

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the
Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees
January 11, 2010**

At the 6:00pm workshop the Board also briefly talked through the 2010 strategic Plan with goals and objectives. A review of the Priorities calendar for 2010 linked to the strategic plan for the year.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call of the Board:

Supervisor Nash called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Present John Nash, Carolyn Boersma, Jim Koster, Ron Lindquist, Larry Mierle, Judy Miljan, Bob Shay

Absent: None

Participants: Gordon Gallagher, Spring Lake Township Manager, Ron Bultje, Spring Lake Township Attorney

2. Invocation and Pledge:

Supervisor Nash opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

3. Public Comment:

Public comment was opened at 7:04 pm and closed at 7:17pm. Three comments were offered at this time.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Lindquist, support by Shay to approve the agenda as written.

With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Lindquist, support by Mierle to approve the consent agenda.

With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

- a. Approve December 14, 2009 Minutes
- b. Approve payment of all fund bills
- c. Receive November 30, 2009 Financials

6. Planning Commission Appointment – Russ Tiles:

Supervisor Nash appointed Russ Tiles to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Boersma, support by Shay to approve the appointment term to expire March 31, 2011.

With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

7. Investment Policy (NB):

Staff has prepared an update to our investment policy to be more in line with the Michigan Townships Association model. After a review by the Board this will be added to the consent agenda for the February 8 meeting.

8. Sintel – Right of Way Abandonment:

Sintel Inc has indicated their desire to expand their facilities in Spring Lake Township. The anticipated investment in renovations and new equipment is estimated to be over \$5 million. This

expansion is not committed to this location due to several factors. One of these factors is a need for additional on-site parking. A proposed solution is to consider abandoning part of an overly wide road right of way. The north side of the Taft Road right of way is currently 75 feet. The proposed change would reduce the north half of the right of way to 33 feet (which is more consistent with a total 66 foot road right of way). As part of this change the Township would retain underground utility easements and an above ground easement for the bike path. The final decision on this abandonment rests with the Ottawa County Road Commission.

After reviewing the Resolution a few word changes were made to the last paragraph of the first page by adding “at least” before 33ft, adding “up to” before 42ft, and changing the word “center line” to “section line” after 75N.

Motion by Nash, support by Mierle to approve the Resolution of support of abandonment with the listed word changes to be presented to the Ottawa County Road Commission for approval. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

9. Budget Amendments:

The Township Board authorized the purchase of the industrial property on 150th Avenue for \$240,000 with a down payment of \$140,000 in this fiscal year. There is a need to make a budget amendment in order to adjust the budget for this purchase. In addition, there are additional proposed activity level amendments. The net result of this budget amendment is a \$100,000 decrease in the General Fund Balance.

Motion by Boersma, support by Lindquist to approve the budget amendment as presented. [RC] With Koster as the dissenting vote, the motion carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENT - January 11, 2010

General Fund Department/Activity		BEGINNING	INCREASE	DECREASE	ENDING
101	Township Board (Van Loon Property)	145,100	140,000	-	285,100
172	Manager	133,500	5,000	-	138,500
191	Elections	5,700	-	3,400	2,300
201	Finance	138,000	5,000	-	143,000
215	Clerk	114,000	3,700	-	117,700
253	Treasurer	28,500	3,700	-	32,200
371	Inspections	110,700	5,000	-	115,700
410	Planning	212,000	5,000	-	217,000
445	Drains	50,000	-	14,000	36,000
895	Contingency	50,000	-	50,000	-
Total Expenditure Increase/Decrease		987,500	167,400	67,400	1,087,500
General Fund - Fund Balance			-	100,000	

10. Budget Discussion

Manager Gallagher presented a timeline for review and approval for the 2010/11 fiscal year budget which included a request to schedule extra workshops and special meetings.

Motion by Nash, support by Miljan to set 3 special meetings; January 30 will be a budget workshop at 8:00am, February 22 and March 22 will both be scheduled for 6:00pm. With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

11. Water/Sewer Rates

The Board reviewed a proposed Water Ordinance which allows for changes to the rates by Resolution and a Resolution that changes water rates as recommended.

Motion by Boersma, support by Lindquist to adopt Ordinance 218 Utility Chapter Amendment Ordinance, which will amend certain portion of the Code of Ordinances of Spring Lake Township. [RC] With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

Motion by Boersma, support by Mierle to adopt the First Water Rates and Charges Resolution as presented. [RC] With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

12. Amendments to Personnel Policy (NB)

a. Section 6.1 Group Insurance Dental/Vision

b. Section 4.3 Pager Policy (DPW)

c. Section 6.11 Holidays

After reviewing the personnel policy, staff has identified three areas that should be considered for amendments. The Board would like more information. The issue will be brought to a future meeting.

13. Reconsider Van Loon Property Purchase Resolution

By previous action, the Board has authorized the purchase of the Van Loon property on 150th Avenue. The Resolution called for personal property taxes to be paid first and for all taxes to be paid prior to any proceeds being paid to the seller. Mr. Van Loon has proposed a change to our agreement whereby he would bring \$75,000 of additional dollars to the closing. This would pay all taxes due except the 2009 real property taxes on the LDP parcel. In return he would like to receive the proceeds of the next two years payments on the land contract. A revised Resolution of agreement was given to the Board that reflected the proposed changes.

Motion by Mierle, support by Lindquist to approve the revised **Purchase of Property – Van Loon** Resolution of Agreement. [RC] With Koster as the dissenting vote, the motion carried.

14. Reports

A time of information sharing was given to the Manager and various Board members.

15. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Carolyn Boersma, Clerk