

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY  
OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP  
OCTOBER 28, 2013

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington Township met in the Council Chambers of City Hall Building at 6:33 P.M. on October 28, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Schmidt and the following were present:

Trustees: Scott Black, Jim Fruin, Jennifer McDade, Rob Fazzini, David Sage, Judy Stearns, Karen Schmidt, Kevin Lower and Mboka Mwilambwe.

Trustee absent: Tari Renner.

Also present were Staff: Tracey Covert, Town Clerk, Deborah Skillrud, Township Supervisor, Mike Ireland, Township Assessor and Steve Scudder, Township Assessor Elect.

The Minutes of September 23, 2013 Regular Session were presented.

Motion by Trustee Sage, seconded by Trustee Lower that the reading of the Minutes September 23, 2013 Regular Session meeting be dispensed with and approved as presented.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

The audit for the General Town Fund and the General Assistance Fund and Exhibit A. Request for Payment were presented for September 2013.

Motion by Trustee Sage, seconded by Trustee Lower, to approve the audits as presented and place on file.

Ayes: Trustees Black, McDade, Sage, Fazzini, Fruin, Stearns, Schmidt, Lower, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The anticipated expenditures were presented.

Motion by Trustee Sage, seconded by Trustee Lower, to approve the anticipated expenditures.

Ayes: Trustees Black, Sage, Fruin, McDade, Fazzini, Stearns, Schmidt, Lower, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Schmidt introduced the Proposed Tax Levy for Tax Year 2013 for Fiscal Year 2015.

Deborah Skillrud, Township Supervisor, addressed the Board. She thanked Cathy Hadden, Comptroller, for her efforts. She noted that the Proposed Tax Levy was approximately \$300 lower than Property Tax Extension for 2012. Due to Township staff's efforts, expenses had been streamlined. There were a number of changes happening on the medical side of General Assistance. There were a number of unknowns. Ms. Skillrud cited the following: 1.) Affordable Care Act, medical cost were held at a status quo; 2.) low level for the reserve fund, the fund balance had been reduced to five to six (5 – 6) months of expenses; 3.) age of building, at ten (10) years it was in need of repair.

Trustee Schmidt noted that the Township tried to maintain a five to six (5 – 6) month reserve fund. The proposed Tax Levy was \$2,156,550, (Town Fund \$1,081,500, General Assistance (GA) Fund \$568,450 and Cemetery Fund \$506,600).

Ms. Skillrud cited the comfort level for Township staff.

Trustee Sage expressed his appreciation to Township staff. He recognized their proactive thinking about the coming year.

Motion by Trustee Sage, seconded by Trustee Fazzini that the proposed tax levy be adopted as the estimate of \$2,156,550 for the 2013 Tax Levy.

Ayes: Trustees Black, Sage, Fruin, McDade, Fazzini, Stearns, Schmidt, Lower, and Mwilambwe.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Ms. Skillrud informed the Board that she would not be attending the November 25, 2013 Board meeting. She would be on vacation that week.

Ms. Skillrud addressed the Board. She also had prepared a written report. She addressed the workfare program. She provided the following statistics: drug court - two (2) clients enrolled; recovery court - one (1) client enrolled; GED classes - four (4) clients enrolled in classes and two (2) ready for the examination; life skills - five (5) clients enrolled; Skills for Success - seven (7) clients enrolled, graduation is scheduled for November 22, 2013; and workfare placements – ten (10) clients. She added that a former client was a Supervisor at Diversco. Five (5) GA clients were also employed at Diversco.

She also cited the Cemetery Walk. Attendees' numbers were provided: 1,882 students and 1,601 weekend. The event was attended well. She noted that student numbers were down slightly.

Trustee Fruin believed that the Dental Clinic had been held on Saturday, October 26, 2013. Ms. Skillrud stated that 120 individuals were served.

Trustee Fruin addressed assistance to community youth. He suggested that the Township might be the better entity compared to the City. Ms. Skillrud noted the community grant funding was a part of the Township's budget. She cited childcare as an example.

Trustee Fruin recommended that the Township partner with the City regarding the grant funding. Ms. Skillrud expressed her concern that this might impact the tax levy.

Mike Ireland, Township Assessor, addressed the Board. He had prepared a written report. The report addressed the Board of Review appeal process. The appeal deadline was October 21, 2013. He provided the Board with a breakdown of the appeals. The total number was lower than the previous year, 252 versus 408. He directed the Board to the Averages column. Lower numbers were highlighted in red. He cited two (2) new appeal Use Codes: Commercial Development Rate and Industrial. An appeal had been filed in these two (2) Use Codes. He noted that the number of appeals over \$100,000 or greater was higher than last year. These appeals total over \$14 million. These appeals were considered significant. This meant that other taxing bodies have the opportunity to intervene and provide evidence. Appeals were also broken down by school district, (District 87 – 165 and Unit 5 – 87). District 87 was land locked. However the sum of total assessments was almost equal. Hearings before the Board would begin on November 20, 2013. The impact upon the tax base was unknown. Last year, the Board of Review reduced the tax base by \$11.6 million or twenty-two percent (22%). If it took similar action this year, the reduction would be \$7.6 million. Tax base growth would be limited in 2013.

Trustee Schmidt opened the meeting to Public Comment. No one came forward to address the Board.

Motion by Trustee Sage, seconded by Trustee Lower to adjourn. Time: 6:54 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Covert  
Town Clerk