

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY  
OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP  
AUGUST 27, 2012

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington Township met in the Conference Room of City Hall Building at 6:37 P.M. on August 27, 2012.

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

Trustees: Steven Purcell, Jim Fruin, Rob Fazzini, Jennifer McDade, Mboka Mwilambwe, Bernard Anderson, David Sage, Judy Stearns, Karen Schmidt and Steve Stockton.

Also present were Staff: Tracey Covert, Town Clerk, Mike Ireland, Township Assessor and Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor.

The Minutes of July 23, 2012 Regular Session were presented.

Motion by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Purcell that the reading of the Minutes July 23, 2012 Regular Session meeting be dispensed with and approved as presented.

Motion carried.

The audit for the General Town Fund and the General Assistance Fund and Exhibit A. Request for Payment were presented for July 2012.

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

Ayes: Trustees Purcell, McDade, Fazzini, Sage, Mwilambwe, Fruin, Anderson, Stearns, Schmidt and Stockton.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The anticipated expenditures were presented.

Motion by Trustee Schmidt, seconded by Trustee Purcell, to approve the anticipated expenditures.

Ayes: Trustees Purcell, Sage, Fruin, Fazzini, McDade, Mwilambwe, Anderson, Stearns, Schmidt and Stockton.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Stockton introduced Compensation for Township Officials for 2013 – 2017. He added that Trustee Fruin had worked with Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor. Mr. Gibson addressed the Board. He had provided Laurie Wollrab, City of Bloomington's Compensation and Benefits Manager, with salary history information for the Township Supervisor and Assessor dating back to 2001. He reminded the Board that Petitions for these two (2) offices would be available on Tuesday, August 29, 2012. The Board must pass a Compensation Ordinance, (salary, health insurance and retirement), at least 180 days prior to the term of office. The Board's last opportunity to take action on this item would be the Board's October 22, 2012 meeting.

Trustee Fruin noted that Mr. Gibson had alerted the Board's attention to this item. The Board had time to decide. He acknowledged Ms. Wollrab for the Township Salary and Salary Increase Comparative Data report. He recommended that this item be an ongoing process. The City of Bloomington had a Human Resources Department. This City department's staff were professionals who could perform this work.

Trustee Fruin recommended that a form be developed which would list the figures going forward. He did not believe that this was time for business as usual. Some elected officials had seen their salaries frozen. There were like professionals in similar communities. He added that the Supervisor received a stipend from the Scott Commission for acting as the Director of John M. Scott Health Resources Center. The Board needed to make a judgment call as to where these two (2) positions were headed. He would not support the status quo, (a three percent/3% annual increase).

Trustee Stockton noted that the Board could delay making a decision until its October 22, 2012 meeting. The Board needed to provide the public with some indication of where it was headed. He addressed the Assessor's salary and added his concern that no one had shown an interest in this position. He added his willingness to work with Trustee Fruin on this issue.

Trustee Fruin noted that the Board had the current salaries for these two (2) positions. He hoped that local media would report same. Trustee Stockton questioned if Trustee Fruin was recommending no adjustment to these two (2) positions' current salaries.

Trustee Mwilambwe questioned the history of candidates interested in these positions. Trustee Stockton noted that Mike Ireland had served as the Township Assessor since 1980. It appeared that no one was interested in this position at this time. He reminded the Board that Mr. Ireland had announced his retirement. Trustee Fruin expressed his opinion that there had been limited interest in these two (2) positions which resulted in limited competition.

Trustee Mwilambwe noted the qualifications for the position of Township Assessor. This was a specialized position. The Township could face this issue in the future upon another retirement.

Trustee Fazzini recommended that the Township retain a search firm.

Trustee Anderson noted that this elected position held educational requirements. He questioned if the Board had the authority to change this. Mr. Ireland addressed the Commission. The individual must be a resident of the Township and be eligible for office. The Board could appoint an Assessor if the position remained vacant after the election. The Board would enter into a contract with an individual to complete the term of office. If the Board failed to act, then the County Supervisor of Assessments would take action to fill the vacancy. There were no guarantees. The individual needed the combination of technical and political skills. An appointment would be made until the next election.

Trustee Fazzini noted that the Board could take action in the event that there was a vacancy in the position.

Trustee Stockton expressed his opinion that a recommendation needed to be presented to the Board. Trustee Fruin requested input from the Board regarding the salaries for these two (2) positions. He added that the Board needed to move forward.

Trustee Schmidt questioned the process. She expressed interest in what was wanted and deadlines for same.

Trustee Stearns questioned if the Board was intending to vote on line. The Board had been asked to send information to Trustee Fruin. She questioned if either of these actions were proper.

Mike Ireland, Township Assessor, addressed the Board. He had prepared a written report. The 2012 assessments had been completed. He noted that there had been a decrease to the tax base. The net was a \$20 million decrease. He reminded the Board that it took awhile for the assessment cycle to catch up with the real estate market. Adjustments had been made. This meant that the tax base had been reduced by \$35 million. He noted that there had been \$11 million in new construction. This fact helped to offset the reductions. He presented the Board with a simple analysis.

Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor, addressed the Board. A written report had been prepared. He addressed the number of General Assistance (GA) cases for July 2012 which totaled 184. A year ago, (July 2011), there were 188 GA cases. There were forty-nine (49) new cases. The number of GA cases had decreased.

He reviewed the Community Work/Education, (seventy clients performed community service at non-profit agencies in the community; drug court – five clients; and recovery court – two clients). A Skills for Success class started at Heartland Community College on August 24, 2012. There were eleven (11) Township clients enrolled. He noted that six (6) companies were listed as job sites.

He also addressed the Scott Health Resource Program. He noted the various service programs with totals served since May 1, 2012, (Dental Referrals - 127, Medical Doctor Visits - 5, Medical Equipment & Supplies - 17, Prescription Program - 160, Transportation – Maternal/child - 107 and Cancer - 49, and Vision Program). He noted the numbers for the

Vision Program: 170 patients referred and 154 pairs of glasses dispensed. The eye glasses were provided through the collaboration of entities, (public aid, Township, McLean County Health Department, and local optometrists).

He informed the Board that the Annual Audit would be presented at the Board's September 24, 2012 meeting.

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

Motion by Trustee Fazzini, seconded by Trustee McDade to adjourn. Time: 6:58 p.m.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Covert  
Town Clerk