totaling \$52,439.89; Fire Department Fund expenditures #50673-50805 totaling \$28,576.31; Street Light Fund expenditure #50723 totaling \$5,373.32; Building Inspection Fund expenditures #50678-50796 totaling \$5,104.36; Sewer Fund expenditures #50678-50801 totaling \$63,837.01; Water Fund expenditures #50678-50796 and #1561 totaling \$28,846.82; Trust and Agency expenditures #1992 & 1993 totaling \$1,011.00; Current Tax Collection #4740-4749 totaling \$2,969,924.57. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved. Motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Ganton to pay outstanding invoices totaling \$59,730.03. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved

Minutes: Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Gibbs to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2011 regular board meeting; unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Freehling and seconded by Buck to approve the following items under the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports for September 2011; the general ledger report of revenues and expenditures for September 2011; police and fire report for September; Building permit report for September; Senior Center Advisory Board minutes of September 14, 2011; Park Committee minutes of September 15 and October 6, 2011; and Audit Committee minutes of September 26, 2011. The financial report showed the following balances as of September 30, 2011:

General Fund Cash	\$ 79,524.70
Certificate of Deposit	360,545.40
Fire Operations Cash	(20,349.87)

Fire Operations CD	874,151.09
Street Light Fund Cash	(10,572.71)
P.I.F. Cash	0.00
P.I.F. Certificate of Deposit	62,951.54
Building Inspection Fund Cash	12,289.12
Building Inspection Fund CD	44,848.23
Historical Endowment Fund Cash	0.00
Historical Endowment Fund CD	29,765.73
Sewer Funds	681,127.58
Water Funds	369,301.05
Trust & Agency Funds	90.00
Current Taxes	<u>260,030.85</u>
Total	<u>\$2,743,702.71</u>

Unanimously approved

REPORTS:

Police Reports: Chief Ratkiewicz reported M-60 was shut down for a possible HazMat spill/leakage; the officers participated in the Nation Walk to School Day and gave update on past cases. Per FBI report in Spring Arbor Township violent crimes are down but property crime is up. Also MCOLES will not go forward with the 520 hour requirement for part-time officers.

Fire Report: Chief McEldowney reported the HazMat situation was good training for the department and proof that they could handle this type of situation. One of the fire trucks is in Detroit for repairs and they hope to have it back soon.

Supervisor Report: Advised the board of Gallagher Park updates, fire station lighting. Painting project came in under budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

SAU Fireworks permit: A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to approve the fireworks permit for the December Hanging of the Greens at SAU. Approved 6-0.

Police and Fire Department computers: A motion was made by Ganton, seconded by Gibbs to approve the purchase of computers in the amount of \$30,400. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved

Fire Station painting: Motion made by Gibbs and seconded by Ganton to approve the \$765 expenditure for labor to paint the fire station doors. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved

Personnel Policy Handbook: Motion made by Herlein and seconded by Buck to approve the new personnel policy handbook. Approved 6-0.

Street Light Refund: Motion made by Herlein seconded by Buck to approve refund of \$6,651.42 to Ganton Retirement Centers for mistaken charges for street lights. The Township will seek a refund from Consumers Energy. Roll Call: Yes – Buck, Fortress, Freehling, Gibbs and Herlein. Abstained: Ganton. Approved.

Hearing Officer: Motion by Ganton seconded by Buck to approve the appointment of Mike Kesterson as Hearing Officer. Approved 6-0.

Consumers Energy rate increase: Motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Ganton to approve the payment of \$570 to MTA for effort to resist the increase. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved

Harmony Park playground: Motion made by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to approve up to \$2,600 for the purchase of wood fiber for the Harmony Park playground. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved.

Auditor's report: Motion by Freehling and seconded by Ganton to accept the auditor's report. Approved 6-0.

Dowley Property: Motion by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to instruct Supervisor Fortress to engage in further discussions to accept the Dowley property land donation, with the provision that the property is non-toxic. Approved 6-0.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from Mary Ley received in Public Comment October 10, 2011.

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT: none

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.; unanimously approved.

Approved at the November 14, 2011 board meeting

Joel Freehling, Trustee
For Julia Stonestreet
Township Clerk