

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**August 17, 2009**  
**7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Columbia Township Board of Trustees was held on Monday, August 17, 2009 at 8500 Jefferson Rd., Brooklyn, MI 49230.

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

**ROLL CALL:** PRESENT: Raczkowski, Deland, Calhoun, Elrod, Marsh, Reynolds, Beamish

County Commissioner Earl Poleski gave an overview from the County.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was no public comment.

Supervisor Elrod stated the agenda was before us and asked if there were any changes. The fire report was moved to the Consent Agenda. Trustee Raczkowski asked that a revised schedule for receiving the board packets be added as discussion item 9e. Trustee Raczkowski also asked that the scheduling of special meetings at 7pm be added as discussion item 9f. Motion to approve the agenda with the preceding changes by Calhoun, seconded by Marsh.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion to approve consent agenda by Reynolds, seconded by Beamish. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:** Motion to approve accounts payable by Beamish, seconded by Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Moved to the Consent Agenda

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

**ASSESSORS REPORT:** On the consent agenda.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** On the consent agenda.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** Discussion was heard on the following items; the status of an overpayment to Leoni Township from the sewer fund. A green initiative with possible federal grants or low interest loans was mentioned, would need more research. A meeting on the joint Agricultural Zone with Liberty Township will be on Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Raczkowski proposed a resolution regarding the property at Golfview; the matter was dropped after Supervisor Elrod indicated that the Bank is willing to clean up the property and resolve the situation if the LCPOA would waive their Lien for back dues. Trustee Raczkowski requested that the Board receive their board packets 7 operating days before the monthly meeting, it was decided that we would try to have the e packets available by the Tuesday before the meeting when possible. Trustee Raczkowski also requested that whenever there is a need to call a special meeting that it be scheduled at 7p.m. to mirror the regular monthly meetings, it was decided that the Supervisor would use his discretion to call a meeting when he believed that the majority of members were available.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Motion by Calhoun to waive the Township's First Right of Refusal regarding property at Lake Columbia. Motion by Raczkowski to lower the proposed increase in compensation for the new Controller's position from \$7,000 to \$5,000, seconded by Beamish. On a roll call vote: Beamish, Raczkowski – Ayes. Reynolds, Marsh, Calhoun, Deland, Elrod – Nays. Motion failed. Motion by Reynolds to promote Heather McCutcheon to the salaried position of Controller effective immediately at the yearly set amount of \$30,000 knowing that the \$7,000 would be coming from the sewer funds, seconded by Beamish. On a Roll call vote: Marsh, Reynolds, Beamish, Deland, Calhoun, and Elrod – Ayes. Raczkowski – Nay. Motion Carried. Trustee Raczkowski offered an amendment to the previous motion to add the IT responsibilities to the higher level of compensation for Controller, seconded by Beamish. On a roll call vote: Raczkowski – Aye. Deland, Calhoun, Marsh, Reynolds, Beamish, Elrod – Nays. Amendment failed. Motion by Calhoun, seconded by Beamish to rescind \$50 permit fee for re-roof where there are no structural or pitch change. Motion rescinded before vote. Motion by Marsh to table the Roofing Permit Directive until this matter can be reviewed by legal counsel as to what is the lesser burden on residents without incurring repercussions from the State of Michigan, seconded by Beamish. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no further public comments.

**FINAL BOARD COMMENT:** Trustee Reynolds indicated that she liked the new shirts with logos. Treasurer Calhoun indicated that Columbia Township received recognition for the Disaster Preparedness Plan and that we were the only Township to get this award.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by Marsh, seconded by Deland. Meeting was convened at 8:53 p.m. Motion by Marsh to reconvene the regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Calhoun. Ayes all. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Elrod requested a moment of silence for the recent loss of Steve Holmstrom. He spoke of Steve's dedication to the community. Beamish spoke of his commitment to the fitness center and stated that he would be missed. Calhoun indicated that he would be missed on the planning commission. Resident Roger Gaede said that Steve served well on the ZBA.

Motion to adjourn by Calhoun, seconded by Deland. Ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Marsh, Clerk  
Columbia Township