

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI  
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2012 WORK SESSION**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo 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 Stan Eldridge, Jean Hall Currie, Mike Martin and Scott Martin

**Members Absent:** None

**Legal Counsel:** Wm. Douglas Winters

**1. N. HYDRO PARK – EROSION CONTROL PROJECT DISCUSSION –  
MICHAEL SARANEN**

Michael Saranen explained about 600 feet of erosion in North Hydro Park. Neimann Corporation, out of Ypsilanti, gave us a budgetary cost of \$120,000 to do a combination of riff-raff and sheet piling to repair and alleviate the erosion. He said he was looking into other methods and possible grant dollars to help cover the cost for this project for next year. He said this was a common problem, but one concern was that areas along the bike path that had eroded to the point of no longer having a qualified safety standard.

Trustee Scott Martin asked if we had any idea of other companies that could do this kind of work.

Mr. Saranen replied there were several companies that did this type of work and even an engineering firm could feasibly design a remediation plan for us. He explained that any action we take would need maintenance in the future depending on freeze-thaw, high flow events and other situations.

Discussion followed on long-term repair and if it could wait until Spring or Summer.

Treasurer Doe asked how close the edge was to the bike path. Mr. Saranen replied that in places, it was nine feet and the safety requirement was ten feet. Mr. Doe asked if fencing would be necessary.

Supervisor Stumbo confirmed with Mr. Saranen that this was to be a 2013 project and would come out of the Park Fund.

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Trustee Scott Martin asked if Stantec was looking at some grant for that type of work.

Mr. Saranen requested \$135,000 for the project to help with engineering and grant writing. He agreed signs could be posted in the areas of most concern on the bike path.

Discussion followed on the direction that Mr. Saranen should take at this point. The Board supported him to proceed with some preliminary engineering on his own, using resources, he already had available and budget the project for 2013.

## **2. REVIEW AGENDA**

Supervisor Stumbo reviewed the agenda with additional discussion on the following items:

- **Clerk Report**

- The November 6, 2012 election results were certified by the County Board of Canvassers. Ypsilanti Township has 40,668 registered voters and 25,695 voted in the Presidential Election. This was 63.43% of Ypsilanti Township's electorate.

Ypsilanti Township's election team was composed of the Clerk's Office, Supervisor's Office, Treasurer's Office, Office of Community Standards, Human Resources and the Residential Services Department including maintenance and custodial staff. The polls were staffed by election inspectors. The entire election team pulled together and provided services and support to the Chairpersons and election inspectors at 19 polling places in Ypsilanti Township.

Overall, the election was considered a great success with each polling location averaging 1,000 or more voters during a 13-hour period. Some of the lines were longer than desired but for a Presidential election, it was expected.

UAW Local 898 provided many more voting booths as it was clear the time it was taking to vote was very long due to the length of the ballot. The additional booths were added to polling places with the longer lines. The Clerk's office mailed out 6,349 absentee ballots and 6,128 were returned and processed. This was 23.8% of the total ballots cast in Ypsilanti Township.

We are hopeful that the State legislature will move quickly to allow no reason absentee so that in four years voters will be able to vote absentee and avoid the lines.

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I would like to thank all the staff in the Clerk's office and all the departments that supported the election by providing staff to help. In addition, the Chairpersons and the election inspectors, many who are senior citizens, did a fabulous job, with many working over 17 hours on Election Day.

All election results for Washtenaw County can be found at [ewashtenaw.org](http://ewashtenaw.org), click on departments and then elections.

- The Clerk's office needs election inspectors with computer experience for elections planned for 2013 and 2014. You must be registered to vote if 18 or older. If between the ages of 16-17, you must be a student to be eligible to become an election inspector. Please go on line at [www.ytown.org](http://www.ytown.org) under the Clerk's department to find an election inspector application. Please fill out and bring to Clerk's office with social security card and driver license to apply. You can also pick up an application at the Clerk's office.
- The Clerk's office is handling passports on a daily basis.
- Re-Imaging Washtenaw –plans are underway for zoning and design changes to Master Plans in the Washtenaw Ave. Corridor. The group has hired a consultant for planning for the Washtenaw Ave. Corridor.
- Streetlights at Sweet and Clark Roads, and Tuttlehill and Merritt Roads have been installed. Lakeview Streetlights installation is currently underway and DTE is committed to having the lights in and on by the end of the year.
- I-94/Huron Street Park and Ride lights-DTE has submitted plans to MDOT under the Build American requirement and is waiting for MDOT acceptance of the plan. This project is scheduled for 2013.
- The Accounting Department is working on year-end accounting requirements. Javonna Neel is assisting the three full time officials in projections for all funds through and including 2017 as plans develop regarding the upcoming 2013 millage renewal election and ballot language.
- Washtenaw County Wide Transit Plan- Clerk Lovejoy Roe and Supervisor Stumbo attended a meeting with AATA staff and many municipal leaders on Tuesday, November 13, 2012. The meeting involved discussions regarding the future of regional cooperation for transportation in Washtenaw County.

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- Clerk Lovejoy Roe and Supervisor Stumbo attended the annual meeting of the West Willow Association on Wednesday, November 19, 2012. It was a potluck meeting and the meeting for electing officers. It was very well attended.
- On a personal note, it has been a pleasure and great honor to work with all the elected representatives on the Charter Township Board over the past four years and I am looking forward to our next four years together serving the residents of the great Township of Ypsilanti. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve.

- **Attorney Report – General Legal Update**

Attorney Winters provided an update on the liquidation of Kircher's bankruptcy properties. He said a list had been recorded with the Register of Deeds on each property, that detailed remediation needed to be completed in order to get a new Certificate of Occupancy if the properties were acquired through a tax sale or bankruptcy procedure.

Mr. Winters reported Eastern Highlands Complex had been sold. He explained the Township had a lien on that property that with interest, now totaled approximately \$70,000. The Trustee Company was trying to have that lien discharged. Attorney Winters said he had shared that information with bankruptcy attorney Steve Matta, who felt the lien was still in effect. Mr. Winters requested the Township to authorize Steve Matta to file the appropriate objections to Trustees Motion to Discharge our Judgment and Official Liens that were filed against Eastern Highlands.

The Board agreed to add this request under Other Business.

- **New Business**

- 1. Resolution No. 2012-29 – Wage Resolution**

Supervisor Stumbo said there was no increase but they were requesting to restore the 8 days PTO time that had been taken away.

- 2. Budget Amendment #11**

Clerk Lovejoy Roe explained it was mostly tax tribunals and an adjustment for health care for some of the staff in her office that had been under budgeted and the settlement of \$18,000 regarding the AFSCME grievance.

- 3. Resolution No. 2012-40**

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Marwel briefly explained the changes to the Cafeteria Plan. He said this would replace the Benny Card.

Karen Wallin, HR Department explained this would eliminate some of the prior issues.

**4. 2013 Compost Site Pricing**

Jeff Allen, Residential Services said the site was trying to be more competitive and the information would be in the new Handbook.

**5. Barr Engineering Professional Services Contract**

Jeff Allen said this was a continuation of their contract, which had recently expired.

Michael Saranen provided a brief explanation regarding the range of fees and a change of scope in services.

**6. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Resolution No. 2012-39, Proposed Ordinance No. 2012-427 Amending Ordinance No. 2010-409, Chapter 14, Animals of the Code of Ordinances**

Mike Radzik, Office of Community Standards provided a brief explanation of the resolution. The original ordinance contained a sunset clause, which expired at the end of the year.

- **Other Business**

1. **Retaining Steve Mattia regarding Eastern Highlands**
2. **Rescind the Resolution pertaining to the AATA Authority.**

- **Authorizations And Bids**

Jeff Allen briefly reviewed his agenda items:

1. **Office Max**
2. **On-Line Auction**
3. **Connecting Communities Grant**
4. **Additional Security Cameras**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk