

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2013 WORK SESSION**

PROPOSED

Supervisor Stumbo called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 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. 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET PRESENTATION

a. Fund 206 – Fire.....Chief Eric Copland

Chief Copeland provided highlights of his budget:

- Two officers that were in the drop program would be replaced through the promotional list and two entry level firefighters would then be hired
- Operational Spending would remain status quo, factoring in the 3% wage concession, decrease in sick time payouts and holiday pay
- Capital outlay expenditure of \$520,000 to include the repair of the roof at headquarters on Ford Boulevard and the purchase of a new fire engine
- Increased millage rate was expected to generate 1.1 million dollars which would cover the retirement side of the fire pension at 100% and OPEB funding
- The Fire millage covered the operations with an allocation of 3.125 mills
- The Revenue side would generate roughly 4.5 million
- An appropriation of nearly one million dollars would be needed from Fund Balance in order to balance the 2014 budget
- Available funds from the 2011 Vehicle Exhaust System Grant used to purchase 12 sets of turnout gear for half of the department
- About \$25,000 from Capital Outlay will be used for turnout gear for the other half of the department
- Allocation of \$10,000 for education and training
- No change in Utilities
- Fuel costs have spiked and discussion followed

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Clerk Lovejoy Roe asked for an explanation for the increase of 1.7 million over last year's budget and what the fund balance would be at the end of 2014.

Chief Copeland explained the largest capital outlay was roughly a half a million dollars for a new fire truck, increased cost of health care for retirees and current staff and buyouts for retirees.

Discussion followed regarding operation for the next three years.

Treasurer Doe questioned the amount of building maintenance for Station 1, 3 and 4 and asked for the reason of the increase and why didn't the cost go back down.

Chief Copeland gave examples of repairing the breach on the diesel fuel tank and drainage problems. He pointed to the itemized expenditures over that last few years and the fact that so many maintenance items have been postponed, for lack of funds, that are now showing further stress and needed repairs

Trustee Eldridge voiced concern over the fire hydrant charge. Discussion followed that the charge was for GPS mapping which had been completed and the actual maintenance was performed by YCUA. He asked how old the current fire truck was, what would be done with it and if the process to purchase a new one would be smoother than previously experienced.

Chief Copeland presented information on the current engine and his recommendations for the new engine, which would come to the Board for approval.

b. Fund 252 – Hydro.....Jeff Allen

Jeff Allen, RSD Director said a truck would be purchased for Mr. Saranen for Hydro Station use, which would eliminate the vehicle allowance.

Michael Saranen, Hydro Operator provided a brief overview of the budget.

- Projected increase in revenue from DTE

- Request for \$50,000 from General Fund for Phase II of Tyler Road Dam, depending on final report from Stantec
Discussion followed
- Expenditures increased for maintenance projects

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Trustee Eldridge questioned the increase for telephone. Discussion followed on DTE implementation of a system that would become their property and would no longer cost the Township.

Trustee Eldridge was also concerned about a turbine expense.

c. Fund 226- Environmental Services.....Jeff Allen

Jeff Allen provided an overview of the budget.

- Normal operation involved two chipper trucks with two full time employees and one seasonal employee
- A vacancy exists for one full time employee
- The other full time employee has been moved to fill in for an injured employee
- The trucks are currently utilizing two temporary employees
- The union has been requested to hold those positions

Clerk Lovejoy Roe asked if Carl Rowsey, Compost Site had ever been approached regarding the use of additional leaves for the Compost Site and could more product be provided to increase revenue. Discussion followed regarding this possibility.

d. Fund 590 – Compost.....Jeff Allen

Clerk Lovejoy Roe discussed the possibility of doing more recycling and less garbage pickup to save costs. Discussion followed regarding the Waste Management contract.

Trustee Eldridge questioned the expense for repairs and maintenance of pole barns and trailers, since it doubled from last year's amount yet nothing was spent last year.

e. Fund 595 – Motorpool.....Jeff Allen

Jeff Allen presented a brief overview.

f. Fund 584 – Golf Course.....Dan Roberts/Tim Smith

Dan Roberts and Tim Smith requested the same basic budget as last year.

Treasurer Doe said the Greens Commission needed to discuss membership cost increases. He reported the Golf Course would have a \$60,000 shortfall, attributed to the rain in March.

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Trustee Scott Martin asked if any progress had been made in building the golf population by reaching the public with social media improvements.

Dan Roberts said the Groupons and website had generated a lot of new business.

Trustee Eldridge said the golf course was a jewel in the community and agreed with Treasurer Doe that the Greens Commission needed to do more to generate new business and improve the course and clubhouse.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe asked if the social media could target golfers specifically.

Discussion followed on the golf course having it's own identity.

Travis McDugald, IS Manager said the mechanisms were in place to generate improvements in the social media and his department was working to utilize them in the next year.

Tim Smith said he had gotten an estimate of \$249,000 from S & J Asphalt to recap the clubhouse parking lot area and existing cart paths, remove curbs and reroute one cart path in the rough.

2. PROPOSED 2014 WORK SESSION AND BOARD MEETING DATES

Discussion followed on moving the Work Session and Board Meeting back to the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month.

3. OTHER DISCUSSION

A. 1540 S. Harris

Supervisor Stumbo stated Rob Nissley, Director of Habitat for Humanity had identified 1540 S. Harris as a property they would like to obtain through the recently implemented First Look Program. She asked the Board to add this under Other Business on the Agenda.

4. REVIEW AGENDA

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

- **Consent Agenda**

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No discussion

- **Trustee Agenda**

No discussion

- **Attorney Report**

Attorney Winters said the General Legal Update would be covered in the Regular Meeting.

Attorney Winters stated that stabilization of the Township neighborhoods remained a top priority in regard to working with Habitat for Humanity.

- **Old Business**

Request of Art Serafinski, Recreation Director to approve Senior Nutrition Program Agreement with Washtenaw County that will be fully funded through Federal Grant and to authorize signing of the Agreement (Previously approved at the Regular Meeting held September 23, 2013)

Art Serafinski explained that Washtenaw County had sent the contract back to the Township, since we had incorrectly assumed that we could use our rate of pay instead of the Living Wage of \$13.65 that was in the County's contract. He said Grace Hartford, who had run the program in the past, would continue to do so, for a stipend of \$150 per week. He explained this agreement would allow the Township to recoup expenses.

- **New Business**

- 1. Request to approve Professional Services Agreement with Tetra Tech for support related to Environmental Corrective Action Program and Future Development at Willow Run RACER Trust site not to exceed \$10,000 budgeted in line item #101.956.000.801.110 and to authorize signing of the proposal**

Supervisor Stumbo introduced Dr. Joh Kang who had been very instrumental in the Willow Run Cleanup and assisting YCUA in the area of Wastewater Management.

Attorney Winters acknowledged that Dr. Kang would be acting as a consultant on behalf of Ypsilanti Township. Mr. Winters, Dr. Kang and the members of the Board recognized this was a monumental redevelopment process, being embarked upon by the Township. Attorney Winters stated Ypsilanti Township would be redefined by the

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redevelopment of this site. He said he welcomed Dr. Kang's involvement in the challenges presented, both from an environmental and re-developmental standpoint.

Dr. Joh Kang said he would represent the Township's best interest in this review process.

2. Request of Charles Molina & Cheri Jackson for a Tavern License for Blue Wolf Grill located at 2333 Washtenaw (Liquor Committee meeting held Oct. 11, 2013)

Trustee Stan Eldridge reported the Liquor Committee was recommending a full denial of this request to the Board.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that she and Clerk Lovejoy Roe had compiled comments from residents regarding this application, which would be included in the minutes.

3. Request of Travis McDugald, IS Manager to approve agreement with Point & Pay to process credit card payments for BS&A Software transaction and to authorize signing of the Agreement

Treasurer Doe reported Point & Pay had presented their program to process credit card payments that would work directly with our BS&A Software for the Building Department, dog licensing and payment of property taxes. He said a large volume of residents had requested this payment option and there would still be a fee connected with these transactions.

4. Request of Elks, Anna G. Parker Temple #1228 for a Charitable Gaming License for event held at 1405 Ecorse Road

No discussion

5. Request of Mike Radzik, OCS Director for authorization to seek legal action, if necessary, to abate public nuisance for properties located at 2260 E. Michigan Avenue and 6480 Rawsonville, budgeted in line item #101.950.000.801.023

No discussion

6. Resolution No. 2013-28, approval of Charter Township of Ypsilanti Fire Department participation in Washtenaw County Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Division

No discussion

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- 7. Request of Eric Copeland, Fire Chief to authorize the purchase of Turnout Gear in the amount of \$17,640 funded by Federal Grant, with matching funds of \$5,667.22, budgeted in line item #206.970.000.979.001**

Supervisor Stumbo stated it was great that our departments were getting grants to help with expenditures.

- 8. Budget Amendments #14**

No discussion

- 9. Set Public Hearing date of Monday, October 28, 2013 at approximately 7:00 P.M. – Request of Interclean Equipment, Inc., located at 709 James L. Hart Parkway in Ypsilanti Township, for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate**

No discussion

- OTHER BUSINESS**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk