

**January 13, 2021 – REGULAR MEETING
ROSE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

DATE: Wednesday, January 13, 2021
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual – gotomeeting.com
Gotomeeting.com administrator: Supervisor Scheib-Snyder

PRESENT: Dianne Scheib-Snyder, Supervisor Glen Noble, Trustee
 Debbie Miller, Clerk Pat Walls, Trustee
 Paul Gambka, Treasurer

OTHERS: Julius Stern Karen Winchester
 Jim Holton Linda Dagenhardt
 Peter Stouffer David

Other (s) present: Renee Kraft, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Scheib-Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Did not say Pledge of Allegiance, instead had a moment of silence for resident Margaret (Peg) Thorsby.

1. Approval of Agenda:

A. Approve the Regular Agenda: Motion by Trustee Noble to approve the agenda with addition of Item H, Retirement Trust Fund Reimbursement Actions. Seconded by Clerk Miller.

VOTE: YES: Miller, Noble, Walls, Gambka, Scheib-Snyder
NO: None

2. Approval of Consent Agenda:

A. Approve the Consent Agenda: Motion by Trustee Noble to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Clerk Miller.

VOTE: YES: Noble, Walls, Gambka, Miller, Scheib-Snyder
NO: None

3. Presentation:

None

4. Brief Public Comments – Agenda items only: (limit comments to 3 minutes)

Karen Winchester-Speaking as the Holly Township Clerk and Chair for North Oakland County Fire Authority (N.O.C.F.A.). She is bringing awareness to the Rose Township Board, that the Holly Township representatives on the NOCFA Board do not agree that the Articles of Incorporation are ready for adoption by either township.

The amendments to the articles were approved by a contentious split vote and she will not be recommending approval to the Holly Township Board of Trustees without important language being added.

The Holly Township representatives requested language to be added to the articles that prohibit a current or past employee of NOCFA to service on the Board and the NOCFA Board Attorney agreed, but it was ignored. It is in the best interest of the authority as it eliminates the potential conflict of interest and the possibility of a current or former employee making decisions that are not in the best interest of the authority.

This language prohibits current or past employees of N.O.C.F.A. from serving on the Board. It is the best interest of N.O.C.F.A. because it eliminates conflict of interest. Holly Township Representatives also requested language to be added for N.O.C.F.A. Board Conflict Resolution. There has been a significant amount of conflict between the board over the last (2) years and the articles as presented to Rose Township have nothing in place to resolve those issues.

Discussion on these matters were voted down and no discussion was permitted, which is inappropriate and not in the best interest of the Authority.

Regarding N.O.C.F.A. being a taxing authority, she states the N.O.C.F.A. Board did not complete its research nor discussed it and did not recommend bringing it to the Township Boards for approval or denial, which undermines the very purpose of the N.O.C.F.A. Board. She requests Rose Township Board of Trustees to send the Articles back to the N.O.C.F.A. Board to add these two (2) items or meet with the Holly Board in a joint Township Board meeting to amend the Articles in the best interest of the Authority and the Townships.

Julius Stern – Recognized the passing of Emile Bair. Concerned about Dave Plewes Dispensing CDBG Grant money to companies from another county. Concerned that there will be a millage increase and N.O.C.F.A. will be dissolved. States the N.O.C.F.A. attorney said a past employee should not be on the Board and Supervisor Scheib-Snyder shouldn't be on the N.O.C.F.A. Board since she was a past employee. Comments on \$14,854 money to be used for another employee.

5. Unfinished Business:

None

6. New Business:

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding 2021-Establish Public Hearing Date:

Need to have a motion to set up a public hearing for the February 10, 2021 meeting. Clerk Miller requested Supervisor Scheib-Snyder look into Blessings In A Backpack to see if they can be considered for the CDBG funds as there were 420 students who need the meals on weekends.

Motion by Trustee Noble to set up a public hearing for disbursement of the yearly federal Community Development Block Grant at the February 10, 2021 Rose Township Board meeting. Seconded by Treasurer Gambka.

VOTE: YES: Noble, Walls, Gambka, Miller, Noble, Scheib-Snyder
NO: None

B. North Oakland County Fire Authority (N.O.C.F.A.) Loan Discussion:

Trustee Noble questions the \$25,000 disbursement check to N.O.C.F.A. Says there should be a better accounting of where the money went. Treasurer Gambka explains that when the money first came in it was set up as a loan receivable and showed as being paid back when it came back. Trustee Noble would like all the funds to show in the accounting.

C. Oakland Together COVID Support Fund Reimbursements:

Clerk Miller discusses the reimbursable election expenses. Supervisor Scheib-Snider discusses PPE, office cleaning and Supervisor reimbursed pay.

D. Proposed North Oakland Fire Authority Article of Incorporation/Minutes:

Supervisor Scheib-Snider states she has been on the Board and N.O.C.F.A. as a Trustee, serving the last term as a N.O.C.F.A. representative, just being reappointed by Rose Township Board, and former employee of N.O.C.F.A. She comments Clerk Winchester of Holly Township states the N.O.C.F.A. Attorney suggests that former N.O.C.F.A. employees should not be on the N.O.C.F.A. Board. Supervisor Scheib-Snider also sought a legal opinion. She was told she would be grandfathered in. She states there was a “meeting before the meeting” with Kullis, Winchester and Chief Lintz for which the rest of the Board was not informed of, the discussion of the “meeting” was not put on the agenda, there was no notice to rescind any of the six (6) motions and there was no vote, which is what you have to do to rescind a motion. She has attached portions of the April 18, 2019, January 21, 2020, February 18, 2020 N.O.C.F.A. Meeting Minutes and the January 8, 2020 Rose Township Board Meeting Minutes so everyone can make an informed decision. Supervisor Scheib-Snider feels she is being singled out. She contacted 15 or more past N.O.C.F.A. employees to find out why they left. She no longer works for N.O.C.F.A. because of personal reasons.

Trustee Noble objects to another Township making comments at our Board Meeting and suggests it would be advantageous for Holly Township and Rose Township Boards to meet.

Clerk Miller agrees that both Boards need to meet before any further discussion.

Treasurer Gambka states that N.O.C.F.A. would give the Rose Township Residents a special tax increase. He also agrees the two Boards should meet.

Trustee Walls also agrees the two Boards should meet. States that we should only be paying for our own calls, rather than Holly Township’s calls also.

Motion by Clerk Miller to have the two boards meet. Seconded by Trustee Walls.

VOTE: **YES:** Walls, Gambka, Miller, Scheib-Snider
 NO: None
 ABSENT: Noble

Motion by Supervisor Scheib-Snider to revisit the motion to have the two boards meet once Trustee Noble gets back on the internet. Seconded by Trustee Walls.

VOTE: **YES:** Gambka, Miller, Walls, Scheib-Snider
 NO: None
 ABSENT: Noble

Motion by Clerk Miller to have the two boards meet. Seconded by Trustee Walls. All said Aye.

VOTE: **YES:** Walls, Gambka, Miller, Noble, Scheib-Snider
 NO: None

E. North Oakland Household Hazardous Waste Consortium Agreement:

Supervisor Scheib-Snider says No-Haz had the highest attendance ever. 64% were first time users, 46% brought electronic waste. Due to COVID-19, we only had two (2) of the five (5) No-Haz dates but looking to have four (4) in 2021. Supervisor Scheib-Snider needs to sign the contract.

Motion by Trustee Noble to authorize Supervisor Scheib-Snider to act as our representative and authorize expenses for the No-Haz operation. Seconded by Trustee Walls.

VOTE: **YES:** Miller, Noble, Walls, Gambka, Scheib-Snider
 NO: None

F. State of Michigan COVID-19 Restrictions Discussion:

Discussed having our meeting virtually as long as we can.

G. Office Support Staff:

Office of the Supervisor has been very busy dealing with COVID-19 and would like more support staff to help her with office work.

Motion by Clerk Miller to hire a part-time Rose Township resident from Holly High School or local college student to work the hours for the Supervisor at a rate of \$15 per hour until the \$14,854 is expended. No Second.

Supervisor Scheib-Snider says she should get to hire her assistant.

Trustee Walls states Supervisor Scheib-Snider should be able to hire whomever she wants to assist her.

Trustee Noble states in past administrations Clerk's office support helped all departments.

Motion by Supervisor Scheib-Snider to hire support staff as needed **at \$25 per hour**, not to exceed the amount she was reimbursed for COVID administration reimbursement. Seconded by Trustee Walls.

VOTE: **YES:** Gambka, Noble, Walls, Scheib-Snider
 NO: Miller

H. Retirement Trust Fund Reimbursement Act:

Trustee Noble discussed the Fund for retired employees and that it is accumulating monies and has had no draw on it. We are paying retirement out of the general fund. He would like a memorandum to change from general fund to being paid out of this trust fund.

Treasurer Gambka discussed with auditor Rana Emmons that it is not really a retirement fund. Michigan State finally acknowledges it is not a retirement fund and now Rose Township can do as they please with the funds, which are currently in a mutual fund. He suggests a ~~vote~~ **zoom format** to have Rana Emmons discuss it with the Board.

7. Announcements:

- A. **Planning Commission Meeting:** February 4, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.
- B. **Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting:** February 2, 2021@ 7:00 p.m.
- C. **N.O.C.F.A. Board Meeting:** January 19, 2021 @ 3:00pm at Rose Township Offices.
- D. **Assessing Office:** M-F, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 248-858-2179, doyler@oakgov.com
- E. **Township Board Regular Meeting:** February 10, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

8. Miscellaneous Reports:

- A. **N.O.C.F.A.:** Audit information received at last meeting. Davisburg Road culvert replaced and installed a new dry-hydrant and they can now pump over 500 gallons per minute.
- B. **Planning Commission:** Trustee Noble states there will be another rezoning issue and future clarification of the commercial land at Hickory Ridge and Rose Center Road intersection. The Master Plan appendix needs redevelopment.
- C. **HAYA:** Trustee Walls states they had a good year. Items were ordered online and families picked them up.
- D. **Cemetery Committee:** Clerk Miller states they have been re-drafting a new cemetery mowing contract and RFP, and requests it be put on the February 10, 2021 meeting agenda. Committee has designed signs and getting prices to discuss at next meeting.
- E. **Zoning Board of Appeals:** Treasurer Gambka states the resident was trying to assert his rights (to build a garage) and the Board turned him down.
- F. **Parks and Recreation:** None
- G. **Heritage Committee:** Supervisor Scheib-Snider states they are working on virtual educational videos.
- H. **Supervisor Report:** Road Commission has been trimming trees on Davisburg Road and Milford Road.

9. Brief Public Comments: (limit comments to 3 minutes)

- A. **Linda Dagenhardt:** Asked for a breakout of the Cemetery Perpetual Fund last month but hasn't seen it on the monthly report yet. Fish Lake Road at the Cemetery needs to be repaired. Supervisor Scheib-Snider had gravel added, but it still needs more. Suggesting in-person meetings start up again. Suggests residents listen to the N.O.C.F.A. meeting, which is on the Rose Township website. States there is a Rose Township forum at the N.O.C.F.A. meeting because Supervisor Scheib-Snider, Treasurer Gambka and Trustee Walls are all on the Rose Township Board and participate in the N.O.C.F.A. meeting.

- B. Jim Holton:** Thanks Trustee Noble for Planning Board Meeting info. Disappointed in Township behavior. Has concerns about speed limit and safety. He would like to see internet provided for his street and thanks Supervisor Scheib-Snider for working on the issue. States the information is not clear on how to attend the virtual meetings. Discusses concerns of people entering parks illegally in the late hours of the night. Spoke with someone to create a committee to maintain the parks-states his wife would like to help clean up the parks.
- C. Julius Stern:** States this meeting was an example of how things are done with the Township. Discusses the general fund and N.O.C.F.A. fund. Discusses not having bids for gutters or sanitizing. States the gutters were over \$2,000 so Supervisor Scheib-Snider got permission from Treasurer Gambka to approve the extra funds, which is not the correct way to do it.
- D. David:** Reiterates comments about no internet. Complains about cars parking in parks at late hours.
- E. Peter Stouffer:** Concerned about citizens and alliances with Board Members and slander. States the work the Board and N.O.C.F.A has done is outstanding. Taxing Authority isn't about the distribution of funds, but having an accountable government. He does not support having another governmental body that would not be accountable. Complains about Rose and Holly Township Boards meeting. He states he is the one that requested the N.O.C.F.A. by-laws be cleaned up. He has no desire to "break away" from the Board and thinks it should remain intact. States Clerk Miller's comments are inappropriate and he will do something about it. He is proud of the work that he and the N.O.C.F.A. Board have done.

10. Adjournment: 8:40pm



Debbie Miller, MMC, MIPMC II
Rose Township Clerk

Approved/Corrected