

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2010 WORK SESSION

Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center Board Room, 7200 S. Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti Township.

Members Present: Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo, Clerk Karen Lovejoy Roe, Treasurer Larry Doe, Trustees Stan Eldridge, Jean Hall Currie and Mike Martin

Members Absent: Trustee Dee Sizemore

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters, Township Attorney
John Hancock, Labor Attorney

1. DISCUSS PURCHASE OF MERS SERVICE CREDITS

Supervisor Stumbo explained the item was tabled at the July 20, 2010 Regular Meeting so additional information could be provided to the Board. She stated the requested information was included in the board packet. There was no discussion.

2. UPDATE FROM LT. JIM ANUSZKIEWICZ

Lt. Anuszkiewicz provided an update in response to issues raised at the July 20, 2010 Regular Meeting as follows:

- A. Additional enforcement was assigned to the Tuttlehill area to address the speeding complaint and three noise citations were issued.
- B. Boom box noise violators were specifically targeted during the weeks of June 8-August 11, 2010 and 34 citations were issued.
- C. Overtime was authorized for West Willow and the Kroger parking lot, with a lot of focus on curfew enforcement. The deputies utilized bike and foot patrol, which had the biggest impact.
- D. Utilized overtime was discussed with the three full-time officials every week.
- E. West Willow received the requested FOIA information.
- F. The Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department would hold a training session on Thursday, August 19, 2010 for the Citizen's Patrol. All interested neighborhood residents were welcome to attend.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-13, NEW POLICE SERVICES MILLAGE

Supervisor Stumbo stated the question to the Board at the last Work Session was should the millage proposal be 2 mils or 1.5 mils. She said David Williamson had provided new projections that gave a better picture of what was needed.

Mike Radzik, Office of Community Standards Director reviewed the memo distributed to the Board that showed the impact of 1.5-mil vs. 2-mil. He explained that a 1.5-mil increase would allow the Township to bring back seven deputies in 2011 but it would not support those deputies in 2012 or 2013. In 2011, absent any voter-approved increase, Fund Balance would be depleted and it would be

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
AUGUST 17, 2010 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 2**

necessary to make drastic reductions in 2012 and 2013. Mr. Radzik clarified the millage was necessary to retain the current 31 deputies. He said a 2-mil increase would allow the Township to bring back four or five deputies over the life of the three-year millage.

Trustee Eldridge asked what percentage of the police service budget went to ordinance and other expenses.

Mr. Radzik responded the amount was less than \$300,000 out of the \$5.5 million budget. He said the voter approved millage specifically spoke to police services, ordinance enforcement, and neighborhood watch.

Supervisor Stumbo stated she originally raised the suggestion of 1.5-mils vs. 2-mils but Clerk Lovejoy Roe was correct because 1.5-mils was not enough. Discussion followed.

Trustee Eldridge asked if a millage proposal could provide voters an option of no increase, 1.5-mils or 2-mils and he asked if the General Fund was ever used to supplement law enforcement.

Mr. Radzik said at one point the General Fund supplemented the law enforcement budget. In 2004, the fire millage rate was reduced and the law enforcement millage rate was increased to eliminate the draw on the General Fund.

Trustee Martin questioned since the General Fund did not pay for police services, could neighborhood watch and ordinance be removed from the millage and placed in the General Fund.

Supervisor Stumbo stressed that would only be a shift of funds and the draft 2011 Budget currently showed a \$800,000 gap between General Fund revenue and expenditures.

Trustee Martin stated he thought the Board could sell 1.5-mils and if ordinance and neighborhood watch was moved to the General Fund and if Fund Balance was used, he thought it would be successful.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated the language needed to be approved. She explained the General Fund budget was down to bare bones and Fund Balance had been used to fund capital improvements.

Trustee Martin said he supported 1.5-mils, separating out the non-police services and funding it through the General Fund surplus in order to keep the programs going. He felt that would show voters the Board was trying to trim some of the cost away from them by using Fund Balance to support the non-essential police services.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe explained a large portion of the Fund Balance was designated for lawsuits, tax tribunal cases and other issues. She said the Board had always been fiscally conservative and she did not believe Fund Balance should be used for operations. Clerk Lovejoy Roe further explained that on a \$300,000 home, the difference between 1.5-mils and 2-mils was less than \$20 a year. She felt voters either would be for the increase or against it and \$20 would not make a difference.

Supervisor Stumbo said the section of the new proposal that included ordinance and neighborhood watch could be removed and could state it was specifically for the purpose of law enforcement.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated her calculation showed a home with an assessed value of \$70,000 at 2-mils would a \$70 a year tax increase and a \$52 a year tax increase for 1.5-mils. She said that would be the difference between hiring four additional deputies or retaining 31 deputies.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
AUGUST 17, 2010 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 3**

Supervisor Stumbo said she thought the millage would pass based on the need and what they heard from the residents.

Mr. Radzik said if the millage failed, his best estimate based on 3.5-mils, the entire fund balance would be used up in 2011 to maintain the current 31 deputies. In 2012, it would be necessary to reduce deputies by 4 or 5 and in 2013, another 10 deputies. He said that would leave the Township with less than 20 officers.

Supervisor Stumbo stated the language in the resolution before the Board would need to be changed prior to the Board Meeting. She said the numbers needed to be changed, as well as ordinance and neighborhood watch removed.

The Board agreed to seek a 1.5-mil increase.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Supervisor Stumbo received a request to add the following items to the agenda:

Authorization to seek sealed bids and to award the bid to the lowest, most qualified bidder for the demolition of properties located at 1735 S. Congress, 146 N. Ford Blvd., 599 E. Grand, 138 S. Harris, 140 S. Harris, 1948 N. Huron River Drive, 1565 E. Michigan Avenue, 2485 E. Michigan Avenue, 2004 E. Michigan Avenue and 2079 Bradley.

Request of Lombardo Homes to pull an additional five building permits for Creekside Village East while the development agreement was being completed.

Set a joint meeting with the City of Ypsilanti for Monday, September 13, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the Civic Center board room to discuss police services

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – UPDATE ON FIREFIGHTER NEGOTIATIONS

A motion was made by Trustee Currie, supported by Trustee Martin to go into Executive Session to discuss the Firefighter negotiations. The motion carried as follows:

Martin:	Yes	Eldridge:	Yes	Currie:	Yes	Sizemore:	Absent
Stumbo:	Yes	Roe:	Yes	Doe:	Yes		

The Board went into Executive Session at approximately 6:13 p.m. and returned to the board meeting at approximately 6:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Stumbo, Supervisor

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk