

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY  
OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP  
PUBLIC HEARING  
MARCH 26, 2012

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington Township met in the Conference Room of City Hall Building at 6:16 P.M. on March 26, 2012.

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

Trustees: Jennifer McDade, Karen Schmidt, Steven Purcell, Judy Stearns, Jim Fruin, Mboka Mwilambwe, Rob Fazzini and Stephen Stockton.

Trustees Absent: Bernard Anderson and David Sage.

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

Trustee Stockton opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2012 - 2013 Fiscal Year Budget.

Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor, addressed the Board. The budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013 was the same as the one presented to them in January 2012. He noted that a five (5) year history had also been provided. The proposed budget was slightly lower than the current one.

No one came forward to address the Board.

Trustee Schmidt addressed the big picture. She cited the General Assistance (GA) budget and the changes made in the last two to three (2 – 3) years.

Mr. Gibson cited the increased case load. Medical costs were a challenge. GA staff worked with the medical providers, local hospitals and pharmacists.

Trustee Schmidt cited job placement successes. Mr. Gibson acknowledged the efforts of a part time GA staff member who was dedicated to this task. He noted that forty percent (40%) of all GA clients were over the age of fifty (50). This was a difficult population to place into the work force.

Trustee Mwilambwe questioned controlling medical costs. He cited an agreement which specified generic drugs only. Mr. Gibson noted that the Township followed Medicaid price per state law. GA staff encouraged physicians and/or pharmacist to look for less expensive substitute drugs. He acknowledged the efforts of Gwen Donnelly, Medical Case Worker.

Trustee Fruin questioned the Township's relationship with the Community Health Care Clinic. Mr. Gibson noted the working relationship between the two (2) entities. GA clients were

insured by the Township. There were GA clients who refused the Township's medical benefits. He believed that major changes were coming in this area.

Trustee Fruin cited the new Emmanuel Clinic located in the former St. Joseph's hospital building located at 502 S. Morris Ave. He questioned if the Township coordinated services with this entity. Mr. Gibson added that Chestnut Health Services had also opened a Medicaid Clinic.

Trustee Stockton closed the Public Hearing. Time 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Covert  
Township Clerk

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY  
OF BLOOMINGTON TOWNSHIP  
MARCH 26, 2012

The Board of Trustees for the Town of the City of Bloomington Township met in the Conference Room of City Hall Building at 6:33 P.M. on March 26, 2012.

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

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

Trustees absent: Bernard Anderson and David Sage.

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

The Minutes of February 27, 2012 Regular Session were presented.

Motion by Trustee Schmidt, seconded by Trustee Purcell that the reading of the Minutes February 27, 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 January 2012.

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

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

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The anticipated expenditures were presented. An Addendum had been provided for items received after Wednesday, March 21, 2012.

Motion by Trustee Mwilambwe, seconded by Trustee Fazzini, to approve the anticipated expenditures.

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

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor, presented the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 – 2013 Budget Ordinance.

Trustee Stockton noted that the Public Hearing had been held.

Motion by Trustee Fazzini, seconded by Trustee Purcell to approve the FY 2012 – 2013 Budget and the Ordinance be passed.

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

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Mr. Gibson presented the proposed Agenda for the Annual Town Meeting which would be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Trustee Stockton encouraged the Board to attend this meeting. Trustee Purcell noted that the meeting time was 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Purcell, seconded by Trustee Schmidt to approve the Agenda for the Annual Town Meeting on April 10, 2012.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Mike Ireland, Township Assessor, addressed the Board. He had prepared a written report. His report addressed real estate market data. He addressed foreclosures. His office started tracking Lis Pendens notices in the middle of 2008. A Lis Pendens is a notice of an intent to foreclose. It was a warning. Since 2009, there had been a significant drop in the number of same. His office received this information weekly. The decline had been approximately ten percent (10%). He also addressed Foreclosures by Deed or Court Order. The numbers had decline in 2011. He cautioned that these figures did not include short sales and/or REO (Real Estate Owned by banks) sales. He noted that approximately one third of all Lis Pendens result in foreclosure.

Mr. Ireland addressed Lis Pendens to date (March 19, 2012) for 2012. Year to date figures had exceeded 2011. He noted that the figures for 2011 were twelve percent (12%) lower than 2010. He also addressed Foreclosures by Deed or Court Order to date (March 19, 2012). Foreclosures had been declining since 2009. There did not appear to be pattern between these two (2) activities.

Mr. Ireland addressed the impact of foreclosure on surrounding properties. Short sales and REO bank sales must comprise twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the transactions in a specific geographic market to have a major impact on the assessment process. In 2011, the total number of transactions was 1,332. Short sales and REO sales combined only accounted for five percent (5%) of this total. The twenty-five percent (25%) level had not been met anywhere in the City.

Finally, Mr. Ireland addressed days on the market. There had been market improvement. He compared 2011 to 2012. The average days and median days had decline, (159 versus 151 and 122 versus 114). In addition sales numbers were up: 111 versus 130. He cited a report from the National Association of Home Builders which commented on the fact that market values and assessments were declining but without a decline in property taxes. He planned to review this report thoroughly and address it in his annual report.

Trustee Fazzini had attended an EDC (Economic Development Council) luncheon. Ten (10) years of data was cited which documented that the housing market was improving. He believed that the City will see an increase in Lis Pendens and Foreclosures next year. Mr. Ireland noted that there had been a slight increase in 2012. He planned to watch these two (2) items.

Joe Gibson, Township Supervisor, addressed the Board. A written report had been prepared. He addressed the number of General Assistance (GA) cases for February 2012 which totaled 187. A year ago, (February 2011), there were 176 GA cases. There were forty (40) new cases. He added that there had been 290 more cases this year over 2011. He noted GA client demographics. Forty percent (40%) were over the age of fifty (50).

He reviewed the Community Work/Education, (fifty-seven clients performed community service at non-profit agencies in the community; drug court – three clients; GED classes – nine clients, two will take the test on April 11, 2012; fourteen clients would graduate from Heartland Community College's Skills for Success –class on March 30, 2012. This had been a twelve week class). 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, 2011 (Dental Referrals - 516, Medical Doctor Visits - 48, Lab/Diagnostic - 4, Medical Equipment & Supplies - 95, Prescription Program - 284, Transportation – Maternal/child - 517 and Cancer - 469, and Vision Program). He noted the numbers for the Vision Program: 1,010 patients referred and 672 pairs of glasses dispensed. The eye glasses were provided through the collaboration of entities, (public aid, Township, McLean County Health Department and local optometrists).

Mr. Gibson noted upcoming dates: Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2012; Scott Volunteer Lunch on Friday, April 13, 2012, and Dental Clinic on Saturday, April 14, 2012.

Trustee Schmidt questioned the role of the township to address homeless teenagers. Mr. Gibson stated that typically Project Oz was the appropriate agency. A teenager must be declared to be an adult to qualify for General Assistance.

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

Motion by Trustee Purcell, seconded by Trustee Schmidt to adjourn. Time: 6:55 p.m.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Covert  
Town Clerk