

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING**  
**JANUARY 8, 2008**  
**7:30 P.M. GOLDEN TOWNSHIP HALL**

Meeting called to order at 7:36 P.M. Members present: Don Walsworth, Carl Fuehring, Kevin Ackley, Connie Cargill, and Laurie Kolosci.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Minutes from the December 11, 2007 meeting were read. Don Walsworth wanted clarification on the wording for the cost of software to be purchased.

Motion was made by Fuehring, support by Cargill to accept the minutes with clarification. All yes, motion carried.

Correspondence was presented from the Mears Post Office declining our offer of space for rent due to their recently signing a five year lease at their current location. A letter was received from Hart Police Department asking for support for the DARE/TEEM program. This was determined to be an illegal expenditure for the Township. Laurie will write a letter to the Police Dept. explaining this.

The Treasurers report was given with the balances as follows: \$92,883.77 in General Fund, and \$44,612.11 in Road Fund.

Motion was made by Ackley, support by Fuehring to accept the Treasurer's report. All yes, motion carried.

Bills were presented for approval:

Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to approve check numbers 12436 through 12469 totaling \$54,412.01. Roll call vote Walsworth, Fuehring, Ackley, Cargill, Kolosci all yes, motion carried.

Zoning report was given by Jake Whelpley. A Zoning Permit history was given from 1998 to 2007. See attached. There are to be some zoning and planning seminars to be held in Scottville in the near future. Jake will contact Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission members to see who would be interested in attending. He is still working on the Spence issue in Juniper Beach. To date he has been unable to contact the owner for information needed to proceed. Jake has looked into creating a blight and junk ordinance to be implemented to support the Fire Resolution passed last month. He came up with a tentative ordinance and has sent it to Board members to look over. Board members will look this over and get back to him on wording, etc. Jake will make this tentative ordinance available to the public for their input.

John Foss from the Oceana County Road Commission explained the work that needs to be done on 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue. From the point where the bike path crosses north for approx. 800 feet needs to be regraded and a raised with a slope so that drainage will be increased.

Trees in this area will probably have to be removed so that the road can be rebuilt. In sag at 5<sup>th</sup> Street by bakery, trees must go to create better drainage at this point.

Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to approve Oceana County Road Commission to cut the trees needed. The Oceana County Road Commission will then present bids for the remainder of the work to be done. OCRC will contact the property owners along this area of 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. to let them know what is to be done. Roll call vote Walsworth, Fuehring, Ackley, Cargill, Kolosci all yes, motion carried.

Motion by Cargill, support by Fuehring to approve work order to pulverize and pave 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Taylor Rd. and add a 10 ft bike path on west side of 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. Roll call vote Walsworth, Fuehring, Ackley, Cargill, Kolosci all yes, motion carried.

Motion by Fuehring, support by Cargill to approve work order from Oceana County Road Commission for seal coating and striping of up to 10 miles +/- 10% of road at approximately \$300.00 per mile. Roll call vote Walsworth, Fuehring, Ackley, Cargill, Kolosci all yes, motion carried.

A resolution to set the 2008 meeting dates for the Golden Township Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals was presented. The Golden Township Board will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., except in February when they will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, Planning Commission will meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30p.m. , and Zoning Board of Appeals will meet as needed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

**03-08**

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP 2008 MEETING DATES FOR:  
TOWNSHIP BOARD, PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS**, The following resolution is to set the 2008 dates for the Golden Township Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

**WHEREAS**, This action is taken to comply with Public Act 267, 1976 Section 5 (2)

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,**

**The Golden Township Board** meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M.

1/8,2/19,3/11,4/8,5/13,6/10,7/8,8/12,9/9,10/14,11/11,12/9

**The Golden Township Planning Commission** meetings will be held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M.

1/29,2/26,3/25,4/29,5/27,6/24,7/29,8/26,9/30,10/28,11/25,12/30

**The Golden Township Zoning Board of Appeals** meetings will be held as needed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Ackley

Second offered by Board Member Fuehring

Upon roll call vote the following voted "aye" Walsworth, Cargill, Fuehring, Ackley and Kolosci all "Aye"

"nay" 0

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

**02-08**

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTION UTILIZATION  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Golden Township, Oceana County, in exercising its fiduciary responsibilities desires to safeguard the funds of the Township that may be invested from time to time, and

**WHEREAS**, Public Act 77 of 1989, [MCL 41.77](#) requires that the Township Board designate the banks or depositories for the money belonging to the Township, including the time for which the deposits shall be made and all details for carrying into effect the authority given in this act, and

WHEREAS, Public Act 196 of 1997, [MCL 129.91](#), *et seq.*, requires township boards, in consultation with the Township Treasurer, to adopt an investment policy, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That this policy is applicable to all public funds belonging to Golden Township and in the custody of the Township Treasurer.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Golden Township Treasurer is authorized to manage funds belonging to the township, including depositing funds in approved financial institutions and administration of investments in conformance with MCL 41.77 and policies as set forth in this resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Board approves the following financial institutions as depositories of township funds: West Shore Bank, Shelby State Bank, Fifth Third Bank and Huntington Bank.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Treasurer shall recommend financial institutions for approval for the safekeeping of Township funds based on an evaluation of the performance and solvency of the institution, as well as past performance in exercising due care and prudence in managing the custody of Township funds held in trust, if applicable. The Treasurer shall periodically evaluate approved and potential financial depositories and shall make recommendations as to appropriate changes in approved depositories when warranted.

In determining safekeeping and custody qualifications, financial institutions document a minimum capital requirement of at least \$10,000,000 and at least five years of operation. All financial institutions and brokers/dealers shall be pre-qualified by supplying the following:

- Audited financial statements
- Proof of NASD certification or FDIC insurance

- Proof of state registration
- Certification of having read, understood and agreement to comply with the Golden Township investment policy.

The Treasurer shall annually examine the financial condition and registrations of qualified financial institutions and brokers/dealers by obtaining annual updates of the information listed above.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That when the Treasurer's analysis of the Township's cash flow requirements reveal that surplus funds will not be required to meet current expenditures for a specific length of time, the Treasurer is authorized to make prudent investments for a length of time that will provide a reasonable return on investment yet ensure that such funds will be available when needed and will not be exposed to undue risk. The Treasurer is authorized to invest township funds in the following instruments:

- (a) Bonds, securities, and other obligations of the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- (b) Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts, or depository receipts of a financial institution, but only if the financial institution is eligible to be a depository of funds belonging to the state under a law or rule of this state or the United States.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Township Board may, at its discretion and upon the recommendation of the Township Treasurer, authorize the Township Treasurer to invest in the following investment instruments. However, the Township Treasurer is required to obtain approval from the Township Board prior to acquiring or increasing the amount of Township funds in the following investment instruments:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the objectives of this policy are to:

- maintain safety of principal of township funds;
- maintain a diversified investment portfolio;
- maintain adequate liquidity; and
- achieve a market rate of return on relatively safe investment instruments.

To accomplish these objectives, decisions and actions involving the Township's investment portfolio shall meet the following criteria:

**Safety:** Safety of principal is the foremost objective of Golden Township's investment practices. Investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall investment portfolio. The Treasurer shall minimize credit risk by investing only in the safer types of securities, pre-qualifying financial institutions, brokers/dealers, intermediaries, and advisers with whom the township will do business; and diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact on the investment portfolio resulting

from losses on individual securities will be minimized.

**Diversification:** The investments shall be diversified by avoiding over concentration in securities from a specific issuer or business sector (excluding U.S. Treasury securities). Investments shall have varying maturities. Investment instrument selection shall avoid high credit risks and shall include use of readily available funds such as local government investment pools or mutual funds to maintain sufficient liquidity.

**Liquidity:** The investment portfolio shall remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that may be reasonably anticipated. Securities shall have maturity dates concurrent with cash flow needs. Securities with active secondary or resale markets, as well as money market mutual funds offering same-day liquidity for short-term funds shall also be used to ensure liquidity. The Treasurer shall minimize interest rate risk by avoiding the need to sell securities prior to maturity and investing operating funds primarily in short term-securities, money market mutual funds or similar public investment pools. Securities shall not normally be sold prior to maturity except to minimize loss of principal; to improve the quality, yield or target duration in the portfolio; or to meet liquidity needs.

**Return on Investment:** The investment portfolio shall be designed to attain a market average rate of return during budgetary and economic cycles while taking into account investment risk constraints and liquidity needs. Return on investment is of secondary importance compared to safety and liquidity objectives. The core of investments is limited to relatively low risk securities, and a fair rate of return relative to risk is assumed.

, That the Treasurer shall make such investments and only such investments as a prudent person would make in dealing with the property of another, having in view the preservation of the principal and the amount and regularity of the income to be derived.

The standard of prudence to be used shall be the "fiduciary" standard and shall be applied in context of managing an overall portfolio.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Treasurer may elect to have certificates and other evidence of investments held by a financial institution, provided that the financial institution presents to the Township Treasurer **on a quarterly basis**, sufficient documentation and acknowledgment of the investment instruments held on behalf of the Township. **(PA 213 of 2007 updated)**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Treasurer shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with the proper execution and management of township investments, or that could impair the Treasurer's ability to make impartial investment decisions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Treasurer shall annually provide a written report to the Township Board concerning the investment of Township funds.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Township shall comply with all applicable statutory standards for investment of public funds as they now exist or as they may be subsequently

amended. Any provision of this resolution that conflicts with applicable statutory requirements and standards is void.

**01-08**

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION  
FEDERAL POVERTY INCOME STANDARDS FOR 2008 ASSESSMENTS**

The following are the federal poverty income standards which the United States Office of Management and Budget recommends that federal departments and agencies use. The standards are actually compiled and published by the Bureau of the Census which refers to them as "poverty thresholds."

The governing body of the local assessing unit has the option of considering the age of the resident(s) when establishing their guidelines. This provision applies only when one or two persons reside in the homestead, because there are no age-related thresholds for three or more persons in the homestead.

The following are the federal poverty income standards as of November 06, 2007, for use in setting poverty exemption guidelines for 2008 assessments.

<b>Size of Family Unit</b>	<b>Poverty Guidelines</b>
1	\$10,210
2	\$13,690
3	\$17,170
4	\$20,650
5	\$24,130
6	\$27,610
7	\$31,090
8	\$34,570
For each additional person, add:	
\$3,480	

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is within the purview of the township board; and

WHEREAS, the homestead of persons who, in the judgment of the supervisor and board of review, by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute to the public charges is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 390, 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390, 1994 Golden Township, Oceana County adopts the following guidelines for the supervisor and board of review to implement. The guidelines shall include

but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year;

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.
- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget. NOTE: If you plan to adopt guidelines other than those stated, the alternative guidelines adopted by your unit cannot provide income eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.
- 6) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of board of review.
- 7) Any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the board of review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the board of review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these are communicated in writing to the claimant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Fuehring and supported by Board Member Ackley.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted "Aye:" Walsworth, Fuehring, Ackley, Cargill and Kolosci  
"Nay:" 0

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

### **Suggested Poverty Guidelines**

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF GOLDEN TOWNSHIP, OCEANA COUNTY**

To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a homestead the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or board of review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the homestead, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year.

- 3) Produce a valid drivers' license or other form of identification if requested.
- 4) Produce a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested if requested.
- 5) Meet the federal poverty income standards as defined and determined annually by the United States Office of Management and Budget.
- 6) The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but before the day prior to the last day of board of review.
- 7) Any additional eligibility requirements as determined by the township board.

Public input was asked for by Supervisor Don Walsworth. It was indicated that once again the minutes on the website were unavailable as of 5:00 p.m. this afternoon. At 7:00 p.m. the links were on website but they didn't work. Laurie will try to find someone else to host the website so that this issue can be corrected.

Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to terminate Chatterbox as website host for the Township as of January 8<sup>th</sup> 2008. All yes, motion carried.

Motion by Fuehring, support by Kolosci to find a company to run Township website as soon as possible. All yes, motion carried.

The ease of transferring info. from the new software to other software at a future date should it be needed was questioned. Connie felt this should be fairly easy if other software is purchased later. It was questioned if we would lose some of the functionality of the heating system at the school building by not using Honeywell for monitoring. Yes we are but the cost is too high for us to use Honeywell for monitoring and we don't need that level of monitoring for the heat system.

Motion by Fuehring, support by Ackley to adjourn meeting at 9:08 P.M.  
Respectfully submitted by,

Laurie Kolosci  
Golden Township Clerk