

**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.

**Northfield Township Board Meeting  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Public Safety Building; 8350 Main Street  
March 14, 2017**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Board members announced a March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting by State Rep. Donna Lasinski and a Planning Commission and a March 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Submitted by Lisa Lemble.

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

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/](http://www.twp-northfield.org/government/township_board_of_trustees/)