

**REGULAR MEETING  
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
March 21, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Columbia Township Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 8500 Jefferson Rd., Brooklyn, MI 49230.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Elrod called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** PRESENT: Deland, Reynolds, Calhoun, Marsh, Tackett, Beamish and Elrod.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was public comment from David VanHoof, Joe Dunigan and residents Mike Raczkowski and Del Anteau.

Supervisor Elrod asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

A motion was made by Clerk Marsh to add an immediate invoice from the Village of Brooklyn in the amount \$12,026.50, which is owed due to sewer work. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Reynolds to move the Police and Fire reports to the Consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Trustee Reynolds. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Clerk Marsh to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beamish. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:** Motion to approve accounts payables in the amount of \$699,869.19 was made by Trustee Tackett. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT:** Motion by Trustee Tackett was seconded by Trustee Deland to receive and file the Controller's report. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Moved to the Consent agenda.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Moved to the Consent agenda.

**SEWER REPORT:** Motion by Trustee Deland was seconded by Trustee Beamish to receive and file the sewer report.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** There was discussion on the following items; Township Attorney Hilderley along with the attorney appointed by our insurance carrier requested that the Board go into closed session, to consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body. A motion was made by Clerk Marsh to go into closed session at 7:36pm. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. On a role call vote: Ayes – Beamish, Tackett, Marsh, Calhoun, Reynolds, Deland and Elrod. Motion carried. The Board of Trustees went into closed session. A motion was made by Clerk Marsh to return from closed session at 8:09 pm. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. On a role call vote: Ayes – Deland, Reynolds, Calhoun, Marsh, Tackett, and Elrod. Motion carried. There was also discussion as a result

of the request by Supervisor Elrod to refund \$37,514.32 to the effected commercial users. Supervisor Elrod is to provide more information as to how this can be done and the legal ramifications and effects of such a proposal. The Board also discussed a request from the facilities committee to remodel the front office counter area. The facilities will prepare an RFP for the Board to consider at the April meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Action was taken on the following items. A motion was made by Trustee Beamish to approve the revised Investment Policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to approve the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to address the staffing needs in the Township Fire Department and Appoint Assistant Chief Scott Cota as the new Fire Chief with the listed process. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee Beamish to adopt the Millage renewal resolution for the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Trustee Deland. On a role call vote. Ayes – Tackett, Beamish, Marsh, Calhoun, Reynolds, Deland and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. A motion was made by Trustee Reynolds to adopt the Millage renewal resolution for the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. On a role call vote. Ayes – Reynolds, Deland, Calhoun, Marsh, Tackett, Beamish and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to approve the placement of an advertisement seeking applicants for a part time customer service / clerical position. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all, except Beamish, Tackett and Deland. Motion carried. A motion was made by Treasurer Calhoun to adopt a resolution to set sewer rates and charges for the public sewer system. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tackett. On a role call vote. Ayes – Calhoun, Beamish, Tackett, Marsh, Reynolds, Deland and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was additional public comment from Matt Schepeler.

There was final Board comment, by Trustee Deland, Clerk Marsh, Treasurer Calhoun, Supervisor Elrod and Trustee Tackett.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Clerk Marsh, seconded by Trustee Tackett. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Marsh, Clerk  
Columbia Township