

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DECEMBER 8, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian R. Frederick, Supervisor David Earley, Treasurer
Susan K. Neuenfeldt, Trustee Renee R. Herhold, Clerk
Brian Beckrow, Trustee

Richland Township Board of Trustee met electronically as a result of the Covid-19 Coronavirus pandemic, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Richland Township, Saginaw County, Michigan of such virus, pursuant to law and the mandates of Senate Bill 1108 for the State of Michigan. Manager Reno acted as facilitator, explaining the guidelines for the electronic meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Richland Township Board of Trustees was called to order by Supervisor Frederick at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to approve the Agenda as amended, adding under New Business, Item J. - Resolution 12-2020-02; Item K. - Agreement for Drinking Water Asset Management Plan Grant; Item L. - Resignation of Fire Chief. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to approve and file Minutes from the regular meeting held November 10th, 2020 and the special meeting held November 23, 2020 as written. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

BILLS: Motion by David Earley, second by Renee Herhold, to pay the bills as listed, total of \$70,355.59. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to approve the reports as listed. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS -

FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICIES: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, to approve the amended Fire Department Administrative Policies in Section Four, policies 04.41 through 04.45 as presented. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

PLUMBING/MECHANICAL INSPECTOR: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, to offer the Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector position to Gregory Younk, extending him an Agreement expiring March 31, 2022, authorizing Supervisor Frederick and Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, to appoint Angela Strzynski to fill the vacancy on the Richland Township Park Board, a four-year term, expiring in November 2024, with Clerk Herhold to administer the Oath of Office. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

FULL TIME POLICE: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, authorizing Manager Reno to offer the full time Richland Township Police Officer position to Larry Durocher, pending all background checks, physical and psychological testing, starting pay of \$20.73 an hour with a hire date of December 26, 2020. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS -

MERS DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN AGREEMENT ADDENDUM: Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to adopt the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement Addendum as presented, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 12-2020-01, 80/20 HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, by Resolution 12-2020-01, Richland Township elects since November 2012 to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the 80/20 percent option for the medical benefit plan year coverage December 1, 2020 through November 31, 2021, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

MERS: Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, authorizing Manager Reno to issue an additional payment to the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) for \$2,450 in order to raise funding levels prior to the 2020-year end calendar. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

EXTEND 2020 WINTER TAX DUE DATE: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to extend the 2020 Winter Tax due date from Sunday, February 14th to Monday, March 1st, 2021, payable without late penalties. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENT: Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, due to the resignation of Larry Schiewe, to confirm Supervisor Frederick's recommendation to appoint James Dempsey to the Richland Township Board of Review, effective immediately along with the two-year term expiring December 31, 2022. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

BOARD OF REVIEW REAPPOINTMENTS: Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to confirm Supervisor Frederick's recommendation to reappoint John Rick and Tim Metro to the Richland Township Board of Review, a two-year term starting January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2022, appointing the alternate at a later date. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to confirm Supervisor Fredericks recommendation to reappoint Susan Neuenfeldt to serve as Board representative to the Planning Commission, a four-year term expiring in November 2024. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, abstain. (4) Yeas, (1) Abstain. Motion carried.

HAZARD PAY ELECTION OFFICIALS/OFFICE STAFF: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, authorizing a portion of the funds received from the Covid-19 Response Grant be

expended for hazard pay, \$125.00 for each election poll worker, \$200 for the full and part time office staff, and Township Clerk. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, abstain; Neuenfeldt, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Abstain. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to receive and file all communications as presented. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 12-2020-02: Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, by Resolution 12-2020-02, supporting Lakenet LLC with their Grant application to the State of Michigan-Connecting Michigan Communities, and construction of the project if awarded, to extend broadband service to areas in Richland Township, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

DWAM GRANT: Motion by Brian Beckrow, second by David Earley, authorizing Manager Reno to sign the Study and Report for the Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Plan Grant project proposal Agreement as presented by John Olson with Spicer Group, accepting the offer of without charge services to write a 100 percent matching Grant application through the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) – Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM), grant application due January 1, 2021. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

FIRE CHIEF RESIGNATION: Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to accept the letter of resignation from Mike Morse as Richland Township Fire Chief effective immediately, thanking Mike for his years of service both as Chief and Firefighter, with the wage committee to take into consideration a separation agreement, authorizing Manager Reno to post the Fire Chief position, application deadline of noon on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Beckrow, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) Yeas, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments were received and answered.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to adjourn. Unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned – 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Renee R. Herhold

Richland Township Clerk