

## Spring Arbor Township Board - February 11, 2008

The regular meeting of the Spring Arbor Township Board was held Monday, February 11, 2008, at 7:03 p.m., with the following members present: Supervisor Will DeGraaf, Clerk Randi Holthouse, Treasurer Gloria Melchiori, Trustees Marston Fortress, Troy Ganton and Patricia Short. Absent: Trustee Brent Williams. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Supervisor.

Guests were: Ken Wyatt, Russ Ratkiewicz, Earl Poleski, Tim McEldowney, Lewis Herr, Scott Rogers and Stan Lyon.

**Public Comment:** Public comment opened at 7:04 p.m.

Scott Rogers, candidate for Township Supervisor, introduced himself to the board members and noted that he wanted to sit in on a meeting and make himself known to the board.

Earl Poleski, County Commissioner, reported that the county will become more aggressive towards trash haulers that do not use the county incinerator; they are working with the sheriff's department to ticket haulers and impound their vehicles if they violate the county ordinance. The new animal shelter building opened last Friday with an open house for the public to attend; the event was very well attended. They will be working with a landscape architect as requested by the neighbors of the animal shelter. He has also had several people question the status of the allegations made regarding a former road commissioner; he reported that it is still being investigated by the Attorney General. Randy Treacher has been asked to become the County Administrator, removing the word Acting from his title, and they will work on recruiting someone to work with him as his Deputy and then become the Administrator upon Mr. Treacher's retirement next year.

**Expenditures.** Motion was made by Fortress and supported by Short to approve the following expenditures for January 2008: General Fund expenditures #45929-46030 totaling \$46,475.90; Fire Department Fund expenditures #45929-46029 totaling \$14,798.09; Street Light Fund expenditure #45930 totaling \$3,811.50; Building Inspection Fund expenditures #45929-46028 totaling \$2,586.66; Sewer O & M Fund expenditures #45929-46028 totaling \$51,804.75; Water O & M Fund expenditures #45929-46028 totaling \$35,002.01; Trust & Agency fund expenditures #1901-1902 totaling \$105.00; and, Tax Fund expenditures #4233-4276 totaling \$1,171,436.70. Roll call: 6 yes.

**Minutes.** Motion was made by Ganton and supported by Holthouse to approve the regular board meeting minutes of January 14, 2008; carried.

**Consent Agenda.** Motion was made by Ganton and supported by Holthouse to approve the following items under the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports for January 2008; general ledger report of revenues and expenditures for January 2008; Senior Center Advisory Board minutes of January 9, 2008; Zoning Board of Appeals minutes of January 17, 2008; Budget Committee minutes of January 22, 28, and 30, 2008, February 1 and 5, 2008; Policy & Communications meeting minutes of January 31, 2008; and, Planning Commission minutes of February 5, 2008. The financial report showed the following balances as of January 31:

General Fund Cash

\$188,614.01

Certificate of Deposit	288,576.91
Fire Operations Cash	104,233.37
Fire Operations CD	270,433.82
Street Light Fund	4,799.19
Public Improvement Fund	0.00
P.I.F. Certificate of Deposit	33,589.05
Building Inspection Fund	475.07
Falling Waters Endowment Fund	(545.00)
Falling Waters Endowment Fund CD	31,156.03
Sewer Funds	1,125,694.92
Water Funds	334,185.79
Trust & Agency Funds	0.00
Current Taxes carried.	119,264.75;

**REPORTS:**

**A. Police and Fire Reports.** There were 47 medical rescue runs, one fire alarm, one mutual aid call, seven fire runs, and no carbon monoxide incidents, bomb threats or Hazmat responses during January. Police statistics include: 158 complaints, 18 accidents, 17 tickets, seven verbal warnings, five arrests, and eight back-up calls to other departments.

The Chief of Police reported that the month of January was down compared to 2007. They have had the office painted and did some housecleaning. No major incidents occurred in the Township in January.

Motion was made by Short and supported by Holthouse to approve the police report; carried.

The Fire Chief reported that January was also slower compared to 2007. He said the department morale is good and he was proud of how the department stepped up and took care of things while he was gone on a mission trip to Peru . The department is working on a couple of training sessions involving blood-borne pathogens and search and rescue. The department will also be participating in some training with neighboring townships and will participate in a house burning exercise. The Chief has also been working with the Budget Committee for the next fiscal year.

Motion was made by Fortress and supported by Short to approve the fire report; carried.

**B. Building Permit Reports.** The report of building permits issued during the month of January showed miscellaneous permits for a total value of \$3,281. One new home permit was issued compared to three in January 2007. Motion was made by Ganton and supported by Fortress to accept the building permit report; carried.

**C. Supervisor's Report.** Advised the board: of the miles of gravel road in the Township and his recommendation to develop a plan to have them paved; of the office supply program through the County; and, of the expiration of the maintenance agreement/warranty of the phone system.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Planning Commission – Meeting Schedule Recommendation.** Motion was made by Fortress and supported by Ganton approving the recommendation of the Planning Commission to hold their meetings on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and November, and then on an as-needed basis determined by applications submitted; carried. It is to be noted that the Planning Commission also requested to be notified the Wednesday prior to the meeting if there would not be any business for them to discuss at their meeting.

**B. Gravel Roads.** The Supervisor asked the board for input regarding the remaining gravel roads in the Township. He recommended that the Township put a plan in place to pave the gravel roads. The board suggested that the cost of paving the roads be reviewed through the budget process.

**C. Telephone Maintenance Agreement.** The Supervisor informed the board that our previous agreement for warranty and maintenance of the phone system has now expired. He requested input from the board to decide if the Township should pursue another maintenance agreement. The board suggested that this be reviewed by the Budget Committee.

**D. Equipment Purchases – Fire Department.** The Fire Chief presented bids for new SCBA masks, an SCBA air compressor, a grass rig skid unit, and three sets of fire gear, hydrant locators, and audio training equipment. Motion was made by Fortress and supported by Ganton to approve the recommended purchases for the fire department at a cost not to exceed \$54,450.00. Roll Call: 6 yes.

**E. Resignation of Township Supervisor.** Motion was made by Short and supported by Ganton to accept the resignation of Willard DeGraaf as Township Supervisor with regret and to wish him a long, happy and delightful retirement; carried.

**F. Determine Interview Process for Supervisor.** Motion was made by Fortress and supported by Ganton that Trustee Short, Clerk Holthouse and Supervisor DeGraaf review the job description for the Supervisor position and that they mail that to the board members for review, and unless there are significant challenges to it, that this will become the job description used during the interview process; carried. The board members suggested two possible dates for the interviews; February 28 and March 6.

**G. Budget Review – Board Work Session.** The budget work study session was scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.

**H. Resignation of Deputy Treasurer.** Motion was made by Ganton and supported by Fortress to accept the resignation of Trudy Bartlett as Deputy Treasurer with appreciation for all the work she has done for the Township; carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letters from Comcast.  
Newsletters from FSC&S.  
Newspaper article.

**PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT:** Public comment opened at 8:41 p.m.

**Treasurer Melchiori.** Treasurer Melchiori reminded everyone that the due date for paying the winter tax bill was coming up very fast. She also commented that she would be sorry to see Trudy leave.

**Trustee Fortress.** Trustee Fortress suggested that the Township should provide at least one weeks notice to the candidates for the Township Supervisor position as to when the interviews would be held.

**Clerk Holthouse.** Clerk Holthouse reported that she was pleased with the turnout for the Presidential Primary Election. Spring Arbor Township had a 25% turnout compared to a 20% turnout for the entire county. Also, Precinct 1 had an actual turnout of 35%.

**Adjournment.** Motion was made by Ganton and supported by Short to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.; carried.