

Schoolcraft Township Board
December 13, 2011
Schoolcraft Township Hall

Supervisor Ulsh opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Supervisor Don Ulsh, Clerk Virginia Mongreig, Treasurer Teresa Scott, Trustee Hovenkamp and Trustee Feldmeier

Motion by Scott with support by Ken to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Scott with support by Feldmeier to approve the November 15, 2011 meeting minutes with one correction; Last paragraph on the first page reads "Mr. Brown", should read Mr. Gould

Motion Carried 5-0

Motion by Scott with support by Ulsh to approve the List of Bills as presented.

Motion Carried 5-0

Treasurer Scott Reported:

Interest Income for November 2011	\$ 56.64
Income for November 2011	\$ 69,945.15
Expenditures for November 2011	\$ 57,750.62
Total Cash	<u>\$ 206,231.48</u>

Motion by Mongreig with support by Feldmeier to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Motion Carried 5-0

Citizens Time for Non-Agenda Items: None

Attorney's Time

a.) Kalamazoo Area Building Authority:

Attorney Rolfe referred the Board to his memo of December 6, 2011 regarding legal and policy issues associated with the draft Interlocal State Construction Code Enforcement and Administration Agreement. And his legal concerns in the Township's interest.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that with out the Economic Vitality Incentive Program Grant the program will not go forward, and that the program is "cutting edge" at no cost to the Township of Schoolcraft

Attorney Rolfe restated that the board must be well informed and stated the following concerns:

Some of the projected costs of the program don't presently exist in Schoolcraft Township.

Proportionally, the [program may not be good for the Township

Interests may not be in favor of Schoolcraft Township

Another attorney has concerns as to why Schoolcraft Township is joining the authority.

Trustee Feldmeier agreed that the issues to be concerned about are valid, but that the program may be good and starting in at the beginning of the project may be good for Schoolcraft Township. If not, opt out.

Attorney Rolfe suggested not spending money for him to continue studying the authority at this time.

b.) Health Insurance Discussion:

Attorney Rolfe referred the board to his memorandum dated October 11, 2011 regarding 2011 Michigan Public Act 152 (Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act) and the Schoolcraft Township Group Insurance Ordinance #147 of 1993.

The 2011 Michigan Public Act 152, signed into law September 27, 2011 by the Governor, limits the contributions of public employers, including Schoolcraft Township, for the costs of a medical benefit plan for its employees and elected officials for a plan coverage year beginning on or after January 2012. Schoolcraft Township is required to select one of three options:

- 1.) "Hard Cap" feature limits the amount the Township can spend on a medical benefit plan
- 2.) "80/20 Option" allows the Township to pay no more than 80% of the total annual costs of the medical plan and mandates that each elected official pays 20% or more of the annual cost of the plan
- 3.) "Opt Out" of the program at the risk of being penalized 10% by the State of Michigan through the "Economic Vitality Incentive Program". Currently this does not apply to Schoolcraft Township, as the Township does not receive this funding from the State.

* Schoolcraft Township employees are not receiving coverage.

Schoolcraft Township Group Insurance Ordinance #147 of 1993 provides for 100% coverage for medical care for the members of the Township Board and their dependents. The Board will act on the ordinance at the February 3, 2012 Budget Meeting.

Attorney Rolfe commended the Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission for their hard work on the Master Plan language. The Planning Commission is working on the R-1 through R-6 Zoning Districts and should be completed soon, with Commercial/Industrial Districts to follow. By summer to early fall 2012 Master Plan should be complete.

Kalamazoo Gazette Legal Notices:

South County Commercial Express will no longer be published effective February 2012.

We will be relegated to the Kalamazoo Gazette one of the three days of printing and distribution.

Attorney Rolfe will strive to use Sunday, Tuesday, or Thursday for publications.

Attorney Rolfe spoke with Supervisor Dave Healy of Texas Township regarding roads special assessments in Texas Township. Texas Township has a challenge pending in the Michigan Tax Tribunal for the assessment with a final decision to come soon. He suggests that Schoolcraft Township may learn from this challenge.

New Business:

a.) Discussion of Kalamazoo County Pictometry/GIS Mapping Proposal:

Motion by Treasurer Scott with support by Mongreig to upgrade from 12-inch resolution to 4-inch resolution beginning with a fly over of the entire township with subsequent flyovers of the sectors of the Township with the most growth.

Motion Carried 5-0

Trustee Feldmeier voiced concerns that $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Township is farm fields and questioned the necessity of the 4-inch resolution.

Trustee Hovenkamp inquired as to the difference of 12-inch resolution compared to 4-inch resolution. Treasurer Scott explained the difference and also informed the Trustees of the value of the GIS mapping in the Assessor's and Treasurer's offices. Clerk Mongreig and Supervisor Ulsh also added that the pictometry/mapping is very helpful for assisting constituents with property line and related questions.

b.) Confirm ZBA Member: Supervisor Ulsh requested the approval of his appointment of John Gardner as Zoning Board of Appeals Member.

Motion by Mongreig with support by Scott to approve the appointment of John Gardner to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion Carried 5-0

c.) **Appoint ZBA Alternate Member** Supervisor Ulsh requested the approval of his appointment of Jack Westendorp as Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Member.

Motion by Scott with support by Hovenkamp to approve the appointment of Jack Westendorp as Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion Carried 5-0

d.) **Re-appointment of SCIC Member:** Supervisor Ulsh requested the approval of his re-appointment of Dave Reno as SCIC Member.

Motion by Mongreig with support by Feldmeier to approve the re-appointment of Dave Reno to the SCIC Board.

Motion Carried 5-0

e.) **Amendment to 457 Plan:**

Motion by Supervisor Ulsh with support by Mongreig to adopt the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA) MENDMENT For Schoolcraft Township 457 Plan which gives the employer the authority to make amendments to the existing plan.

Motion Carried 5-0

Unfinished Business:

a.) **Road Committee Report:**

Road Committee Chair, Teresa Scott gave overview of November and December meetings

Members received copies of a Power Point presentation by Texas Township Supervisor Dave Healy, explaining the steps that Texas Township took which ultimately resulted in a special assessment to raise road funding for their roads.

The committee members received maps indicating the conditions of the roads in Schoolcraft Township. The committee also learned of the different methods for repair/maintenance of the roads.

Jim Beaudoin, Area Superintendent of the Kalamazoo County Road Commission (KCRC), was invited to the December meeting to discuss the rating process that the KCRC uses to determine which of the roads is in need of repair and presents an estimate for those repairs to Schoolcraft Township each year. Mr. Beaudoin shared the five-year plan that KCRC has created for Schoolcraft Township. In 2011 Schoolcraft roads budget was \$100,000.00. The total expenditures for Schoolcraft Township in 2011 was \$89,993.44, with \$ 41,071.01 in matching funds from KCRC.

After reviewing this information, the committee questioned the necessity of asking the residents for additional funding in these economical times. If the residents of Schoolcraft Township do not have issues with the conditions of roads in the township why should the township pursue a larger roads program?

The consensus of the Road Committee is to discontinue seeking additional funding and follow the five-year plan of the KCRC.

Chair Scott asked if anyone on the board has received complaints on the roads to which Supervisor Ulsh reported that historically he has received 6 to 8 complaints per year.

Supervisor Ulsh suggested that the Road Committee ride with KCRC in the spring of 2012 and select roads to be improved. (Possibly April 2012)

Trustee Feldmeier will review his personal list of roads and:

- 1.) Determine when/whether they had HMA.
- 2.) Are they high volume roads?

b.) **Discuss Schoolcraft Cemetery Water Bill:**

Supervisor Ulsh, with the consensus of Scott and Hovenkamp is of the feeling that we probably will have to pay the bill. Motion by Hovenkamp with support by Scott to pay \$1,800.95 to the Village of Schoolcraft for charges for water at the Schoolcraft Cemetery.

Motion carried 4-1

With Trustee Feldmeier abstaining.

Assessor's Report: Received

Planning Commission Report: See above Attorney's Time comments

Zoning Board of Appeals Report: No Meeting

Township Park Committee Report: No Meeting

Members time

Motion by Mongreig with support by Scott to approve \$500.00 Holiday bonus for employee.

Motion carried 5-0

The board has agreed to the suggestion of Treasurer Scott to return to holding Meetings of The Whole at 6:00 p.m., prior to the regular board meetings

Motion by Scott with support by Feldmeier to purchase LogMeIn.com remote access which allows the assessor to log into the township program from an alternate site.

Motion carried 5-0

Supervisor Ulsh reported on the following:

*Traffic speed trailer reflecting 45MPR limit will be in place soon.

*Received an E-Mail from Mr. Marvin regarding VW

*Board of Review will be looking for a new member.

*Township purchases at or above \$10,000 require bidding process

*Commercial Express publication to end in February 2012.

Meeting adjourned 9:09 p.m.


Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft