

**SPRING ARBOR TOWNSHIP
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 10, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Spring Arbor Township Board was held Monday April 14, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present: Supervisor Marston Fortress, Clerk Julia Stonestreet, Treasurer Colleen Gibbs, Trustees Joel Freehling, Dave Herlein and Troy Ganton. Absent: Trustee James Buck. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Fortress.

Guests: Stan Lyon, Tim McEldowney and Russ Ratkiewicz. Julie Alexander – County Commissioner arrived later.

Public Comment: Opened and closed at 7:05 p.m.

Expenditures: Motion was made by Freehling and seconded by Herlein to approve the following expenditures for February: (Checks # 53879 through 53957 were used for February expenditures) General Fund expenditures totaling \$59,621.42; Fire Department Fund expenditures totaling \$20,601.71; Building Inspection Fund expenditures totaling \$4,011.38; Sewer Fund expenditures totaling \$63,999.68; Water Fund expenditures totaling \$32,486.13; Water Bond Payment Check # 1567 \$31, 787.50; Trust and Agency Fund (Check # 20531 through 2056) totaling \$615.00; Current Tax Collection (Checks #5036 through 5053) totaling \$799,048.80. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved. Motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Freehling to pay outstanding invoices totaling \$90,754.18. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved

Minutes: Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2014 regular board meeting. Approved. Motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Freehling to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2014 special board meeting. Approved.

Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Stonestreet and seconded by Ganton to accept the following items under the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports for February 2014; the general ledger report of revenues and expenditures for February 2014; Zoning/Building permit report for February 2014; Planning Commission meeting minutes of February 11, 2014; Zoning Board of Appeals of February 20, 2014; the Senior Center Advisory Board minutes of February 12, 2014 and the Public Safety meeting minutes of March 5, 2014.

The financial report showed the following balances as of February 28, 2014:

General Fund Cash	\$132,676.03
Certificate of Deposit	676,537.27
Fire Operations Cash	82,907.05
Fire Operations CD	983,843.03
Street Light Fund Cash	61,254.70

Street Light Fund MM	.00
P.I.F. Cash	(208.49)
P.I.F. Certificate of Deposit	136,281.44
Building Inspection Fund Cash	6,589.90
Building Inspection Fund CD	64,033.82
Historical Fund Cash	.00
Historical Endowment Fund CD	29,818.82
West House Historical Fund Cash	67,769.11
West House Historical Fund CD	241,671.64
Sewer Funds	896,051.67
Water Funds	323,935.51
Current Tax Collection	68,515.54
Fixed Assets	2,000.00
Total	<u>\$3,773,677.04</u>

Approved

REPORTS:

Police and Fire Report: Chief Ratkiewicz reported on the month's activities and upcoming trainings. Motion was made by Freehling and seconded by Herlein to approve the Police report. Approved. Chief McEldowney reported on the month's activities and the ongoing trainings. A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to accept the Fire report. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Utility Bill Penalty: Treasurer Gibbs made a verbal report on other townships' policies regarding late fees. After discussion it was decided by common consent that the treasurer, clerk and supervisor rework the utility policies to allow for the forgiveness of penalties for residents who have been given a poverty tax exemption.

Township Cleanup Day: Dave Herlein reported on clean-up day. The Free Methodist Church would like the Township to partner up with them for their serv-o-lution on April 26 and 27 which will be to clean up the township roads. A motion was made by Stonestreet and seconded by Freehling to support this effort by paying for the dumpster needed to collect the trash. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Committee Appointment: Supervisor Fortress recommended that Joel Freehling be appointed to the Parks Committee to fulfill the unexpired term. Motion made by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to approve the appointment. Approved.

Public Safety Committee recommendations: Supervisor Fortress reported on recommendations from the public Safety Committee. A motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Freehling to approve the qualification polices for future police officers. Approved. The Public Safety Committee also requested that the budget include the hiring of two more part time officers to assist in a more

complete coverage of the township. Roll Call: Fortress, Freehling, Ganton, Gibb and Stonestreet - yes. Gibbs - no Approved.

Wage increase: A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to approve a 2% wage increase for the Supervisor. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved. A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to approve a 2% wage increase for The Clerk. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved. A motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to approve a 2% wage increase for the Treasurer. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved. Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to approve a 2% raise for all other employees. Roll Call: 6 yes. Approved.

Electronic Message Policy: The electronic sign committee presented policies regarding the use of the electronic sign. Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Freehling to approve the policies. Approved.

SAU request for road repair: Supervisor Fortress presented the board with a letter from Spring Arbor University asking the township to present their request and estimate of the cost of road repairs around the University to the Jackson County Department of Transportation. Motion was made by Ganton and seconded by Herlein to forward the letter of request.

Cunningham Historical Funds: Clerk Stonestreet presented the request from Becky Cunningham to reimburse her for the cost of the newest printing of the Spring Arbor History Book in the amount of \$15,000. Ms. Cunningham has presented the Township with some evidence of her expenses. She also has asked for the Township to reimburse her the amount of her original donation of \$10,000. Ganton made a motion to delay the decision until the next meeting pending additional information. Freehling seconded it. Approved.

Text Amendment for MZEA Conformance: Region 2 Planning Commission approved the changes to our zoning ordinance to bring it into compliance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. Motions to accept the recommendation by Herlein and seconded by Stonestreet. Approved

PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT: Julie Alexander, county commissioner, reported on County business. Russ Ratkiewicz thanked everyone for the well wishes while he was off on sick leave. Colleen Gibbs asked that the board consider some action to have the roads repaired. Marston Fortress reported on the possible cost of road repairs in the township.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Freehling and seconded by Stonestreet to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Approved.

Julia Stonestreet
Township Clerk

Approved at the April 14, 2014 regular board meeting

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