

**REGULAR MEETING
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 15, 2013
7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Columbia Township Board of Trustees was held on Monday, July 15, 2013 at 8500 Jefferson Rd., Brooklyn, MI 49230.

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Elrod called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supervisor Elrod.

Invocation was given by Supervisor Elrod.

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

A report from the Jackson County Board of Commissioners was given by Commissioner Phil Duckham.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was public comment by resident Del Anteau.

Supervisor Elrod asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Trustee Reynolds motioned to add his concerns regarding general maintenance of Township Buildings as discussion item 10b, which was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion carried. Treasurer Calhoun motioned to add authorization for our attorney to research the matter involving the failure to make the Vineyard Lake Bond payment, which was seconded by Clerk Marsh. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion by Beamish to approve the agenda with the changes listed above was seconded by Clerk Marsh. Ayes all. Motion carried. Agenda adopted. A motion by Clerk Marsh to approve the Consent Agenda was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Motion to approve accounts payables in the amount of \$239,843.03 was made by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Clerk Marsh was seconded by Trustee Reynolds to receive and file the Treasurer's report. Ayes all. Motion carried.

SEWER REPORT: Motion by Treasurer Calhoun was seconded by Trustee Beamish to receive and file the Sewer report. Ayes all. Motion carried.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Motion by Treasurer Calhoun was seconded by Trustee Reynolds to receive and file the report from the Controller. Ayes all. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Motion by Trustee Beamish was seconded by Trustee Deland to receive and file the report from the Fire Department. Ayes all. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Beamish to receive and file the report from the Police Department. Ayes all. Motion carried.

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Motion by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Trustee Deland to receive and file the report from the Assessing Department. Ayes all – Except Marsh. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: There was further discussion on the Township Policy and Procedure manual and Highlighted changes. Treasurer Calhoun suggested a special meeting to discuss in depth. There was also general discussion regarding the maintenance of Township properties and buildings to address some concerns from Trustee Reynolds.

ACTION ITEMS: Action was taken on the following items. A motion was made by Trustee Reynolds to adopt a Resolution to not accelerate the Summer Tax Collection which was seconded by Treasurer Calhoun. On a roll call vote. Ayes – Beamish, Marsh, Calhoun, Reynolds and Elrod. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. A motion was made by Trustee Beamish and seconded by Treasurer Calhoun to approve the Police Chief's recommendation and request for Taser Equipment purchase. Ayes all. Motion carried. A motion by Treasurer Calhoun to go into closed session with Township Attorney Eric White to discuss litigation regarding Hewitt Court and the selection of Mediation representatives for ongoing litigation with Six Brother, LLC. The motion to go into closed session was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. On a roll call vote: Ayes – Reynolds, Calhoun, Marsh and Elrod. Nays – Beamish. Motion carried. Board of Trustees went into closed session at 8:22pm. At 8:45pm Treasurer Calhoun made a motion to return from closed session, which was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. On a roll call vote. Ayes – Beamish, Marsh, Calhoun, Reynolds and Elrod. Motion carried. Regular session continued. Treasurer Calhoun made a motion to authorize Township attorney Eric White to handle the Hewitt Court concerns and to act as the mediation representative on the litigation with Six Brothers, LLC. Treasurer Calhoun's motion was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all. Motion carried. Instead of conducting an evaluation of Assessor Karl Schmidt, Supervisor Elrod announced the resignation of Mr. Schmidt with an effective date of July 17, 2013. A motion was made by Clerk Marsh and seconded by Trustee Reynolds to finish the payroll and benefit cycle for Karl Schmidt until July 30, 2013 as he had committed to complete any work necessary until then so that Assessing concerns were being covered. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. A motion by Treasurer Calhoun to authorize our sewer attorney to pursue restitution for the misfeasance of the bond money was seconded by Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There was further public comment by resident Ray Kuzminski.

There was final Board comment from Treasurer Calhoun, Clerk Marsh and Supervisor Elrod.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Reynolds, seconded by Clerk Marsh. Ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Marsh, Clerk
Columbia Township