

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2011 WORK SESSION**

Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 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 Jean Hall Currie, Stan Eldridge, Mike Martin and Scott Martin

Members Absent: None

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters

1. REVIEW OF GENERAL MOTORS TAX SETTLEMENT – LINDA GOSSELIN, ASSESSOR

Linda Gosselin, Assessor gave an overview of the negotiations which had taken place concerning the 2009 tax appeal from General Motors. She reported the final settlement was \$44,821.00.

Treasurer Doe commended Ms. Gosselin on doing a great job because he understood that if GM had received 20%, the Township would have had to pay back just under \$200,000.

Supervisor Stumbo asked how much was spent on the Ford Motor Company appeal and Ms. Gosselin replied that the figure was over \$500,000, but that had paved the way for other municipalities. The Supervisor commented on the wonderful job the Assessor had done.

The Board discussed adding this item under Other Business for the Board Meeting.

2. REVIEW AGENDA

Supervisor Stumbo explained that Clerk Lovejoy Roe had amended the agenda upon the discovery that the street lighting petition for S. Mansfield did not meet the necessary 51% criteria for passage and no action could be taken.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe reported that she had discovered the petition was one signature short when she was trying to make a chart explaining who had signed and who had not. She added that the public hearing should not have been held, since there were not enough signatures.

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Supervisor Stumbo reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

Discussion concerning the Township Board meeting dates took place.

Supervisor Stumbo asked Karen Wallin and Dennis Doelle, the representative from Marwil & Associates to do a presentation concerning the Health Care.

Karen Wallin, Human Resource Department reported the Letter of Agreement for the new health care plan was at the Teamsters office awaiting their signature, the Court had signed, the firefighters had indicated their agreement and AFSCME appeared to be on board. She felt they had reached the goal to keep a good benefit package for the employees and for the Township to save money.

Supervisor Stumbo, Clerk Lovejoy Roe and Mr. Doelle discussed the date the new plan would become effective and the renewal dates.

Ms. Wallin explained that Marwil & Associates was asking the Board to give the three full-time officials authorization to sign the Letter of Agreements as they were ratified by the unions, in order to move forward as quickly as possible to start the new plan by Jan. 1, 2012.

Treasurer Doe commended Trustee Mike Martin, Clerk Lovejoy Roe, Karen Wallin and the other committee members for the excellent job they had done.

Supervisor Stumbo explained the savings from the new health care plan would be included in the 2012 budget. She said the Board at one time had discussed the option of banking the savings in a separate account and discussion followed concerning the new premium costs and changes in the health care plan that would help with the OPEB obligation.

Supervisor Stumbo asked Mr. Doelle to address the positive way this would affect the OPEB obligation and he gave a brief explanation of the benefits. He added that the bottom line would be a reduction of 20% to the OPEB obligation over time.

The rest of the agenda was reviewed.

3. OTHER DISCUSSION

There was discussion on the brush pick-up schedule.

Jerry Hearn, Township resident asked for information concerning a sidewalk that was to go on his property and what his responsibilities would be.

Jeff Allen RSD Director responded that he had sent letters out to residents on S. Congress concerning the lack of space and the need for easements to be granted in order for the bike path to be installed. He said he would continue to research but it appeared S. Congress wasn't an option for this year. He asked the Board for direction

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and they responded to go ahead with the plans for the bike paths on Textile and research S. Congress further in 2012. Discussion followed concerning different options.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk
Charter Township of Ypsilanti