

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the  
Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees  
December 10, 2012**

A meeting of the Spring Lake Township Board of Trustees was held at the Spring Lake Township Hall at 106 S. Buchanan, Spring Lake, MI 49456.

**6:00pm Work session:** The Board reviewed the 2013 Goals and Objectives.

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

Supervisor Nash called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

Present: John Nash, Carolyn Boersma, Jim Koster, Jim Cihak, Rick Homan, Ron Lindquist, Larry Mierle

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 spiritual reading and the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Public Comment:**

Public comment was opened at 7:08pm and closed at 7:09 pm. No comments were offered at this time.

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Cihak, support by Mierle to approve the agenda with the addition of 6a Lloyds Bayou Lake Board. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. Approval of Consent Agenda:**

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

With a unanimous vote the motion carried.

- a. Approve November 12, 2012 Minutes
- b. Approve payment of all fund bills
- c. Receive November 2012 Financials
- d. Approve Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2013 BOR

**6. Board Appointments: PC, ZBA, Sewer Authority, NOWS, Spring Lake Lake Board, Capital Committee, Ambulance Advisory, Twp/Village Cooperation, Other Appointments: Board of Review, Cemetery Board, Library Board:**

**Motion** by Boersma, support by Cihak to make the following appointments:

Library Board until 2016 – Mary Eagin and Joan Bond

Capital Committee – Rick Homan and Jim Koster

Board Liaison to the Recreation Committee – Kim Cihak

Ambulance Advisory Committee – Jim Koster

Township/Village Committee – Carolyn Boersma and Jim Koster

NOWS – John Nash member, Gordon Gallagher alternate

Sewer Authority – Gordon Gallagher member, John Nash alternate

Cemetery Board – Don Miller (2015) and Linda Anderson (2014)

The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion** by Mierle, support by Cihak to approve the Supervisor’s appointment of Ron Lindquist as the Board liaison to the Planning Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion** by Lindquist, support by Homan to appoint Larry Mierle as the Board liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The motion carried unanimously.

**Motion** by Koster, support by Cihak to appoint Jim Mulder, Lou Draeger, and Pat Misner to the Board of Review, term ending 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

**6a. Lloyds Bayou Lake Board:**

The Lloyds Bayou Lake Board (LBLB) has re-written their resolution to make it possible for them to do a wider range of activities. William Arnold and Dick Brown, Representatives of the LBLB were present to make a formal request of the Township Board to approve the Resolution. **Motion** by Cihak, support by Mierle to approve the Resolution as presented. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

**7. Road Commission Estimate:**

Before starting any project with local funding, the Road Commission sends out a good faith estimate and requires an approval from the Board. An estimate of \$16,435.97 is the proposed Township share of the West Spring Lake bridge improvement project. This is significantly below the \$300,000 that the Township Board had previously committed to this project. **Motion** by Boersma, support by Lindquist to approve the estimate as presented by the Ottawa County Road Commission. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

**8. Generator Maintenance Contract:**

As a part of the sewer upgrade project this past year, more of the main lift stations have permanent generators. The Township has always had a contract with Cummins Bridgeway for annual maintenance to existing generators. A 5 year planned equipment maintenance agreement for 9 generators was presented for review at the November Board meeting. **Motion** by Lindquist, support by Mierle to approve the agreement as proposed. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

**9. 2013 Water/ Sewer Rates:**

At the November meeting the Board heard staff’s recommendation that the commodity rates for 2013 water and sewer remain the same as 2012. There is a further recommendation to modestly raise several service fees. **Motion** by Lindquist, support by Cihak to approve the w/s rate increases as presented. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

**10. Consumers Energy Contract:**

Consumers Energy has completed a new mapping project and an audit of every streetlight in Spring Lake Township. What was learned through this process was that over the past few years, the Township has been billed for more streetlights than are actually in place. Because of this error, Consumer’s Energy is going to give a credit of almost \$49,716.85.

In addition, there is currently a federal requirement to do away with Mercury Vapor (MV) lighting over the next 5 years. Because of the issue noted above, Consumer’s is giving us an opportunity to change over the remaining MV streetlights in the Township to slightly higher output High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lighting at no charge to the Township. (A 175 watt MV light puts out 7,500 lumens and a 100 watt HPS light puts out 8,500 lumens). HPS lighting is more efficient and costs less to operate. The potential savings from this change over is \$2,000 per month. A new contract to make the change to HPS lights was given to the Board for review. **Motion** by Cihak, support by Mierle to approve the contract as presented. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.

**11. Telephone Collaborative Resolution:**

The Board was asked to consider a resolution entering Spring Lake Township into a collaborative agreement to study shared telephone services. It is anticipated that the Township will be able to save the \$2,500 cost of this study within 18 months of completion of the recommendations. Additionally, it is anticipated that other data sharing ideas may come from working together with the other municipal units. Each participating municipality was asked to approve a Resolution Accepting the Competitive Grant Assistance program. **Motion** by Boersma, support by Homan to enter into an agreement and approve the resolution as presented for a telephone collaborative study at a cost of \$2500.00. [RC] With Lindquist as the dissenting vote, the motion carried.

**12. Economic development Report:**

David Miller, Economic Development Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce provided a report on economic development activities in Spring Lake Township. The Township has an ongoing Economic Development Contract with the Chamber. This is a shared agreement with the other 4 governmental units in NW Ottawa County.

**13. Snow Plowing Bids**

Bids were received for the snow plowing of 3 Township properties, both fire stations and the Township hall. Seven bids were received ranging in price from \$2875 to \$8600. The lowest bidder was West Michigan Dirtworks. **Motion** by Mierle, support by Cihak to award the bid to West Michigan Dirtworks for \$2875. With Homan, Koster and Nash as dissenting votes the motion carried.

**14. Reports:** A time for information sharing was given to certain Board members and the manager. The reports were given after the closed session.

**15. Closed Session:**

Motion by Boersma, support by Lindquist to go into closed session to consider the purchase of real property. [RC] The motion carried unanimously.  
The Board came out of closed session at 10:43pm.

**16. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 11:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Carolyn Boersma, CMC  
Spring Lake Township Clerk