

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION**

Supervisor Stumbo called the meeting to order at approximately 4:45 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, Scott Martin

Members Absent: Trustee Jean Hall Currie, Trustee Mike Martin

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters

1. AAATA UPDATE – CHRIS WHITE AND JEFF MURPHY

Chris White from AAATA reported he was at the meeting to discuss the Adopt the Stop program and to answer questions regarding super stops and their maintenance. Mr. White stated that a super stop would have a bus pull off so the stop would not interfere with traffic. Mr. White said that the stop must be after the traffic light because they need the break in the traffic so the bus could make a smooth transition back into the flow of traffic. Supervisor Stumbo stated that the sheriff's department had indicated there were several rear end accidents because of where the bus stopped. Mr. White stated he did not agree that the bus stop was the reason for those accidents. He said they have looked at the records extensively and a deputy came into the AAATA office to review the accidents and concluded none of the accidents was due to the stop. Supervisor Stumbo stated because of those accidents the Sheriff said they would like the bus stop out of the road so the bus would not be stopping in traffic so close to a traffic light. Mr. White stated that the Fresh Thyme stop was an issue for them because its' so far away from the intersection that if they do the stop there it would invite people to cross the road midblock and not use the intersection. Mr. White stated the bus stops in traffic all along Washtenaw Avenue. Trustee Eldridge asked if there was a stop on the opposite side of the road. Mr. White said that one was planned that would be west of Golfside and the current stop was right across Washtenaw from Fresh Thyme. Treasurer Doe along with Trustee Eldridge questioned stopping the bus in the road on Washtenaw east of Golfside. Treasurer Doe said that his concern wasn't as much about cars getting rear ended as it was for cars trying to get in the

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 2

other lane to go past the bus and causing an accident. Mr. White stated that research shows it would be better to stop after an intersection then before but stopping after an intersection also can cause accidents. Mr. White said whenever there was transit service in an urban area they would be stopping in the street. Treasurer Doe asked if the right of way was obtained how long would it take to get the super stop. Mr. White said he didn't know because they need funding to build super stops. Trustee Eldridge questioned Mr. White if it was because of man power that they don't provide maintenance of bus shelters. Mr. White said that it was especially hard when it snows. Trustee Eldridge stated that although the township would use personnel to maintain the bus stop at the Civic Center he said he was concerned that AAATA had a big millage which passed to get these bus stops but now AAATA does not want to take responsibility with maintaining them. Mr. White said that when it snows they bring in extra manpower but could not maintain all the stops at the same time and continue to keep them cleared. Trustee Eldridge asked if AAATA had discussed with the municipalities regarding maintaining the stops or did AAATA just think the municipalities would be responsible for maintaining them. Mr. White stated that they had hired more staff and they work with property owners to help maintain the stops. Mr. White said if the township did not want to maintain the stop AAATA would have to maintain it. Jeff Allen, Residential Director stated the Township could maintain the front of the shelter Monday through Friday between 7:00am – 3:00pm and said we are not open on weekends and would not be able to maintain them after 3:00pm or on weekends. Mr. Allen stated that because Fresh Thyme is not opening the store until early 2017 the township could not maintain their stop. Supervisor Stumbo stated that the agreement would not include Fresh Thyme and we would only maintain the stop during the days and hours the Civic Center was open. Treasurer Doe asked if AAATA had an agreement with the Library to maintain the library stop and Mr. White confirmed that they did. Mr. White said they do not service the stops on holidays or weekends. Supervisor Stumbo said that there were requests for shelters at stops such as the Marriott and at Walmart. Mr. White stated that at the Walmart stop there was a problem with a change in elevation from the sidewalk to the curb. AAATA was still working to see if a shelter could be installed. Supervisor Stumbo confirmed with Mr. White that there were over 100 agreements where people agree to maintain stops and that AAATA does regular maintenance on stops such as cleaning and repairs. Mr. White stated they have 1300 stops with 112

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 3

shelters and it was the logistics that do not allow AAATA to maintain the shelters when it snows. Trustee Eldridge asked if the municipalities were reimbursed for maintaining the shelters and Mr. White said they were not. Mr. White said it was a volunteer program and if they find one location wasn't maintained then AAATA would maintain it.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe asked about utilizing CDBG funding next year for shelters and if AAATA had decided on the stops where the CDBG funding would be used for new shelters. Mr. White said sidewalks have been an issue because AAATA can't have a shelter if there wasn't an assessable path. Clerk Lovejoy Roe said that the Township needed to know because the funding cycle would be here soon and the Township needed to decide how much money would be needed to do one shelter or two and if the CDBG funds would pay for any of the sidewalks. Mr. White stated AAATA planned to pay for the shelters and pad but needed the sidewalk to make the shelter accessible. Clerk Lovejoy Roe confirmed that AAATA would like the township to use the CDBG funding for sidewalks. Mr. White said November would be a good time for them to meet with the Township and discuss the cost.

2. WOLVERINE PIPE PROGRAM – BRIAN WILSON, SUPERVISOR
LOU KRAUSS, RIGHT OF WAY SPECIALIST

Brian Wilson presented an overview on the Wolverine Pipe Program. Wolverine is a transportation based company. Mr. Wilson stated their company was like Fed Ex and UPS because they transport a product they don't own. He said Wolverine was a local company which has 67 employees most based in Portage, Michigan. Mr. Wilson said the pipeline begins in Chicago area moving northeast into Indiana and then into Michigan. He said they transport about 300,000 barrels of product a day which is roughly 12.4 million gallons annually. Mr. Wilson said that about a third of Michigan uses the petroleum product a day. He said the product includes gasoline, diesel fuels, and blended stocks. He said that the pipeline begins in Ypsilanti Township on US-12 and moves east towards Detroit. Mr. Wilson stated that they have a new line called Detroit Metro Assess Project and construction began August 29, 2016. He said it would be a new 13 inch 36 mile pipeline that would run through Washtenaw County. He said this pipeline would exceed industry standards and once it is finished it will be on the Michigan Mystic System which is also called

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 4

811. Mr. Wilson stated that Wolverine's number one priority was public safety and that they were heavily regulated. Mr. Wilson explained all the safety and training programs that Wolverine utilizes.

Lou Krauss, Right of Way Specialist discussed emergency preparedness and response. Mr. Krauss presented slides that showed both the right and the wrong way of maintaining the pipeline for public safety, safety of the environment, and the safety of property.

Treasurer Doe asked if the pipeline travels to Detroit or only as far as Metro Airport. Mr. Krauss stated that they do not transport jet fuel but at Metro they have existing pipe that delivers it to the Woodhaven station.

Supervisor Stumbo asked if the workers were union. Mr. Wilson stated that Wolverine has their own union and the northern workers are part of the United Steel Workers Union.

Arloa Kaiser, Township Resident asked since they have been in existence since 1953 have they had any breaks and if so what was the amount of spillage. Mr. Krauss said that in 1999 in Blackman County near Jackson they had a pipeline release that was a significant release and in the past there have been third party excavation releases. Supervisor Stumbo asked how much they lost and Mr. Krauss said he would look it up and get that information to the Township.

3. 2017 PRELIMINARY BUDGET – BRENDA STUMBO, SUPERVISOR
JAVONNA NEEL, ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR

Javonna Neel, Accounting Director explained the preliminary budget for 2017. She stated the presentation was on the township website. Ms. Neel asked if anyone had questions from the last meeting. Ms. Neel presented an overview of the following funds: 226 Environmental Services Fund, 230 Recreation Fund. Maria Batianis township employee questioned whether a clerical position was to be eliminated at the Recreation Center. Javonna Neel stated that in the budget there were no cuts. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that because programming at the Recreation Center was down she had been discussing with Angela Verges,

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 5

Recreation Services Manager and Karen Wallin, Human Resource Generalist about whether the township should continue to fund the clerk positions at the Community Center. Clerk Lovejoy Roe felt that now might be the time to make a decision since the township would be adding a clerical position in the OCS department. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated it would be a Board decision. Trustee Eldridge stated that if there had been discussion about cutting a clerical position requiring an employee to come to the board meeting to ask about the cut, the three Township Trustees knew nothing about it and were not involved in the discussion. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that there were no meetings about the cuts she said she looked at the budget after the meeting last month and felt maybe the township should not continue to fund the two positions when there was decreased participation in the programs offered. Clerk Lovejoy Roe said that the decision would always come from the board after discussing the budget. She said that when the budget was presented it was the appropriate time to discuss cuts with the full board. Treasurer Doe suggested a committee including Angela Verges along with one of her staff discuss this issue next week and come up with a solution to bring back to the board. He said any Trustee was welcome to be present at the meeting. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that the reason they were thinking of this cut was only because nothing would be worse than creating a new position, which was on our agenda tonight, and in December decide to cut a position at the Recreation Center. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that we need to change things so our fund balance increases and does not decrease so there is funding for big projects that are required like road improvements. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that the Recreation department functioned very well with one clerical in the past and now that the numbers were down it was time to reevaluate the need for two positions. She said it was a lot of money probably about \$70,000. of a \$600,000.00 subsidized budget. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that Angela Verges and her staff were working on coming up with new programs which would help to bring in more revenues. Myla Harris, AFSCME Chief Steward, stated that eliminating one clerical position would not solve the financial crisis at the Recreation Center. Ms. Harris said that if the Board decides to eliminate the position she had faith that the board would communicate with the union so that none of the union employees would be displaced. Ms. Harris also said that not only were the union positions being reviewed but the Township has non-union employees at the Recreation Center and the non-union should be eliminated first. Ms. Harris stated that there were about 10 nonunion, full time,

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 6

temporary, seasonal employees at the Recreation Center and she felt that if you have that many seasonal employees there would be a need for the two clerical positions if the nonunion positions were eliminated. She suggested that if the board decides to reduce one of the clerical positions that they would freeze the position and not eliminate it. Ms. Harris also suggested raising the membership for the senior program which was set at \$12.00 a year. She said that if the township would improve our parks that more people would use them for sports activities along with shelter rentals which would bring in more revenue. Ms. Harris stated that she would be against eliminating any position but would work with the board assuring no employee would be displaced. Trustee M. Martin asked Ms. Harris whether she was notified about the possibility of a position being cut at the Recreation Center. She stated she was notified that this meeting would include discussing financial issues at the Recreation Center but not about a displacing an employee. Ms. Harris stated that the board could not eliminate a union position without notifying the union. Supervisor Stumbo stated that Thursday before the meeting Clerk Lovejoy Roe said that she would like to discuss the possibility of reducing one of the Recreation clericals because of the possibility of a new position in the OCS department. Supervisor Stumbo stated she did not want to blind side the rest of the board, the union, or Angela Verges. She said Clerk Lovejoy Roe set up a meeting with Angela Verges and along with Supervisor Stumbo they discussed concerns. Supervisor Stumbo stated that it was Clerk Lovejoy Roes' right along with everyone to be able voice their concerns about the budget. She said the final budget would be a board decision and the budget currently presented includes two positions at the community center. Supervisor Stumbo stated that the Recreation Department has decreased their temporary staff from \$56,000.00 to \$37,000.00 which was a 34% reduction. Supervisor Stumbo said that there were more recreation programs being provided by other entities and some were being offered for free. Ms. Harris stated that she was glad to see the decrease in temporary staff down 34% but was still concerned and that 2 union employees with 15 plus years of seniority should still be keeping their positions when there were still temporary full time employees. Ms. Harris said the cuts should not begin with union employees. Trustee M. Martin asked if the union agreed to the temporary employees at the Recreation Center. Ms. Harris stated the union did not agree to have any clerical temporary employees. She said that the temporary employees were never meant to do clerical work. Angela Verges, Recreation Director stated

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
OCTOBER 4, 2016 WORK SESSION MINUTES
PAGE 7

that they have a Program Aide which may crossover to do some clerical but the position does travel planning and scheduling programs for the Senior Department and its' not a union position. Trustee Martin stated that if the nonunion employee was doing union work the union would have to had agreed to it otherwise it would be a contractual violation. Ms. Harris stated that the local union had not been aware what was going on in the recreation department and moving forward they would make sure there would be no crossover. Ms. Verges said she and her staff are looking for ways to generate revenue.

Arloa Kaiser, Township Resident stated that the board must work together. She said she feels there is one person who wants to run the board. She said that she believes money wasn't a concern only in certain departments. Ms. Kaiser stated that she would miss the two Trustees but with the new board she hopes they would work together.

Javonna Neel, Accounting Director continued with the presentation of the preliminary budget. Ms. Neel continued to present the revenue and expenditures for the following funds: 236-14B District Court and due to the short time left for the meeting she presented the 590 Compost Fund.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that we would continue with the budget at our next work session.

The Board adjourned the work session meeting at approximately 6:50p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk