

Holly Township  
Board of Trustees – Regular Meeting  
Minutes of February 15, 2022

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**Call to Order:** Supervisor Kullis called the regular meeting of the Holly Township Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. Located at the Karl Richter Campus, Holly Area Schools Board Room, 920 E. Baird St, Holly, Michigan 48442.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:**

George Kullis, Supervisor  
Karin Winchester, Clerk  
Mark Freeman, Treasurer  
Steve Ruth, Trustee  
Derek Burton, Trustee

**Agenda Approval:**

- **Treasurer Freeman made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item #3 to the New Business, Treasurers Recommendation for Replacement. Clerk Winchester Requested the addition of NOCFA Presentation. Trustee Burton supported the motion. A voice vote was taken, all those present voted in favor; the motion was carried by a 5/0 vote.**

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes -January 19, 2022.
  2. Approval of Financial Statement-January 2022.
  3. Approval of Bills for Payment- February 2022.
  4. Receipt of Routine Reports:
    - A. N.O.C.F.A Minutes-January 18,2022.
    - B. Planning Commission Minutes - None.
    - C. Building Permits -January 22, 2022.
    - D. Treasurer's Annual and Quarterly Report- None.
  5. Communications: None.
- **Trustee Burton made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Treasurer Freeman supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken, all those present voted yes; the motion was carried by a 5/0 vote.**

**Public Hearing: None**

**Presentations: NOCFA Fire Fighters Association J.P. Kravetz -**

**The North Oakland County Firefighters Association Hereby Resolves:**

Whereas a Vote of No-Confidence is an alternative method to bring forth serious concerns of public safety and mismanagement to the public, while still promoting uninterrupted and dedicated service, because such services are vital to the welfare and public safety of the residents of Holly Township and Rose Township and, Whereas by a unanimous vote of the Firefighters who belong to the North Oakland County Firefighters Association, we believe that this No Confidence Resolution is but one of those very limited options available to promote these purposes and,

Whereas and listed below, are reasons why the membership of the North Oakland County Firefighters Association have NO CONFIDENCE in the North Oakland County Fire Authority Board of Directors Chairperson and Citizen at Large, Peter Stouffer:

1. The Chairperson/Citizen at Large through both informal and formal processes has routinely undermined the Fire Authority, through parliamentary maneuvering, information suppression, and covert intimidation, creating an environment contrary to the forward-looking management style needed to address the challenges facing our fire department. These include:

- Supporting funding and budgeting decisions that have undermined the morale of the Firefighters and compromised the safety of the Department members and our citizens,
- Falsely accusing another Board member of a Federal Crime,
- Implementing actions to suppress spontaneous input from Officers during Board meetings,
- Excessive and unprecedented requests to utilize legal counsel, resulting in thousands of dollars in legal fees,
- Allowing in-fighting and petty grievances among board members, which threatens the ability of the two townships to govern together in a responsible way to ensure the continuation of the Authority as an ongoing Fire District,
- Showing to have a general disregard for the sanctity of the democratic process,

2. The legal definition of “Citizen at Large” is “a person who does not represent a specific organization and is a resident of the member municipality,”

- As the Chairperson/Citizen at Large, Peter Stouffer, has been appointed to the Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeals, he now concurrently holds a formal position for one of the Townships which diminishes his independence and, as such, no longer meets the intent of a Citizen at Large.

Whereas the reasons for this vote include, lack of leadership, bullying of fellow Board members, failure to respond to firefighter and citizens' concerns, fiscal decision-making priorities, the appearance of biased support of Rose Township motions, and lack of overall concern for the well-being and continuation of the Fire Authority. The members of the North Oakland County Firefighters Association believe that Chairperson/Citizen at Large, Peter Stouffer, should resign immediately and the process for replacement be started as such.

Our goal is not to create acrimony or compromise the safety of our communities, but to share our concerns so we can improve the Department and provide for the continuation of the quality of service we have been delivering to the community and which they expect and deserve. Despite this crisis, the North Oakland County Fire Authority Fire Fighters' will continue to stand strong in protecting life and property and remain committed to the public we serve.

Furthermore, as many of the members of the North Oakland County Firefighters Union IAFF Local 5346 are also members of the North Oakland County Firefighters Association, the members of NOCFFU Local 5346 do abstain from the vote on the motion that creates this resolution. The membership of the union would like to remain neutral in this matter.

### **Reports:**

Treasurer Freeman - The last day to pay taxes without penalty was February 14, 2022, and the last day to pay taxes at the Holly Township offices is February 28, 2022. After March 1, 2022 unpaid taxes will be transferred to the County.

Supervisor Kullis - Reported that he will be calling a special meeting regarding NOCFA. To date, the NOCFA Board has incurred \$15,000 in attorney fees and is an unfunded mandate in the budget.

He met with the Mott Family regarding the Farmstead and they are in support of hiring a project manager. HRC has completed the engineering report. Oakland County will be conducting the Perk Test, however, it will need to be rescheduled as the two previous were canceled.

The Holly Schools Bond Proposal will be presented at the monthly Holly Chamber of Commerce Breakfast on Friday, February 25, 2022.

### **Public Comment:** On Agenda Items Only.

Tim Seal, 459 Riverside Dr., addressed the board.

John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw St., addressed the board.  
Phillip Marker, 6335 Lahring Rd., addressed the board.  
Julius Stern, Munger Rd., addressed the board.

### **Old Business:**

1. Farmstead Project Manager

Supervisor Kullis met with the Mott Family and will have proposals from companies at the next meeting.

➤ **No action was taken.**

2. 2019-2020 Audited Financial Statement Presentation

Supervisor Kullis contacted Raymond and requested the audit presentation. Doug Deiter from Raymond didn't feel that the presentation was worthwhile. He also informed Supervisor Kullis that they do not have a current contract with the Township, and they will no longer be representing the Township.

➤ **No action was taken.**

### **New Business:**

1. Notice of Eligibility to Incorporate as a Charter Township.

Clerk Winchester provided information in the packet for review. The Township receives notification at the completion of the census when population is over 2000.

➤ **No action was taken.**

2. Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions - Proposed Resolution 2022-01.

Request from the County Equalization Office which has been included in the packet.

➤ **Supervisor Kullis made a motion to increase the Poverty Exemptions to 1.5 and to adopt Resolution 2022-01. Clerk Winchester supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken, all those present voted yes; the motion was carried by a 5/0 vote.**

3. Treasurers Recommendation for Replacement.

Treasurer Freeman is recommending that he hires an individual to train for the remainder of his tenure as Township Treasurer.

➤ **No action was taken.**

### **Public Comment:**

Mary Blanchard, 3444 Olde Creek Dr., addressed the board.  
Pat Feeny, 210 Franklin, addressed the board.  
John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw St., addressed the board.

**Adjournment:**

Supervisor Kullis adjourned the meeting at 8:21 PM.

Nicole Edwards, Recording Secretary

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Karin S. Winchester, Clerk