NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
Township Board Special Meeting
Minutes
March 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 P.M. by Supervisor Chockley at 8350 Main Street.

PLEDGE/INVOCATION

Supervisor Chockley provided an invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Marlene Chockley, Supervisor	Present
Kathleen Manley, Clerk	Present
Lenore Zelenock, Treasurer	Present
Tawn Beliger	Present
Janet Chick, Trustee	Present
Wayne Dockett, Trustee	Present
Jacki Otto, Trustee	Present (arrived at 6:35 P.M.)

Also present:
Township Attorney Brad Maynes
Township Bond Counsel Steve Mann, Miller Canfield
Township Engineer Brian Rubel, Tetra Tech
Recording Secretary Lisa Lemble
Members of the community

ADOPT AGENDA

▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Manley supported, that the agenda be adopted as presented.
Motion carried 6—0 on a voice vote.

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None present.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dockett said Darlene Curtis had been promised a sign on her property and asked that this be provided.

CLOSED SESSION

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, that the Board go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.265(8)(d), (e), and (h) to receive an attorney-client privileged communication, to discuss pending litigation and to consider the purchase of real property. **Motion carried 6—0 on a roll call vote.**

[Otto arrived].

▶ **Motion:** Otto moved, Beliger supported, that the Board return to open session.
Motion carried 7—0 on a roll call vote.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF CLOSED SESSION

▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Otto supported, that an offer of $17,000 be made to Mr. Stoyanovich and an offer of $16,500 be made to Mr. Westrate for easements to complete Phase III of the Barker Road Non-Motorized Path.

Board members discussed the pros and cons, including increased construction costs without the easements and objections to paying high prices for the easements.

Motion carried 4—3 on a roll call vote, Dockett, Beliger, and Zelenock, opposed.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Manley supported, that asphalt be used, rather than contract, for Phase III of the Barker Road Non-Motorized Path.

The Board briefly discussed the merits of the two materials.

Motion failed 5—2 on a roll call vote, Chick, Otto, Beliger, Dockett, and Zelenock, opposed.

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Board members addressed comments and answered questions from Adam Olney, 9315 Lakewood Court, Dale Brewer, 11548 East Shore Drive, David Gordon, 5558 Hellner Road, and Udo Huff, 6431 Whitmore Lake Road, about the Barker Road Non-Motorized Path project.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dockett objected to February 28th minutes and a report from the Supervisor not being available in the packet for this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Submitted by Lisa Lemble. Corrections to the originally issued minutes are indicated as follows:
Wording removed is ~~stricken through~~;
Wording added is <u>underlined</u>.

Approved by the Township Board on April 11, 2017.

Kathleen Manley, Clerk

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
Township Board
Minutes
March 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:53 P.M. by Supervisor Chockley at 8350 Main Street.

PLEDGE/INVOCATION

Supervisor Chockley provided a brief invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Marlene Chockley, Supervisor	Present
Kathleen Manley, Clerk	Present
Lenore Zelenock, Treasurer	Present
Tawn Beliger	Present
Janet Chick, Trustee	Present
Wayne Dockett, Trustee	Present
Jacki Otto, Trustee	Present

Also present:
Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Tim Hardesty
Wastewater Treatment Plant System Supervisor Dan Willis
Public Safety Director William Wagner
Township Attorney Brad Maynes
Township Engineer Brian Rubel
Recording Secretary Lisa Lemble
Members of the community

CONSENT AGENDA:

- **Minutes of February 14, 2017**
- **Bills**

Dockett asked that bills be pulled for discussion.

▶ **Motion:** Otto moved, Chick supported, that the minutes of February 14, 2017, be approved as presented.

Beliger asked why the Board did not wait to include Dockett on one vote when he had left the room. Dockett requested a roll call vote.

Motion carried 6—1 on a roll call vote, Dockett opposed.

ADOPT BALANCE OF AGENDA

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Beliger supported, that the balance of the agenda be adopted as presented.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Dale Brewer, 11548 East Shore Drive, Susan Wienckowski and David Gordon, 5558 Hellner Road, commented on the Barker Road Non-Motorized Path project, the value of the Call to the Public, and the hiring of a Township Manager.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members responded to comments from the public, suggested upgrading the meeting room sound system, and suggested that non-grant estimates be prepared for projects being done using grant funding.

REPORTS

Police and Fire. The Board confirmed that the Department should burn and remove the building on the Curtis property. Wagner provided updates on road and bridge closing schedules related to the US-23 construction project.

Wastewater Treatment Plant. No questions.

Senior Center. No questions.

Planning Commission. Did not meet.

Parks and Recreation. Beliger asked several questions.

Financial. Zelenock answered questions about the report.

Supervisor. Dockett and Beliger commented on the tone of the report regarding office staffing and asked about upcoming DDA and Downtown Planning Group meetings.

PRESENTATION

1.
Sewer Service Policy

Brian Rubel of Tetra Tech provided an overview of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) history and service. He noted there are times when the plant struggles, resulting in processes at time being by-passed in violation of the plant permit, and some parts of the system are essentially at capacity. The Board reviewed Rubel's report and discussed what the promised capacity of the plant is, whether to allow connections from parcels that did not originally pay into districts, whether to raise connection fees, the purpose of a storage tank vs. expanding the plant, and commitments to Green Oak Township.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Hardesty said a tank is the most cost effective way to handle wet weather flow and it is needed in his opinion, but since it is not known when development will come it is not as clear when a plant expansion will be needed.

—Chockley called a five minute recess—

AGENDA ITEMS

1.
Fireworks Committee Request

In answer to a question from a member of the fireworks committee Wagner explained the process for getting approval for use of the new community park area for parking and viewing of fireworks and for hanging a banner over Main Street.

2.
Fiber Technologies Request

▶ **Motion:** Chick moved, Otto supported, to approve the request from Fiber Technologies Networks to modify Exhibit A of the Bilateral METRO Act Permit to expand its network. **Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.**

3.
Hiring of Auxiliary Firefighter

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Beliger supported, to hire Fred Anstead as Auxiliary Firefighter contingent upon successful background check and physical.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

4.
Hiring of Controller

Zelenock noted the original candidate recommended for this position has withdrawn his application.

▶ **Motion:** Zelenock moved, Chockley supported, to table the hiring of a Controller.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

5.
Fee Schedule Revision

Chockley noted that the schedule has been updated to reflect the fees being charged by McKenna. It was noted that McKenna's fees are higher than those charged by the previous planning consultant.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, that the fee schedule revision reflecting McKenna Associates contracted rates be adopted as presented.
Dockett requested a roll call vote. Motion carried 5—2 on a voice vote, Dockett and Zelenock opposed.

6.
Emergent Health Partners Dispatch Contract Renewal

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, that the new Fire Department dispatch contract with Emergent Health Partners for a two year contract for a total of $21,835.63 be approved.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

7.
Metro Dispatch Contract Renewal

Wagner explained this represents a 3% increase—the first increase since 2008.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, to amend the Dispatch Services Contract between Washtenaw County and the Northfield Township Police Department dated January 1, 2011, as follows: Amend Article II, the price to extend the contract as follows: Beginning July 1, 2017, upon the above Dispatch service and submission of invoices Northfield Township will pay the Sheriff an amount not to exceed $65,247.00 per year. Price will be set until June 30, 2021. **Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.**

8.
Personnel Committee Update

Otto reported she prepared an annotated proposed update of the Township Manager job description. Chockley said she passed out descriptions and is getting feedback, and the Township Manager position has been posted.

9.
POAM Letter of Understanding Regarding Part-Time Officer Starting Salaries

Wagner explained that experienced, retired officers are often available, but are not willing to work at the usual starting salary for part-time officers, so he is working with the union on an agreement to allow latitude in pay based on experience.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, to approve the attached letter of understanding to the current POAM contract.

Dockett objected to the money being spent to pay an officer who has been placed on leave.

Dockett requested a roll call vote. Motion carried 6—1 on a roll call vote, Dockett opposed.

10.
Police Officer Change of Status

Wagner said this change will allow Officer Johnston to work more hours temporarily in the absence of an employee who has been placed on leave.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, to approve the letter of understanding to promote Officer Johnston to full-time.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

11.
Bills

Dockett asked about a charge for removal of a tree authorized by the Parks and Recreation Committee without getting bids. Beliger asked about a payment of FICA for the Township Manager.

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Otto supported, that the bills be approved. **Dockett called for a roll call vote. Motion carried 6—1 on a voice vote, Dockett opposed.**

SECOND CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Adam Olney, 9315 Lakewood Court, Udo Huff, 6431 Whitmore Lake Road, David Gordon, and Chuck Steuer, 760 Six Miler Road, commented on the sewer service presentation, fireworks permits, the Barker Road non-motorized pathway, the officer on unpaid leave, the hiring of a Township Manager, and fees for preparation of a plan for the new community park.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members announced a March 25th meeting by State Rep. Donna Lasinski and a Planning Commission and a March 30th ZBA training They made comments about the Tetra Tech sewer system presentation, the hiring of a Township Manager, preparation for meetings by Board members, and the officer who has been on leave, thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting, and asked for speakers at meetings to be kinder to each other.

Tim Hardesty noted this will be his last Board meeting before retiring. He said he and his staff have been treated extremely well. The Board thanked him for his excellent work and gave him a round of applause.

ADJOURNMENT

▶ **Motion:** Chockley moved, Chick supported, that the meeting be adjourned.
Motion carried 7—0 on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34.M.

Submitted by Lisa Lemble.

Corrections to the originally issued minutes are indicated as follows:
Wording removed is ~~stricken through~~;
Wording added is <u>underlined</u>.

Approved by the Township Board on April 14, 2017.

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Kathleen Manley, Clerk

Official minutes of all meetings are available on the Township's website at
http://www.twp-northfield.org/government/township_board_of_trustees/