

administration of the budget; and to provide remedies for refusal or neglect to comply with the requirements of this resolution.

In answer to a question from Dockett, Fink said he believes that any salary or personnel changes must be approved by the Board because those would be changes in the intent of the budget.

Motion carried 4—1 on a roll call vote, Dockett opposed.

3. Proposed 2013 Millage Rates

Fink said this is simply a matter of setting millages by reference. Dockett asked if these are the highest rates allowed by law. Fink said theoretically the Board could set lower rates.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, that the *Proposed 2013 Millage Rates* be accepted by resolution form. **Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.**

4. Liability Insurance Contract Annual Renewal

Melissa Skienziel referred to her memo regarding the Michigan Township Participating Plan. She said this has saved the Township \$70,000 over the past four years of the Township's participation. She said the Plan is overseen by elected Township officials and every six months grants are being given which can be used to reduce liability, such as purchasing cameras to put in police cars or on Township property.

She said she and Fink reviewed this program together and based on the loss history are recommending that the deductible be increased from \$0 to \$5,000 to lower the premium \$7,942.00. She said she would be happy to review the policy with the Board more fully at a future time.

She said she and Fink also discussed the dog park being considered for the Township and she said that would be covered under the Township's blanket policy. She said any property purchased, leased, or rented by the Township mid-year in the policy is automatically covered. She noted that Fink asked that this policy be put out to bid, and while there was not time to do that this year before the policy renewed it will be done next year.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, approval of renewal of the Liability Insurance Contract for the upcoming year with the notation that the deductible will be raised to \$5,000 which will save the Township money as set forth in the report. **Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.**

5. Termination of Assistant to Assessor

Removed from the agenda.

6. Changing Investment Advisors, and Update on FDIC/Collateralization

Fink recalled that the Board discussed this previously. He noted that between the last meeting and this meeting market changes have led him to believe the Township should move to a more conservative approach.

Rob Grimaldi of PNC Bank provided information about the bank, and reported that he and Braun looked at options for increasing yield with minimizing risk and using short-term investment vehicles to allow funds to be reinvested when yields rise in the future. He said the bonds proposed for purchase do not include any Detroit bonds. He noted that PNC owns a large portion of Blackrock and has not held any municipal bonds which have been downgraded. He said the market cannot be predicted too far in advance, and the program he is proposing would allow the Township to make changes in the near future. He said they are more interested in preserving capital than increasing yield.

Grimaldi said he has been working with the Township's auditors on what to collateralize. He explained that collateralization will provide protection to the Township in the event that PNC failed and the Township's accounts were not fully insured by the FDIC.

In answer to a question from Chick, Grimaldi said there is always risk in investing, but PNC is interested in minimizing that risk. In answer to a question from Dockett, Grimaldi said the transfer of Township funds has not been made and he cannot say how much the current fund has made. Dockett asked why all of the Township's investments should not be in cash noting that in some cases investment fees charged can exceed the interest being earned. Grimaldi said it is very valid to ask whether the risk is worth the return being realized. He said the total annual fee that PNC would charge for managing the Township's \$3 million dollars would be no more than \$12,500. Fink said Dockett's question is a good one. Grimaldi said in PNC's experience the type of investments they are proposing for Northfield Township would return 40-45 basis points compared to 20 basis points for money market accounts.

Fink said there are two decisions before the Board tonight: whether to keep an investment portfolio and whether to switch from Multi-vest to PNC Bank. Braun said she is recommending a more conservative investment strategy. Otto said she is concerned that the current investment company does not disclose what their fees are. Grimaldi said the Township will definitely not be charged more in fees by PNC than it makes on its investments.

Thomas asked whether the Township could decide to move away from PNC next year. Grimaldi said the Township would not be locked into anything. Thomas said it sounds like good communications would be required to make this successful. He said he agrees with Otto that the fees being charged need to be transparent.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Otto supported, that Braun and Fink be authorized to sell the Township's existing assets with Multi-Bank investment portfolio and that Braun and Fink use their best judgment about how

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and when to do that.

Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, that the recommendation of Howard Fink, Township Manager, and Kathy Braun, Township Treasurer, to engage PNC Bank to be the Township's investment portfolio adviser be accepted.

There was discussion about the need to be engaged in the investment process and the monitoring of the investments, and the ability the Township will have to change investment advisors at any time.

Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.

**7.
Huron Valley Ambulance Contract**

Public Safety Director Wagner referred to the proposal from Emergent Health Partners, fka Huron Valley Ambulance. In answer to a question from Dockett, Wagner said he is happy with this contract.

- ▶ **Motion:** Otto moved, Chick supported, that Fire Dispatching Service Agreement between Northfield Township and Emergent Health Partners be approved as presented, authorizing Shelle Manning, Township Clerk, to sign the agreement covering the period 7/1/2013 through 6/30/2015.
Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.

**8.
St. Patrick Church Civic Event Permit Application**

Wagner said this is an annual event and there are no significant changes from previous years. In answer to a question from Dockett, Wagner said he has no concerns about this.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Braun supported, that the Civic Event Permit Application for St. Patrick Church be approved. **Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.**

**9.
Bills**

Submitted by Lisa Lemble.

These notes are an expanded version of the official meeting minutes adopted by the Board of Trustees. Minutes and notes for all meetings are available on the Township's website at http://twp.northfield.mi.us/boards/twp_board

Fink and Wagner answered questions from Dockett about several expenditures.

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, that the bills be accepted as presented.
Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No comments.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Non-Motorized Pathway. In answer to a question from Chick, Fink said the contract for the Barker Road pathway was signed today.

Jose Services. Wagner announced the visitation and funeral schedule for Northfield Township Firefighter Jamie Jose who died in a plane crash on June 21st, and he noted that donations made be made at PNC Bank to a memorial scholarship fund for Jose's children.

Speed Warning Sign. Dockett asked about the cost of renting vs. purchasing a speed warning sign that is used by the police department.

Township-owned Lot. Dockett said he would like the Township attorney to issue a letter providing advice as to what the Board should do about the cloud on the title to property on Main Street that the Township owns.

Support Local Businesses. Dockett asked everyone to support local businesses.

ADJOURNMENT

- ▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Otto supported, that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 P.M.