

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
Township Board
Minutes
April 25, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 P.M. by Supervisor Chockley at 8350 Main Street.

PLEDGE

Supervisor Chockley led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Marlene Chockley, Supervisor	Present
Kathleen Manley, Clerk	Present
Lenore Zelenock, Treasurer	Present
Tawn Beliger	Present
Janet Chick, Trustee	Present
Wayne Dockett, Trustee	Present
Jacki Otto, Trustee	Present

Also present:

Township Attorney Bradford Maynes
Recording Secretary Lisa Lemble
Members of the community

CONSENT AGENDA:

Otto added an item related to a liquor license under Discussion.

- **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, that the agenda be adopted as amended.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Randy Rusch, 9672 Main Street, and Polly McNichol, 7024 Nollar, made comments about the Whitmore Lake Weed Control SAD proposal and asked questions about road maintenance. Tom Bobiney, 9488 Main Street, introduced himself and his daughter, Rachel, as new members of the community.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members:

- noted a volunteer page has been added to the Township website,
- provided information about community garden plots, availability of oak tree saplings, a complaint about noise, actions regarding undocumented residents at the County Board meeting, parking signs for the Public Safety Building, and a disease that has spreading among dogs in the Township.
- asked about the list of expenses for the North Village.

In response to comments from Dockett, Manley said she is consulting with the Township's labor attorney regarding the form of payment to him for his Trustee pay and expects to have an answer within a few days.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Investment Tracking for the North Village (formerly Van Curler Property). In answer to a question, Maynes reported his firm billed \$1,200 (8 hours at \$150) for the closing on this property, but all other work was covered under the retainer agreement with the Township.

**PRESENTATION:
Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC)
Annual Meeting**

Roy Townsend, Managing Director of the WCRC introduced several other staff members, distributed newsletters and brochures, and reviewed the information in the packet. He noted State gas and diesel taxes were increased for the first time in 20 years, and while it will not be enough to keep roads in the State from deteriorating, it has allowed them to increase matching funds for Northfield Township from \$25,000 last year to \$35,000 this year.

Mike Mastie of the WCRC reviewed the projects proposed for Northfield Township, and Townsend reviewed information provided about the condition of County roads and sources of funding for maintenance. Board members made comments about the need for additional maintenance on some local roads due to US-23 construction and the source and use of taxes for road maintenance, and they discussed the road and drainage projects proposed for using the Township's matching funds.

Two residents asked questions and lodged complaints about work done on Nollar Road last year.

AGENDA ITEMS

**1.
Hiring of Controller**

- **Motion:** Zelenock moved, Chockley supported, that an offer be extended to Yvette Patrick to work an average of 20 hours per week at the rate of \$45/hour as the Township Controller.
Motion carried 7—0 on a roll call vote.

It was noted she will start work as soon as possible depending on notice to her current employer.

**2.
Township Manager Job Description**

- **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, to approve the Township Manager job description subject to review and approval by labor counsel.

There was a brief discussion about whether to specifically include under job duties implementing the Master Plan.

- ▶ **Amended motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, to approve the Township Manager job description subject to review and approval by labor counsel with the addition of implementing the Master Plan under Responsibilities.
Amended motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

**3.
Weed Control SAD for Whitmore Lake;
Resolution 17-557**

- ▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Beliger supported, to adopt Resolution 17-557, Weed Control Special Assessment District for Whitmore Lake, as presented.

Dockett objected to the provision for repayment by the Township in item #5.

- ▶ **Amendment to motion:** Chockley moved, Beliger supported, to strike item #5 from the Resolution.
Amendment to motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.
- ▶ **Amended motion:** Chockley moved, Beliger supported, to adopt Resolution 17-557, Weed Control Special Assessment District for Whitmore Lake, as presented, with item #5 stricken. **Amended motion carried 6—1 on a roll call vote, Dockett opposed. Amended resolution adopted.**

**4.
Independent Contractor,
Part-time Maintenance Worker Contract**

There was discussion about the need to change the name of the consultant and to specify that the position report to the Director of Public Safety.

- ▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, to table the Part-time Maintenance Worker Contract.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

**1.
MiDEAL
Extended Purchasing Program Membership**

Otto explained that for an annual fee of \$180 the Township could take advantage of prices contracted for by the State for purchases of a wide variety of products. It was agreed to put this on the May 9th agenda.

**2.
Process Criteria
for Selection of Township Manager**

Otto reviewed the format for the criteria used in 2012 for selection of the Township Manager. The Board discussed options for criteria to use for selecting the new Manager and scheduling a special meeting to review applications. It was agreed each Board member will submit a list of their top 10 candidates by May 1st for compilation.

**3.
SDD Liquor License Request**

- ▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, that the Township Board waive its attorney-client privilege regarding law related to SDD liquor licenses.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

Otto explained that under current Michigan rules Specially Designated Distributor (SDD, aka "package liquor)) license locations must be separated by a minimum of one-half mile, and based upon this Little Porky's has withdrawn its application for such a license as Polly Market already holds an SDD license.

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Bruce Bell, 9028 Posey Drive, and Gerald Hermann, 8365 Earhart Road, made comments about road maintenance and taxation.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members made comments about supporting local businesses, who should pay for maintenance of the Six Mile Drain, trucks in excess of weight limits driving over the Six Mile Road culvert, a planned survey and focus groups for the downtown Strategic Action Plan, the Ann Arbor school millage election on May 2nd, the Kiwanis May 13th golf fundraiser for the 4th of July Parade, and the proposal for updating the Master Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

- ▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Submitted by Lisa Lemble. Corrections to the originally issued minutes are indicated as follows:
Wording removed is ~~stricken through~~; wording added is underlined.

Approved by the Township Board on May 9, 2017.

Kathleen Manley, Clerk