

**GRAFTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2011**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Moore called the special meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Moore, Clerk Ford, Trustees LaPorta, McMahon, Murphy, Zirk

Absent: Assessor Ottley, Highway Commissioner Freund.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said at this time.

3. New Business

A. Discussion and potential action on appointment of an auditor

Discussion: Supervisor Moore reported that the lowest audit bidder stated that they would be willing to meet with an audit committee, but not the entire Board. She stated that awarding the lowest bidder would save tax dollars. She also stated that as Supervisor she has the right to appoint a committee. She would like to appoint herself, Trustee LaPorta and County Board member Scott Breeden. Trustee LaPorta questioned the Supervisor's power to appoint a committee without requesting input from the Trustees. He stated that the lowest cost should not be the only factor of consideration, but that the scope and professionalism of the work is also critical. Trustee Murphy asked why the bidders know who submitted the lowest bid. Supervisor Moore stated that she informed them. Supervisor Moore stated that there is a \$1500.00 difference in cost between the two firms that submitted bids. Trustee LaPorta, as well as Trustee Murphy, stated that they have repeatedly asked that the firms be present at a meeting.

Supervisor Moore placed a call to Don Elliott, principle and a bidder, from Elliott & Company. Mr. Elliott presented information regarding his company and experience. He stated that he had submitted the proposal six months ago. Trustee LaPorta inquired about the project and scope of the work. Upon inquiry as to the staffing of the audit, Mr. Elliott reported that he personally would not be a part of the on site audit. Mr. Elliott stated he was contacted by a Grafton citizen. Supervisor Moore asked if it was on behalf of a Trustee. He responded that this was not the case. On two occasions, Supervisor Moore asked Mr. Elliott if he wanted to remove his name for consideration to do the audit. He did not want to do so. He stated that one of individuals who would be directly involved on site had extensive accounting experience, but has only 2 months of government experience. This was not acceptable to the Trustees.

Trustee LaPorta stated that he contacted a vendor to consider presenting a proposal to the entire Board. Supervisor Moore stated that she believes this in violation of the court order. Trustee Murphy stated that no negotiations or contracts occurred with the vendor and that this is common practice to have vendors present to the Board. Trustee LaPorta told the vendor if they are interested in Grafton Township they should submit a proposal to the Supervisor.

Motion by Supervisor Moore to adjourn the meeting. Motion failed due to no second.

4. Public Comment

Mary Miller

John Verchota

Motion by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee LaPorta, to continue the discussion of hiring an auditor.

Roll Call

AYES, Trustees Murphy, LaPorta, McMahan, Zirk

NAYS: Supervisor Moore

Motion Passed.

Discussion: Trustee Murphy stated she did not understand why this company or others could not present proposals to the entire Board. Supervisor Moore stated she believes that this is a violation of the court order and if this company or others send anything, they should include the name of the person who contacted them.

5. Adjournment

Motion was made by Supervisor Moore, seconded by Trustee Zirk to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Voice Vote

AYES: Supervisor Moore, Trustees Zirk, LaPorta, McMahan, Murphy

NAYS: None

Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.