

# NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP

## Township Board

### Minutes

#### January 12, 2016

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Supervisor Engstrom at 8350 Main Street.

#### PLEDGE

Supervisor Engstrom led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Marilyn Engstrom, Supervisor	Present
Angela Westover, Clerk	Present
Kathy Braun, Treasurer	Present
Janet Chick, Trustee	Present
Wayne Dockett, Trustee	Absent with notice
Jacki Otto, Trustee	Present
Tracy Thomas, Trustee	Present

Also present:

Township Manager Howard Fink  
Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent  
Tim Hardesty  
Public Safety Director William Wagner  
Township Attorney Paul Burns  
Recording Secretary Lisa Lemble  
Members of the community

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

- Minutes
- Bills

- **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Chick supported, that the minutes and bills be approved as presented.  
**Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

#### ADOPT BALANCE OF AGENDA

Engstrom added a *Resolution for Poverty Exemption* and *Special Assessment Bonds Representation* and removed Planning Commission Appointments.

- **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Braun supported, that the balance of the agenda be adopted as amended.  
**Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

#### FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ed Woytys, 6235 Hellner Road, and Cecelia Infante, 1035 E. Five Mile Road made comments about the Township's relationship with Planning Commission consultants and residents. Susan Shink, 600 W. Joy Road, supported several candidates to serve on the Planning Commission. Sam Iaquinto, 9876 Main Street, commented on the current make-up of the Planning Commission. Mary Devlin, 9211 Brookside, urged citizens, the Board, and the Planning Commission to work together. David Perry, 9411 Earhart Road, commented on the planning consultant, Commission appointments, and the Master Plan. David Gordon, 5558 Hellner Road, and Craig Warburton, 450 W. Joy Road made comments about the Township's

relationship with planning consultants. Jennifer DeLisle, 7441 Spencer Road, said everyone should work together for the Township's benefit.

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

#### REPORTS

##### Department Heads

There were no comments on the Township Manager, Senior Center, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Financial reports or from Parks and Recreation. The ZBA did not meet, and Chick gave a brief report about the Planning Commission December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- **Motion:** Chick moved, Engstrom supported, that the hiring Russell Hollister as paid-on-call Firefighter be approved contingent upon passing a background check and physical. **Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

#### AGENDA ITEMS

1.

##### Corrected 2016 Meeting Schedule

- **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Braun supported, that the corrected 2016 Township Board Meeting Schedule be approved as presented.  
**Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

2.

##### Kiwanis Request to Waive Fees

- **Motion:** Chick moved, Engstrom supported, to waive the \$100 zoning application fee related to the Kiwanis moving to the downtown space for the thrift store.  
**Motion carried 5—0—1 on a voice vote, Otto abstaining.**

3.

##### Civic Event Application: Pond Hockey

- **Motion:** Chick moved, Braun supported, to approve a civic event application for the Michigan Pond Hockey Classic to be held February 5, 6, and 7, 2016, with backup dates of February 19, 20, and 21, 2016, contingent upon all requirements being met prior to the event date.

Chief Wagner said the Police Department is also asking for at least one certified and one reserve officer on site and for the organization to train volunteers who will be serving alcohol. It was agreed Wagner may require those items and all items listed on the cover page as a condition of approval.

**Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

4.

**Zoning Change for Washtenaw County Preserve**

- ▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Otto supported, to approve Case JPC1500006, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation at 2230 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107, rezoning from Agricultural District and Local Commercial District to Recreation Conservation District, Section 36-125, Parcel Numbers B-02-04-100-002, B-02-04-300-001, B-02-04-400-003, and B-02-09-200-001, and are zoned AR, RC, AR, LC, and LC. **Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

5.

**Horseshoe Lake Sewer Refund**

- ▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Engstrom supported, to approve the issuance of a refund due to Mr. Rick Van Bonn as part of the Horseshoe Lake Sewer Fund disbursement in the amount of \$906.21 to be paid from the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund. **Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

6.

**Planning Commission Appointments**

Removed from the agenda.

7.

**Ordinance 16-46: Amendments to Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article V**

- ▶ **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Chick supported, to approve An Ordinance of the Township of Northfield to amend Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Finance, by adding a new Division 6, Emergency Response, and adding new sections 2-281 through 2-284. **Motion carried 6—0 on a roll call vote. Ordinance adopted.**

8.

**Planning Consultant Contract**

- ▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Engstrom supported, to direct Howard Fink to enter into contract negotiations with McKenna & Associates as planning consultants for Northfield Township.

Otto suggested having McKenna make a presentation at the next Board meeting. After a brief discussion it was agreed that interested Board members may call McKenna directly.

**Motion carried 5—1 on a voice vote, Otto opposed.**

9.

**Poverty Exemption Resolution**

- ▶ **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Thomas supported, to approve the Property Tax Poverty Reductions Resolution as presented. **Motion carried 6—0 on a roll call vote.**

10.

**Special Assessment Bonds Representation**

- ▶ **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Thomas supported, to approve the increase of fees by \$4,000 for Miller Canfield for the special assessments Bonds project. **Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

**SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mary Devlin made supportive comments about Howard Fink's work as Township Manager. David Perry thanked the Planning Commission and Township Board for unanimously approving the rezoning of the Whitmore Lake Preserve. Susan Shink thanked Otto for suggesting a presentation by McKenna said the Whitmore Lake Preserve is a great acquisition for the Township. David Gordon asked that the Board determine whether the new planning consultant may speak directly with residents.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Fink commented on the conflict and negativity in the Township and urged residents and Township officials to develop open, respectful relationships with each other and to feel free to ask him questions. He said it is clear to the Planning Commission that many residents want to preserve the rural character of the Township, but it is also true that not everyone agrees with that; yet the Commission has voted to inform Biltmore that any development they plan must conform to the existing Master Plan.

Engstrom said it would be nice for the community to work together, but it is difficult to work while under attack. She complimented Fink on the work he does for the Township. Chick said she tries to be fair with everyone, said she hopes for a better relationship with the new planning consultant, and suggested that people interested in Planning Commission positions make statements at a Call to the Public. Otto thanked everyone who had expressed interest in serving on the Planning Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- ▶ **Motion:** Engstrom moved, Chick supported, that the meeting be adjourned. **Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M.

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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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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Angela Westover, Clerk