

SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

January 13, 2015

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Oath of Allegiance

Members Present: Feldmeier, Hovenkamp, Mongreig, Scott and Ulsh.

Also in Attendance: Attorney Craig Rolfe, Students from Vicksburg Schools, 5-6 township constituents and Sunset Lake property owners.

**Approval of agenda.** Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Scott to approve the agenda with the addition of South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority in Attorney's Time. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Approval of minutes.** Motion by Scott with second by Feldmeier to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Approve payment of bills.** Motion by Scott with second by Hovenkamp to approve the list of bills for payment. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Scott reported the following for the month of December 2014:

Interest Income	\$ 12.73
Income	\$ 44,305.66
Expenditures	\$ 96,910.71
General Fund Balance	\$ 237,660.43
November 2014 Balance	\$ 237,660.43

Motion by Feldmeier with second by Mongreig to approve the Treasurer's report. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Don DeBruin and members of the **Sunset Lake Association** addressed the board regarding the expiration of the five-year Sunset Lake Improvement Project (Aquatic Vegetation Control) treatment program which expires in April 2015. Attorney Rolfe was directed by the board to prepare a resolution for the February 10, 2015, Regular Meeting of the Schoolcraft Township Board. Treasurer Scott will contact Andy Tomaszewski of PLM Lake and Land Management Corp to begin the permit process for the upcoming year.

**Allen Zoning Violation.** Board members received correspondence from Mr. and Mrs. Allen's attorney, a statement of the conversation between Mr. Allen and Supervisor Ulsh by Supervisor Ulsh, and Schoolcraft Township Attorney Rolfe's January 6, 2015 confidential letter to the Schoolcraft Township Board.

Trustee Hovenkamp asked why we (Schoolcraft Township Board), are waiting to enforce this zoning violation, also stating, "the people in this neighborhood are trusting the Schoolcraft Township Board", and that he does not want to see this violation drag out. Treasurer Scott suggested as short a timeline as possible to close this case. Clerk Mongreig stated that the demeanor of Mr. Allen at the November 10, 2014, Schoolcraft Township Board meeting and continuance of the project regardless of direction from Schoolcraft Township to cease the project shows complete disregard/respect to the Schoolcraft Township Board and the Schoolcraft Township Zoning Ordinance.

Motion by Mongreig with second by Hovenkamp to issue the ordinance violation citation. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Attorney Rolfe will forward correspondence to Mr. and Mrs. Allen's attorney as to the Schoolcraft Township Board decision to go forward with the citation.

Motion by Scott with second by Feldmeier to approve five-year **Renewal of Frontier Metro Act Telecommunications Right-of-Way Permit.** **Motion carried 5-0.**

**South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority :** Attorney Rolfe began the discussion reviewing the December 9, 2014 presentation by Randy Smith, South County Fire Authority Chair and Tracy Locey regarding the issue of proposing a special assessment to finance some/all of the township's South County Fire Authority budget obligation. Attorney Rolfe stated that both Brady and Wakeshma Townships are "on board", Prairie Ronde Township is visiting the question tonight, (1/13/15), and neither the Village of Schoolcraft, or Village Vicksburg are interested in an assessment.

Supervisor Ulsh and Attorney Rolfe disagreed upon a merger between the Emergency Medical Services, (EMS), and the South County Fire Authority with Attorney Rolfe stating that the SKCFA is financially secure while the EMS is in debt. Supervisor Ulsh believes the finances are reversed. Treasurer Scott asked if Schoolcraft Township would be allowed to opt into assessment process in the future. Attorney Rolfe replied, "yes".

Supervisor Ulsh suggested that a steering committee could study combining the two entities into one and within approximately three months Schoolcraft Township could make a decision.

The Schoolcraft Township Board is presently comfortable with their decision and feels comfortable with their financial contribution, and would like to see more serious discussion of a merger of the two entities.

Motion by Mongreig with second by Ulsh to allocate a maximum of \$2,500.00 to support the **Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Household Hazardous Waste** disposal services for Schoolcraft Township residents. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Feldmeier to approve the Supervisor's recommendation to re-appoint Schoolcraft Township **Board of Review Members** Joel Nelson, Charlie Bibart and Rich Bailey for a term ending 2/31/16. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Motion by Feldmeier with second by Hovenkamp to notice **Michigan Township Services** that effective March 31, 2015, contractual services with Schoolcraft Township will be terminated, and, as recommended by Supervisor Ulsh Schoolcraft Township will contract with South Central Michigan Construction Code Inspecting, Inc. **Motion carried 5-0.**


Ryan LaPorte updated the board the following **Swan Park** news:

- 1.) Relay For Life to be held at Swan Park June 20, 2015
- 2.) Schoolcraft Little League has reached a financial agreement with Kalamazoo County State Bank for funding for the construction of new fields.
- 3.) Bids are coming in for the construction of a concession stand at Swan Park.

Schoolcraft Township will hold a budget workshop February 10, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Supervisor Ulsh reported that a Village of Schoolcraft survey shows 80% of respondents want sewer and water in the village.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

  
Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk  
Township of Schoolcraft