

# **RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Frederick, Supervisor      David Earley, Treasurer  
Renee R. Herhold, Clerk      Brian Beckrow, Trustee

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Susan Neuenfeldt, Trustee

**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. with the Pledge to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by David Earley, second Renee Herhold, to approve the Agenda as presented. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Motion by David Earley, second by Renee Herhold, to approve and file Minutes from the regular meeting held January 12, 2021 as written. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**BILLS:** Motion by David Earley, second by Brian Beckrow, to pay the bills as listed, total of \$1,125,313.28. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to approve the reports as listed. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT POLICIES:** Motion by Brian Beckrow, second by David Earley, to approve the final amended Fire Department Administrative Policy in Section Four, policy 4.51 as presented, authorizing Chief Scott and Manager Reno to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2021-2022 BUDGET WORKSHOP/PUBLIC HEARING:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Brian Beckrow, to set the 2021-2022 Budget Workshop for Tuesday, March 9th, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. following with the Public Hearing and adoption of the proposed 2021-2022 Budget at 7 P.M. with the regular Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustee meeting. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR:** Motion by David Earley, second by Brian Beckrow, due to the pending retirement of Building Inspector George Kipfmiller, to allow Manager Reno to move forward with placing an advertisement for building inspector in order to start the hiring process. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, authorizing Manager Reno to begin budget adjustments with the final budget amendments in March in order to close the books for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**2021-2022 WAGE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, as recommended by the Wage Committee, to increase wages for the Office Manager (\$.60/hour), Part Time Office Assistant (\$.25/hour,) DPW Supervisor (\$.25/hour), DPW Assistant (\$.25/hour), Supervisor, Treasurer and Clerk (\$150/month as approved in 2021); also, the following established wages - Election Inspectors (\$11.00/hour), Senior Center Director (\$10.25/hour), Trustees (\$80.00/meeting); all wages effective for fiscal year April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 through March 31, 2022. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**LIBRARY CDARS ACCOUNT:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to reinvest for a six-month investment period, the Library CDARS account at Isabella Bank, principal plus interest, total of \$60,197.85, authorizing Treasurer Earley and Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Brian Beckrow, as recommended by Fire Chief Scott, to appoint the following on the Richland Township Fire Department: Lieutenant Corbin Berent to Assistant Chief, Lieutenant Nick Scoles to Captain, Firefighter James Linhart to Lieutenant, Firefighter Patrick Caylor to Lieutenant, and Firefighter Josh Morse to Lieutenant, noting all Lieutenant promotions consist of an 18-month probationary period. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**PART TIME PATROLMAN:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, as recommended by Police Chief Doyle, to offer employment to John Meehleder as a part time Police Officer at the hourly part time pay as established. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**WATER TOWER REPAIR:** Motion by David Earley, second by Brian Beckrow, authorizing Manager Reno to sign the Agreement with Spicer Engineering to provide professional engineering services related to the final design of the painting and repairs to the 250,000-gallon elevated water storage tank, total fee of \$9,800. Roll call vote Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 02-2021-01, MORATORIUM SOLAR FARMS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to adopt by Resolution 02-2021-01, instituting an emergency moratorium on the development of commercial solar energy farms for up to a six-month period to allow the Planning Commission to put an Ordinance in place, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll vote Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT FLOORING:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, authorizing the Manager to approve the most economical bid, capping it at \$3300, to remove the asbestos tile flooring in the Fire Department. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**SAGA REPRESENTATIVES:** Motion by David Earley, second by Renee Herhold, to appoint Manager Annamarie Reno and Trustee Brian Beckrow as Richland Township representatives to the Saginaw Area GIS Authority (SAGA). Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**THOMAS TOWNSHIP WATER HOOK-UP:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Brian Beckrow, allowing the property located at 2575 North Orr Road, parcel number 22-12-

2-13-1003-001, to contract with Thomas Township to provide water service to their property. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 02-2021-02, MORATORIUM STORAGE CONTAINERS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by Brian Beckrow, to adopt by Resolution 02-2021-02, as requested by the Richland Township Planning Commission, placing a moratorium, not to exceed six months, on the placement and approval of storage containers in Richland Township, authorizing Clerk Herhold to sign on behalf of Richland Township. Roll call vote Earley, yes; Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Motion by Renee Herhold, second by David Earley, to receive and file all communications. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Motion by Brian Beckrow, second by David Earley, to enter into closed session to discuss a possible separation agreement for a retired employee. Roll call vote Beckrow, yes; Herhold, yes; Frederick, yes; Earley, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried. 7:45 P.M.

**RECONVENE:** Motion by Brian Beckrow, second by David Earley, to reconvene from the closed session. Unanimous vote. Motion carried. 8:14 P.M.

Motion by Brian Beckrow, second by David Earley, based on discussion in the closed session, to take no action regarding a possible separation agreement for a retired employee. Roll call vote Frederick, yes; Herhold, yes; Beckrow, yes; Earley, yes. (4) Yeas, (1) Absent, (0) Nays. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by David Earley, second by Brian Beckrow, to adjourn. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned – 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Renee R. Herhold Richland Township Clerk