Minutes of
TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
September 12, 2024

SPRINGFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Sean R. Miller, Clerk



Call to Order: Supervisor Moreau called the September 12, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Springfield Township Board to order at 7:30 pm at the Springfield Township Civic Center.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Board Members Present	
Laura Moreau	Township Supervisor
Sean Miller	Township Clerk
Jamie Dubre	Township Treasurer
Denny Vallad	Township Trustee
Jason Pliska	Township Trustee
Bill Whitley	Township Trustee
Others Present	
Greg Need	Township Attorney
Board Members not Present	
Dave Hopper	Township Trustee

Agenda Additions & Changes: Clerk Miller noted that the August Township Board minutes should state August 8th, not July 11th.

Public Comment: Treasurer Dubre stated that the last NoHaz event of the year will be held Saturday, August 14th, at the Oakland County Service Center Campus located at 1200 N Telegraph Rd.

Consent Agenda:

Clerk Miller moved to approve the Consent agenda as amended. Supported by Trustee Whitley. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. The motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

a) Approve Minutes: Regular Meeting of August 8, 2024 and Township Board/Park Commission Joint Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2024
b) Accept the August 2024 Treasurer's Report



c) Receive August 2024 Monthly Reports: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Ordinance, Fire, Police, Comp Time, IT, and Natural Resources
d) Authorize payment of bills: August Additional Disbursements totaling $95,619.09 and September 2024 Bills List totaling $1,420,386.91
e) Authorize the Facilities Manager to renew the snow removal agreement with All-N-One Lawn Care Service for the 2024/2025 Snow Removal Season per their estimate/proposal dated 8/9/2024
f) Communication: Email from Clarkston Community Schools Superintendent regarding a change to the school Liaison Officer Coverage Plan

Presentation: Fire Department – Firefighters Completion of Probation

Chief Covey started this presentation by saying that three team members have completed their probationary period and have met all the requirements. He stated that these Firefighters have put in countless hours of training and work to complete their probationary period. He stated that they are excellent examples of what Firefighters should be and will be outstanding additions to the Springfield Township Fire Department due to their dedication, hard work, and selflessness. He welcomed William Lafoy, Brandon McDonald, and Nicole White forward to take the Firefighter Oath and to receive their badges and patch.

Old Business:

1. Resolution to Establish Softwater Lake Board and Appoint Representatives

Treasurer Dubre stated that Vicki Crampton-Zilka and Joey Deni-Lambert have been appointed as Township Representatives for the Softwater Lake Board with Jeff Bullard as an alternate.

Trustee Pliska moved to adopt Resolution 2024-14 to establish a Lake Board for Softwater Lake appointing Township Representatives as Vicki Crampton-Zilka and Joey Deni-Lambert. The alternate representative will be Jeff Bullard. Supported by Trustee Whitley. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none. Absent: Hopper. Motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

New Business:

1. Authorize Sale of Fire Engines – 1993 KME and 2000 Pierce

Captain Hart led this discussion by stating that in 2018 the department required two service trucks to hold extra equipment and take this equipment to incidents as needed. After a recent meeting with their ISO representative, it was determined that getting rid of these two trucks would not impact their ISO rating in any way. He continued by saying that these two engines are not currently



being used, but they are still paying insurance on them and are having to do routine maintenance. He is requesting to sell the two engines. After researching prices, he feels that the 1993 KME could sell for approximately $15,000 and the 2000 Pierce approximately $8,000. He suggested they advertise on social media and if they are not sold within 30 days, then an ad will be placed in Fire Trader magazine. He also requested to bring this discussion back to the Supervisor if the engines don't sell at the current list price within a reasonable time.

Clerk Miller asked what the cost is for putting an ad in Fire Trader.

Captain Hart stated it is $50.00.

Treasurer Dubre asked Captain Hart what he is looking at for the net proceeds and what he thinks bottom line price should be.

Captain Hart stated that he would like to see the KME sell for no less than $10,000 and the Pierce no lower than $5,000.

Treasurer Dubre asked what he thinks a reasonable net proceed would be for both.

Captain Hart stated $12,000.

Chief Covey stated he thinks $10,000 would be within reason.

Treasurer Dubre suggested that they list them both with a minimum combined total of $10,000.

Trustee Whitley stated that he is worried that if they don't sell, then this discussion will have to be brought back to the Board to lower the price. He thinks authorizing the sale "at best price" would be better.

Treasurer Dubre stated that this worries her and doesn't want to lose out on assets of the Township. She doesn't want to get scrap price for them.

Chief Covey stated that he has scrapped Pierce engines in the past and sold them through a clearing house, where they average about $3,000 apiece. He wants to sell them with their best judgement and with the Supervisor's approval. He is looking into selling them at a "or best offer".

Trustee Whitley asked for clarification.

Chief Covey stated that he doesn't want to mention a certain price on what they would be willing to lower the price to, in case someone watches the meeting and takes advantage of their discussion on prices.

Trustee Whitley moved that the Township Board authorize Springfield Township Fire Department to dispose of the 1993 KME engine and the 2000 Pierce engine according to the memo from Captain Hart to Supervisor Moreau and that the decision for sale price be made by the combination of the Supervisor, Chief Covey, and Captain Hart to conclude the sale at the amounts on the memo or best offer. Supported by Trustee Vallad. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. Motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

Ric Davis commented that the decals from the engines should be removed before the sale.

2. Grant Award and Purchase of Firefighter Gear

Chief Covey led this discussion by stating that Michigan's Department of Labor and Opportunity offered a grant for $38,000 to provide additional sets of fire fighter gear to full time fire fighters in the state of Michigan. They wrote for the grant and were successful in receiving $35,000. They will receive 11 sets of gear, which includes a coat, pants, and boots. They are looking to purchase the gear through Michigan Emergency Services with the total for that purchase to be $40,290.

Supervisor Moreau asked if they were able to try on the gear.

Chief Covey answered yes, they were able to. He stated that they have previously purchased gear through Macqueen and stated the fit and quality of the MES gear was superior.

Trustee Vallad asked if it is a requirement to replace the gear after so many years.

Chief Covey stated that fire gear is rated for 10 years through the NFPA. Through the Cancer Presumption Bill that was passed through the State of Michigan, the exposure to carcinogens is high and it is recommended that every fire fighter has a second set of gear, with the idea that there is the opportunity to change or wash gear in between fires and incidents. He stated that currently Springfield's full time fire fighters have a second set of gear, therefore they will be able to put their second set into the pool of extra gear for the paid-on call staff.

Trustee Whitley moved to approve the purchase of the Turn Out Gear as outlined in the memo from Chief Covey dated September 5th 2024, for an amount not to exceed $41,000, with the grant from the State of Michigan of $35,000, which reduces the cost to the Township of no more than $6,000. Supported by Trustee Pliska. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. Motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

A member of the Fire Department thanked the Board for their decision.

Chief Covey thanked Supervisor Moreau and Treasurer Dubre for their help with applying for the grant.



3. Proposal for New Fire and Medical Reporting Software

Sergeant Burdess and Chief Covey led this discussion by stating that currently the Fire Department is using Image Trend for medical and fire reporting. The average cost for Image Trend is roughly $6,200, along with an annual fee of $1,400 for transferring data to local hospitals, which brings the annual cost for this year to $7,600. Chief Covey stated that Image Trend is very cumbersome and difficult to use, and the IT side can take a substantial amount of time to troubleshoot. He continued by stating that ESO provides a wonderful and user-friendly platform. The annual cost for the software for 2025 is $5,683.50, with an additional first year training and data transfer fee of $2,785, for a total cost of roughly $8,500 for the first year. The total annual cost for subsequent years will be approximately $5,700, with nominal annual increases.

Sergeant Burdess distributed memos to the Board outlining the differences between Image Trend and ESO. He stated that what ESO offers is a more streamlined way of reporting in real time. He continued by summarizing how ESO software transmits data, how user-friendly the software is, and how the patient assessment is done. He continued by saying that through the admin reporting, HR information can be stored and shared. Every run that is made through the fire department is a legal document that is held by the standards of the state and the county. He stated that QAQI through Image Trend is quite difficult, but through ESO notes can be left throughout the entire medical report and the software will send reminders if the report is not filled out correctly, or if there is missing information.

Trustee Whitley asked if this software is available on their current tablets.

Sergeant Burdess said yes. Currently the fire department has iPads with touch screens and stated that ESO offers buttons instead of drop-down menus, which makes it more user-friendly. He also added that they can transfer information from their cardiac monitors directly to the program, which then can be transferred to hospitals.

Chief Covey added that part time firefighters that work in surrounding departments utilize ESO and are very familiar with the software. The difference between the two programs is the number one complaint among them.

Trustee Whitley stated this would bring us into the essential standard in the community and county.

Chief Covey stated they have a standard to document properly on all medical calls. He also added that this program will help with FOIA requests as it has the capability to print a full legal report.

Trustee Whitley asked if the cost is categorized in tiers by number of calls and asked what happens if the number of calls goes over 1,200.

Chief Covey answered that is it 1,200 medical incidents and they should be fine with that number for the next few years. But as the population ages and changes it would increase and that would be the next tiered number.



Sargeant Burdess stated the price quotes are per 100. He also stated that Star EMS works much better with ESO for medical billing.

Supervisor Moreau asked if the tablets the department currently uses are compatible with ESO.

Chief Covey answered that they are. He also mentioned that they are looking to implement this before January, as if they go past January, they will have to pay both ESO and their annual dues for Image Trend.

Sergeant Burdess stated that ESO is working on an app that can be used with or without cell service, which will be helpful in situations where the location has no service.

Supervisor Moreau thanked Chief Covey, Captain Hart, Captain Strickland, and Sargeant Burdess for the detailed memo.

Trustee Whitley moved to approve the Springfield Township Fire Department to transition from Image Trend to ESO in 2024, in order to be ready for a full transition by the first of the year in 2025, as outlined in the memo dated September 1st, 2024. Supported by Clerk Miller. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. Motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

A member of the Fire department thanked the Board for their approval.

4. First Reading – Materials Recovery Facilities and Solid Waste Processing and Transfer Facilities Ordinance Amendment

Supervisor Moreau led this discussion by stating that this is an introduction of a proposed amendment to the Township's zoning ordinance in reference to materials recovery facilities, solid waste processing, and transfer facilities. She stated that this is something the Planning Commission and ZBA has been looking at for some time. She continued by saying that an inquiry in early 2023 for a waste transfer center located on a parcel that is zoned heavy industrial started this process. When this inquiry was received, they discovered that this type of a use was not listed anywhere in the zoning ordinances or in the zoning districts, therefore this was outside of their scope of understanding. Once they met with the applicant for pre-application meetings and through discussions, they understood that the intensity was beyond what they were prepared for. This was then transferred to the ZBA to figure out what the appropriate use would be under the Township's non designated land use process. The ZBA established conditions for the use based on intensity, conditions for similar uses, and best practices. Ultimately this process resulted in the 2023 inquiry not being suitable for the proposed site. A second applicant approached the Township earlier this year for a waste transfer center on the same parcel. Since the ZBA's



conditions were now established, the ZBA realized that this new applicant's proposition was far less intensive. Because of these conditions, this required an amendment to the ordinance. Upon amending the ordinance, they also updated their ordinance provisions for recycling facilities to keep consistent with state statutes. The Planning Commission and ZBA revised based on different tiers for the recycling facilities, which will become materials recovery facilities and the solid waste transferring facilities where there will be a standard level and an intensive level. The intensive level would require permitting and licensing from the state and would accept materials from outside of the operation.

Trustee Whitley stated that what the ZBA was presented with was an undocumented and undefined use in the Township and they were tasked with finding a way to make or not make this kind of use acceptable.

Supervisor Moreau stated the Planning Commission held their public hearing on August 27th and recommended adoption of these amendments to the Township Board.

Trustee Vallad stated that the process is well established on an undefined use, and he appreciates all the work that went into it.

Supervisor Moreau stated that Attorney Need reviewed the amendment and gave minor suggestions.

Attorney Need stated that it is very well written and just had a few minor suggestions and clarifications.

Supervisor Moreau commented that it follows state laws, therefore if there are any changes in the law, the ordinance can follow that.

Trustee Whitley moved that the proposed materials recovery facilities and solid waste processing and transferring facilities ordinance be moved to the second reading at a future Board meeting. Supported by Trustee Vallad. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. Vote carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

5. Amendments to 2024 Budget

Supervisor Moreau summarized the proposed budget amendments in the general fund, Mill Pond Dam removal, which was budgeted in 2023 and is being moved forward to 2024, fire fund budget, police fund budget, stewardship fund, cable TV fund, building department fund, and ARPA fund budgets.

Treasurer Dubre commented that most of the amendments are clean up items.



Treasurer Dubre moved to approve that the 2024 General Fund budget be amended Revenues unchanged at $2,796,950. Expenditures increase from $3,319,850 to $3,916,350. 2024 Fire Fund budget revenues to decrease from $3,368,100 to $3,348,100. Expenditures to increase from $3,358,100 to $3,478,100. 2024 Police Fund budget revenues to increase from $2,296,500 to $2,355,000. 2024 Stewardship Fund budget revenues remain unchanged at $0. Expenditures to increase from $2,500 to $28,500. 2024 Cable TV Fund budget revenues to remain unchanged at $80,000. Expenditures to increase from $89,300 to $94,300. 2024 Building Department Fund budget revenues remain unchanged at $198,000. Expenditures increase from $214,850 to $223,350. 2024 ARPA Fund budget revenues remain unchanged at $0. Expenditures increase from $155,000 to $588,000. Supported by Clerk Miller. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley; No: none; Absent: Hopper. Motion carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

6. 2024 Tax Rate Request

Treasurer Dubre moved to approve the standard tax rate millages that will be levied on the December 1, 2024 tax bill. General Fund Operating to be levied at .9492. Fire-1 to be levied at .9611. Fire-2 to be levied at .9611. Police-1 to be levied at 1.4093. Police-2 to be levied at 1.4392. Parks and Recreation to be levied at .7500. ALS millage to be levied at .7478. supported by Trustee Vallad. Vote on the motion. Yes: Dubre, Miller, Moreau, Pliska, Vallad, and Whitley. No: none; absent: Hopper. Vote carried by a 6 to 0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Treasurer Dubre stated that Monday, September 16th is the tax deadline.

Adjournment: Hearing no other business, Supervisor Moreau adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

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Laura Moreau, Supervisor

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Sean R. Miller, Clerk