

# **RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**APRIL 14, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian R. Frederick, Supervisor    David Earley, Treasurer  
Renee R. Herhold, Clerk                                      Susan K. Neuenfeldt, Trustee  
David Knoll, 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 Executive Order 2020-15 issued by Governor Whitmer 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.

**RESOLUTION 04-2020-01:** Motion by David Earley, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to approve Resolution 04-2020-01, establishing temporary rules for remote attendance for the Richland Township Board of Trustees, other Township Boards and Commissions, and members of the public in order to continue to conduct public meetings remotely due to the Covid-19 Coronavirus pandemic, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to approve the Agenda as amended, with the addition of Item I. – DPW Superintendent Resignation. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, 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 special meeting held March 11, 2020 along with the regular meeting/public hearing held March 11, 2020 as written. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick yes; Herhold, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**BILLS:** Motion by David Earley, second by David Knoll, to pay the bills as listed, total of \$506,614.83. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, to approve the reports as listed. Roll call vote Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS -**

**SUMP PUMP DISCONNECT PROGRAM:** Manager Reno provided information, for Board review only, on a proposed sump pump disconnect ordinance.

**NEW BUSINESS -**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICIES:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Susan Neuenfeldt, to approve the amended Fire Department Administrative Policies in Section Four, 04.01 through 04.05, as presented. Roll call vote Frederick yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**PARK IMPROVEMENT MILLAGE:** Motion by David Earley, second by David Knoll, as requested by the Park Board, to place the following Park Improvement Millage proposal on the November 2020 General Election ballot: "Shall the constitutional tax limitation on the amount of taxes upon all taxable property within Richland Township, Saginaw County, be increased by a new additional millage of 0.25 mill (\$0.25 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of ten (10) years, from December 2020 through December 2029, inclusive, for the purpose of maintaining, purchasing equipment and property and improving parks and recreational programs, sites, and facilities within the Township? If this proposal is approved and levied, it is estimated the Township will collect from this levy in the first year (2020) an estimated \$39,530.80". Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**SBA COMMUNICATIONS:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Knoll, to deny the request from SBA Communications for a perpetual easement agreement for the communications tower located on township owned property in the 16000 mile of Gratiot Road, maintaining the current lease agreement with SBA Communications as approved in 2016. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**WATER TOWER REPAIR:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, authorizing Manager Reno to submit request for proposals (RFP) to paint and make repairs to the 250,000-gallon spheroid water tower as outlined in the maintenance inspection report completed by Dixon Engineering, Inc. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**PUMP STATION/FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to seek bids for the design (plans and specifications) for the Gratiot Road sewer pumping station and force main replacement projects in order to be "shovel-ready" should any government stimulus packages be available. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 04-2020-02:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, by Resolution 04-2020-02, due to the State of Emergency with the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, to provide for the continued basic operations of the Township and to suspend late fees and shut-offs for water/sewer service, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**ELECTION EQUIPMENT:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by Renee Herhold, authorizing purchase of a Dominion ImageCast voting tabulator and ballot bin, utilizing a 50/50 Grant through the State of Michigan, in order to establish an Absent Voter Counting Board, approximate township cost of \$3000. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**DPW SUPERINTENDENT RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Knoll, to accept the letter of resignation from Brian Beckrow, with his last day of work set for April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, thanking Brian for his years of service and wishing him well during his retirement. Roll call vote Neuenfeldt, yes; Earley, yes; Knoll, yes; Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes. (5) yeas, (0) nays. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Susan Neuenfeldt, second by David Earley, to adjourn. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned – 7:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Renee R. Herhold      Richland Township Clerk