

**NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
Township Board
Minutes
November 15, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Trustee Otto at 8350 Main Street.

PLEDGE

Otto led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Marilyn Engstrom, Supervisor	Absent with notice
Angela Westover, Clerk	Present (left at 7:14 P.M.)
Kathy Braun, Treasurer	Present
Janet Chick, Trustee	Present
Wayne Dockett, Trustee	Present
Jacki Otto, Trustee	Present
Tracy Thomas, Trustee	Present

Also present:

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:
Minutes and Bills**

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Westover supported, that the balance of the agenda be adopted as presented.

Hardesty answered a question from Dockett.

Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.

ADOPT BALANCE OF AGENDA

Otto added two items resulting from closed session: Appraisal (Item 4) and Negotiations (Item 5).

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

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Tawn Beliger, 8365 Earhart Road, thanked the voters for electing her to the Township Board and commented on state legislation regarding utilities. Mary Devlin, 9211 Brookside, and Marlene Chockley, 2665 Five Mile Road, congratulated the new Board and thanked the outgoing Board and Fink for their service, and offered condolences to Deb Mozurkewich's family on her passing. Devlin also made suggestions regarding use of the ordinance officer.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Westover noted Engstrom is ill and passed on a thank you from her for the opportunity to serve. Other Board members made similar remarks and thanked others for their service.

[Westover left the meeting].

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fink reported on the public meeting about the WALLY (Washtenaw-Livingston Rail Line). He noted that while development of this line is unlikely in the near future planning regarding it will continue.

REPORTS

Department Heads

Fire and Police. Dockett said someone should have been at the meeting representing the departments and asked about an officer on administrative leave and a marijuana arrest.

Wastewater Treatment Plant, Treasurer, Community Center. Otto noted the Center is very busy and praised Averill's work.

Other

Zoning Board of Appeals. Otto reported a setback variance for a home addition was granted in October.

Planning Commission. Chick reported the Commission recommended various text amendments to commercial districts.

Parks and Recreation. Thomas reported that although this week's meeting will be his last as Board representative, he will continue to be actively involved and noted the Board will need to appoint a Board representative to the Parks and Recreation Committee in his place.

Township Manager. Fink reviewed how the Board transition will be handled, and board members made comments about orientation options. Thomas answered a question from Dockett about an effort to request donations to the Township of small parcels of land for park use.

PRESENTATION

1.
**Fiscal Year 2015-16 Audit
by Pfeffer, Hanniford & Palka**

**Northfield Township Board Meeting
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Public Safety Building; 8350 Main Street
November 15, 2016**

John Pfeffer presented the audit, noting his firm is giving an unqualified opinion, which is the highest available. He said there were very few management comments and most of them have already been addressed. He answered questions from the Board.

AGENDA ITEMS

**1.
Audit Report**

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, that the audit report for Fiscal Year 2015-16 be approved as presented. **Motion carried 5—0 on a roll call vote. Resolution adopted.**

**2.
Code Enforcement Officer Resignation**

Fink said since Mr. Lenehan is a contracted employee no Board action is needed. He noted he will be advertising for the position and have discussions with the next Board about the scope of the position. Board members made brief comments and expressed great appreciation to Lenehan for his work on behalf of the Township.

**3.
Resolution 16-553:
Non-Motorized Path Easements for
K. Cremin & P. Johnson**

- ▶ **Motion:** Thomas moved, Chick supported, to adopt Resolution 16-553, and to authorize Northfield Township to assign fair market value for the easement on Kathy Cremin's property at \$10,000 and to assign fair market value for the easement on Patricia Johnson's property at \$10,000. **Motion carried 4—1 on a roll call vote, Dockett opposed**

**4.
Action as a Result of Closed Session:
Appraisal for The Links of Whitmore Lake
vs. Northfield Township MTT Case**

- ▶ **Motion:** Otto moved, Chick supported, that Fink be authorized retroactively to obtain an appraisal for the Links of Whitmore Lake property.

Dockett requested a roll call vote.

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

**5.
Action as a Result of Closed Session:
Negotiations**

- ▶ **Motion:** Otto moved, Braun supported, to give Mr. Fink and Mr. Burns the authority to negotiate with Mr. Nowatzke pursuant to discussion in closed session. **Motion carried 5—0 on a voice vote.**

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Fink replied to comments from Andy Lakatos, 9249 Lakewood Drive, regarding the need for police to provide more traffic control during US-23 construction and about the Barker Road sidewalk construction. Board members recommended that the traffic issue be a future Board agenda item.

Udo Huff, 6341 Whitmore Lake Road, thanked the Board for the opportunity to ask questions.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Fink said the outgoing Board is one of the most effective he has worked with in his professional career, and he thanked them for the hard work they did for the community and what they accomplished. He also expressed condolences to Debra Mozurkewich's family, noting the Barker Road non-motorized pathway would not have been built without her action. Board members thanked the voters and thanked each other and Fink for their service.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

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.

Kathleen Manley, Clerk

Official minutes of all meetings are available on the Township's website at http://www.twp-northfield.org/government/township_board_of_trustees/