

SCHOOLCRAFT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2014

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of agenda. Motion by Scott with second by Feldmeier to approve the agenda.

Motion carried 5-0.

Approval minutes. Motion by Scott with second by Feldmeier to approve the minutes of April 8, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Approve payment of bills. Motion by Feldmeier 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 April 2014:

Interest Income	\$ 67.15
Income	\$ 6,564.64
Expenditures	\$ 85,587.54
General Fund Balance	\$ 410,875.12

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

Citizen's Time: Schoolcraft Township resident, Penny Briscoe distributed information on the Purple Martin and its decline in Michigan. Mrs. Briscoe has been an advocate for saving the endangered Purple Marten for many years and was present to respond to her neighbor's complaint that due to Mrs. Briscoe placing the Purple Marten houses in Barton Lake, the swimming water at the neighbor's lakeside is not fit for swimming, and that the grandchildren of the neighbor's have become ill due to the feces dropped in the water. Mrs. Briscoe stated that the Purple Marten is not a danger and that there are many types of birds that fly over and around Barton Lake and that there is no reason that the Purple Martens cannot.

DEQ Environmental Analyst, Larry Poynter and Schoolcraft Township Compliance Officer Tina Straw met with both parties on the morning of May 13, 2014, to review the complaint upon which time Mr. Poynter stated that Mrs. Briscoe was in violation of the law and advised her that the DEQ will follow up with a letter advising of the permit process to place the Purple Martin houses (poles) in Barton Lake.

Schoolcraft Township Compliance Officer Straw explained that Michigan DEQ prohibits the placing of the poles that hold the houses in Michigan lakes and that the permit would be declined.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that it sounds like something (DEQ action) is being done.

Mrs. Briscoe then stated that the birds and environment are a Schoolcraft Township problem.

Webber Specialties Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate Hearing:

Motion by Hovenkamp with second by Feldmeier to open the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Feldmeier – yes, Hovenkamp – yes, Mongreig – yes, Scott – yes, and Ulsh – yes.

Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Geary Yost of Webber Specialties discussed the company's production process and need for space as the company grows.

Motion by Feldmeier with second by Mongreig to close the Public Hearing at 6:25 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Feldmeier – yes, Hovenkamp – yes, Mongreig – yes, Scott – yes, and Ulsh – yes.

Motion carried 5-0

Webber Specialties is requesting an Industrial Facilities Exemption reflecting a total cost of \$980,000.00 (\$450,000.00 Real Property and \$530,000.00 Personal Property), for the property located at 15141 South US 131 in Schoolcraft. The addition of this new facility will retain 11 existing jobs and create at least 4 new jobs.

Motion by Mongreig with second by Feldmeier to approve the Resolution Pertaining to 4/7/14 Application of Webber Specialties Company For New Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate at 15141 South US 131.

Roll Call Vote: Feldmeier – yes, Hovenkamp – yes, Mongreig – yes, Scott – yes, and Ulsh – yes.

Motion carried 5-0

Webber Specialties also requested an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for their existing company at 15230 South US 131 in the amount of \$260,000.00 for Personal Property.

Motion by Feldmeier with second by Hovenkamp to approve the Resolution Pertaining to 4/7/14 Application of Webber Specialties Company For New Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate at 15230 South US 131 in Schoolcraft.

Roll Call Vote: Feldmeier – yes, Hovenkamp – yes, Mongreig – yes, Scott – yes, and Ulsh – yes.

Motion carried 5-0

Attorney Rolfe noted that at the June 10, 2014 regular meeting the Township will review a request from **J. Rettenmaier, USA** for another Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.

Attorney Rolfe reported that **Kalamazoo Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 357**, Michigan Tax Tribunal Appeal Judgment should conclude soon. He is still in discussions with Associates Realty III LLC (Family Fare) representatives regarding their appeal.

Comcast Cable Franchise: Agreement expires in April 2015. Attorney Rolfe will follow Detroit litigation, which may have influence on Schoolcraft Township's decision to renew or go with another carrier.

South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement: ** An agreement established in 2008 between Schoolcraft Township and the Village of Vicksburg and in 2011 to include Brady Township was established for the purpose of studying governmental problems and issue of mutual interest and concern in the South County area.**

Clerk Mongreig request board discussion on a recent meeting of the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee which Schoolcraft Township Supervisor Ulsh, Vicksburg Village President Bill Adams and a representative from American Village Builders presented what has been described as a "concept", involving an exchange of Schoolcraft Township property with the Village of Vicksburg for continued development of condominiums at Angels Crossing/Bridgeview.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that discussions started when President Adams came to him with the "concept".

Clerk Mongreig asked Supervisor Ulsh why the Schoolcraft Township Board members had to read in the May 5, 2014 Kalamazoo Gazette, an article by Tom Haroldson from the Vicksburg Counsel meeting proceedings; *"The developer is also working with the village to see if an additional 20 acres near the entrance of the Angels Crossing Golf Club could be obtained from Schoolcraft Township in a land swap with Vicksburg that would allow several more condos to be built as part of the Bridgeview project. In return, the township would get a comparable size piece of land tentatively identified as the village's sledding hill next to the Schoolcraft Township Cemetery."*

Mongreig asked why the “concept” was discussed at a Village meeting, with no inkling of the “concept” given to the Schoolcraft Township Board?

Supervisor Ulsh asked “what could I have presented? What would you have said?” to which Mongreig responded, “I would have said no. This land was purchased from Fox River nearly 20 years ago for expansion of the Schoolcraft Township Cemetery. And the dump is not an option for burials.”

Clerk Mongreig inquired to Attorney Rolfe if the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement was followed, and what authorized the committee to address an issue presented to it.

Attorney Rolfe state that the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee did not initiate the “concept”, and that per the agreement the referral should have been forwarded to Schoolcraft Township.

Attorney Rolfe referenced *Section 5.2 Committee Authority. Pursuant to Section F.2., of the Agreement the Committee shall function as an advisory body to the Township Board and Village Council collectively. The Committee shall study and make recommendations on such matters of local governmental concern in the South County area as are referred to the Committee by the governing body of any party, upon written notice of such referral to the governing body of all other parties. The Committee may also study and make recommendations of matters relating to governmental problems and matters of mutual interest and concerns in the South County area, on the initiative of the Committee, except where the governing bodies of a majority of the parties to the Agreement resolve that the Committee shall not address such matter on its own initiative.*

Trustee Hovenkamp, who is also a member of the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee asked what the committee needs to do at this time. Clerk Mongreig suggested a review of the by-laws of the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee, including the meeting noticing schedules and deadlines. If the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee will be having a follow up meeting it must be noticed at each entity. There is also the issue of the township not receiving a notice for the initial meeting.

Attorney Rolfe concluded that the matter was not in compliance as the appropriate notice was not made to the appropriate entity.

Treasurer Scott asked if the township has the opportunity to veto the decision of the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee, and why Brady Township would be in the decision making process as Brady Township has nothing to do with the issue, just as Schoolcraft Township should have no authority between a Brady Township/Vicksburg Village issue.

Supervisor Ulsh stated that Brady Township is to be involved.

Attorney Rolfe stated that the proper noticing of the Special Meeting should be sent by the South County Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement Committee secretary.

Re-appointment of Planning Commission Member: Motion by Mongreig with second by Feldmeier to approve the re-appointment of Ron Avis to the Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission. Motion carried 5-0

Planning Commission: Supervisor Ulsh reported that the Planning Commission discussed the number of individual parcels on the Zoning Map divided into two zoning districts. Attorney Rolfe was directed to draft a

proposed zoning ordinance amendment stating that whatever the largest portion of a parcel is zoned will become the same zoning of the remaining portion.

Ryan LaPorte reported on Swan Park; Vicksburg Lacrosse Club is becoming more involved in the usage and maintenance of Swan Park fields and offered assistance with a concession stand development. LaPorte told the board that the Park Committee will be looking into the development of a concession stand, the permitting by Kalamazoo County, and sharing costs.

The board agreed to a request by the Vicksburg Lacrosse Club to install a temporary backstop.

Supervisor Ulsh asked Mrs. Briscoe if Purple Martin houses would work at Swan Park. Mrs. Briscoe will be working with Ryan LaPorte on the idea for summer 2015.

Mrs. Briscoe again stated that Schoolcraft Township should do more for the protection of our wildlife and wetlands.

Treasurer Scott advised the board that per the township's IT person, the vault is too hot for the server, and offered two options; Install air conditioning in the vault @ \$5,000.00. Move the server to the basement @\$500.00. The board directed Treasurer Scott to contact Secant Technologies to relocate the server to the basement.

Clerk Mongreig reported an approximate 16% turnout for the May 6, 2014 Special Election.

Trustee Feldmeier told the board that he will be absent for the June 10, 2014 regular meeting as he is having back surgery earlier in the month.

Meeting adjourned 7:35 p.m.

Virginia M. Mongreig, Clerk
Township of Schoolcraft

