

**Springfield Township Board**  
**June 8, 2006**

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**June 8, 2006**  
**SYNOPSIS**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Walls

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approved Minutes: May 11, 2006, Regular Meeting with bills and additional disbursements of \$294,291.01
- b) Accepted May 2006 Treasurer's Report
- c) Received May 2006 Reports: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical; Litigation; Fire and Ordinance
- d) Authorized payment of bills as presented, total \$24,612.54
- e) Granted Prospectors Industrial PUD request for one-year extension of approval, from June 9, 2006 to June 8, 2006
- f) Received Township Attorney's analysis of P.A. 100 – Michigan Zoning Enabling Act
- g) Received Township Vehicle Use Report
- h) Received communications and placed on file.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Second Readings:
  - a) Adopted Ordinance #62 Amendments: Dangerous Buildings
  - b) Adopted Ordinance #67 Amendments: Municipal Civil Infractions
2. Employee Benefits Revisions: Tabled to August Regular Meeting
3. Approved Radio System Agreement and authorized execution by Township Supervisor

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fire Officers Run Pay Rate: increased to \$15.00/hour effective July 1, 2006
2. First Readings, Zoning Ordinance #26, authorized Second Readings:
  - a) Article II, Section 2.00 and Article XVI, Section 16.17
  - b) Article XVIII, Subsection 18.07.4 and 18.07.4.a
  - c) Article XVI, Section 16.25
3. Approved Annual MTA Membership and Dues
4. Approved \$15,000.00 General Fund Contribution to Library
5. Authorized contracting with Mechanical Comfort, Inc., for \$2,460.00 for installation of an air intake filtration system for the Civic Center

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNED: 8:50 p.m.

NANCY STROLE, Clerk

**Springfield Township Board**  
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**Call to Order:** Supervisor Collin Walls called the June 8, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Board to order at 7:45 p.m. at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, MI 48350.

**Roll Call:**

**Board Members Present**

Collin W. Walls	Township Supervisor
Jamie Dubre	Township Treasurer
Nancy Strole	Township Clerk
Dennis Vallad	Township Trustee
David Hopper	Township Trustee
Roger Lamont	Township Trustee
Marc Cooper	Township Trustee

**Board Members Not Present**

**Others Present**

Greg Need	Township Attorney
Charlie Oaks	Township Fire Chief

**Agenda Additions & Changes:            NONE**

**Public Comment:                            None**

**Consent Agenda:**

**\* Trustee Hopper moved to approve the agenda as published. Treasurer Dubre supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

- a) Approval of Minutes: May 11, 2006 with bills and additional disbursements of \$294,291.01
- b) Acceptance of May Treasurer's report.
- c) Receipt of April 2006 Reports: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Litigation, Fire and Ordinance.
- d) Authorize payment of bills as presented totaling \$24,612.54.
- e) Prospectors Industrial PUD: Grant request for one-year extension of approval from June 9, 2006 to June 8, 2007.
- f) Receipt of Township Attorney's analysis of P.A. 100 – Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.
- g) Receipt of Township Vehicle Use Report.

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**Receipt of Communications:**

- Letter from Comcast regarding fees and channel line-up

**Old Business:**

1. Second Readings:
  - a) Ordinance #62 Amendments: Dangerous Buildings
  - b) Ordinance #67 Amendments: Municipal Civil Infractions

Clerk Strole noted that in paragraph 2.1 it should read “structure that has one **or** more of...” On page 2, first paragraph last line should read by the owner **or** a member of...” Also on page 2, Treasurer Dubre noted the word “assessor” should be deleted under paragraph 6.2 and changed to “the Township.” Attorney Need stated that the corrections were not substantive and referral back to the Planning Commission was not necessary. Trustee Vallad disagreed.

**\* Clerk Strole moved to adopt amendments to Ordinance #62 Dangerous Buildings Ordinance with the non-substantive corrections noted, adoption to take place seven days after publication of Notice of Adoption. Trustee Hopper supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: Vallad. The motion carried by a 6 to 1 vote.**

**\* Trustee Hopper moved to adopt and authorize the Clerk to publish proposed amendments to Ordinance #67 Municipal Ordinance Violation Bureau and Municipal Civil Infraction Regulations specifically subsection 4.1 of Section 4, Section 3 of Section 6 and Section 11 as published, said amendments to take effect seven days after publication. Trustee Vallad supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

2. Employee Benefits
  - a) New Hires
  - b) Existing Insured Employees

**\* Trustee Cooper moved that all new hired employees after June 12, 2006 will be eligible for the health insurance coverage of the Township. Township will pay the single, one-person part of the township plan, if new employees want their spouse or children covered they will pay that part of the premium. The motion failed due to lack of support.**

Supervisor Walls asked if Board members wish to differentiate medical benefits for new hires? Clerk Strole said she doesn't believe in having two classes of employees with respect to medical benefits. Trustee Hopper agreed. Trustee Vallad agreed. Treasurer Dubre agreed. Trustee Lamont asked what the savings to the township would be? The Board agreed they have no anticipation of hiring anyone new at this time, therefore, there would be no savings.

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- \* Trustee Cooper moved to table the health care insurance benefits package discussion and ask the Supervisor to research the benefit program against other townships in the area and also see if there is a company that could assist us with a professional approach and be able to find the research we need to find a cost effective program for our township and report back to the Board by the August Board meeting. Supervisor Walls supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Cooper, Vallad and Lamont; No: Hopper, Dubre and Strole. The motion carried by a 4 to 3 vote.**

Treasurer Dubre commented that continuing to bring this item back before the Board only causes flack within this building and she believes we owe better to our current employees in regards to discussing those types of things and we should have made a decision on the current employees.

Clerk Strole commented that tabling this item with no ability to discuss it is not well serving the issue or the employees. She believes there could have been quite a bit of information provided. Supervisor Walls asked if anyone who voted to table wished to move to reconsider. There was no response and Supervisor Walls moved the discussion to the next agenda.

3. Radio System Agreement

Supervisor Walls cautioned the trustees that we only received the policies and procedures through our attorney by Attorney Client Privilege. If they wish to discuss them or question them, it would have to be done in closed session.

- \* Treasurer Dubre moved to enter into the agreement as established and that to be handled by the Township Attorney and Supervisor. Trustee Lamont supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

**New Business:**

1. Fire Officers Run Pay Rate

- \* Treasurer Dubre moved to set the Paid On Call rate for officers at \$15 per hour effective July 1, 2006. Trustee Hopper supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper and Cooper; No: Lamont. The motion carried by a 6 to 1 vote.**

2. First Readings, Zoning Ordinance #26:

- a) Article II, Section 2.00 and Article XVI, Section 16.17

- \* Supervisor Walls moved to authorize the Clerk to publish for Second Reading at our next meeting. Trustee Lamont supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

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b) Article XVIII, Subsections 18.07.4 and 18.07.4.a

**\* Trustee Vallad moved to authorize the Clerk to publish for Second Reading amendments to Zoning Ordinance #26, specifically to Section 18.07.4. Trustee Cooper supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

c) Article XVI, Section 16.25

**\* Trustee Lamont moved to authorize the Clerk to publish for Second Reading Section 16.25 Safety Paths. Trustee Hopper supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

4. Annual MTA Membership and Dues

Supervisor Walls introduced Mr. Larry Merrill of Michigan Township's Association.

Trustee Lamont asked what the Township gets in return for its dues? Mr. Merrill said the direct benefits are ongoing legislative alerts, intervention in legislation, available insurance programs and their office is open Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm to contact their staff and attorneys with questions. Indirect benefits to the Township are what MTA is doing legislatively for townships as a whole.

Clerk Strole commented that she believes we get very good value for our membership in MTA. MTA does provide a voice for our township and when funds are as scarce as they are, it is more important than ever to retain our membership. She believes MTA plays an important role in channeling some funds toward local government in ways that maybe we have not thought of. The Metro Act is a good example of that as we get \$8,000 per year from the Metro Act because of MTA involvement and those funds are being used for roads.

Trustee Vallad commented that he is disappointed with the educational conference provided by MTA and thinks that what was presented was directed at townships more rural than Springfield. He does not feel we get the kind of educational benefit that he would expect and disagrees with MTA's stance at times with respect to government. He likes the magazine but does not know if he gets as much benefit as some other members.

Treasurer Dubre said the conferences she has been to by the MTA were very enlightening and she would be in favor of renewing the Township's membership. Clerk Strole said there is much more to MTA than just the conferences and, in totality, she believes renewing membership is beneficial.

Supervisor Walls commented that historically, MTA has been a very good organization and still is. He agrees with Trustee Vallad and feels the conference and magazine information is more

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elementary and basic than it could be to be of assistance to the majority of township officials he knows. He is concerned that, in these economic times, we should be discussing every expenditure that requires Township Board approval. Last month there was a reminder by Clerk Strole of the benefits we got out of Huron River Watershed Council, but he is wrestling with the MTA dues and whether or not the \$5,000+ expenditure is something that the Township should continue versus the fact that we just talked about cutting employee benefits and did not give salary increases.

- \* Treasurer Dubre moved to renew the dues with MTA for the period of 7/1/06 through 6/30/07, just the annual dues portion not donating to the legal defense discretionary assessment as we have not in the past. Clerk Strole supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Strole, Dubre, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: Walls. The motion carried by a 6 to 1 vote.**

5. General Fund Contribution to Library

Trustee Vallad commented that he would like to see \$5,000 of the contribution put towards books on tape.

- \* Treasurer Dubre moved that we contribute \$15,000.00 as budgeted to the Library Fund from the General Fund with no strings attached. Trustee Cooper supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

6. Civic Center Air Intake Filtration

- \* Trustee Hopper moved to authorize Mike Forst and Supervisor Walls to contract with Mechanical Comfort at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 as outlined in their May 18, 2006 proposal. Trustee Lamont supported the motion. Vote on the motion. Yes: Walls, Dubre, Strole, Vallad, Hopper, Lamont and Cooper; No: none. The motion carried by a 7 to 0 vote.**

**Public Comment: None**

**Adjournment:**

Hearing no other business, Supervisor Walls adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

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Collin W. Walls, Township Supervisor

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Nancy Strole, Township Clerk