

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2019 WORK SESSION MEETING**

Supervisor 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 Stumbo and Clerk Lovejoy Roe, Treasurer Doe
Trustees: Stan Eldridge, Heather Jarrell Roe,
Monica Ross-Williams, and
Jimmie Wilson, Jr. (arrived at 5:06PM)

Members Absent: none

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters

**1. REQUEST TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT
NEGOTIATIONS WITH YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP FIREFIGHTERS UNION LOCAL
1830**

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Jarrell Roe to go into Closed Session to Discuss Contract Negotiations with Ypsilanti Township Firefighters Union Local 1830.

Jarrell Roe	Yes	Eldridge	Yes	Ross-Williams	Yes
Lovejoy Roe	Yes	Stumbo	Yes	Doe	Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:01PM.

The Closed Session concluded at 5:35PM.

2. AGENDA REVIEW.....SUPERVISOR STUMBO

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Stumbo apologized for the person who used vulgar language at our previous meeting. She said if people continue to get agitated and begin to act inappropriately or use inappropriate language she would call them out of order and if that didn't defuse the problem she would ask for a recess until it was no longer an issue. She said that it was the first time it has ever happened in a meeting and she hoped that it would not happen again.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2, 2019 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING.

Trustee Ross-Williams asked for two changes in the April 2, 2019 meeting. Clerk Lovejoy Roe said she would make those changes.

B. STATEMENTS AND CHECKS

- 1. STATEMENTS AND CHECKS FOR APRIL 16, 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,010,175.25**
- 2. CHOICE HEALTH CARE DEDUCTIBLE ACH EFT FOR MARCH 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,067.56**
- 3. CHOICE HEALTH CARE ADMIN FEE FOR FEBRUARY 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,112.50**

C. MARCH 2019 TREASURER'S REPORT

ATTORNEY REPORT

- A. GENERAL LEGAL UPDATE – given later in the meeting**

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NEW BUSINESS

- 1. REQUEST APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 1830 UNION WITH A TERM ENDING DATE OF DECEMBER 31, 2019**
- 2. REQUEST APPROVAL OF UPDATED SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND CELL PHONE POLICY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE TOWNSHIP POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**

Trustee Jarrell Roe questioned if it was clear in the employee manual that employees can use their phone or social media when they are on their lunch hour.

Trustee Ross Williams questioned if the employee received a text during work hours were they allowed to respond to it.

Karen Wallin, Human Resources Generalist stated that employees may use their phones during lunch. She said many employees have young children or elderly parents they care for and they are going to need to see those texts or take those calls. She said we do not want their work to be interrupted for a long period of time. Ms. Wallin said they should not be on their phone talking and texting when they should be working. She said if a phone call needs longer attention the employee would need to have it approved by their supervisor and they should leave their workstation to complete the call.

Supervisor Stumbo said the policy includes a section on personal electronic devices. She said it states that although discouraged, they were aware that sometimes the use of personal devices were sometimes necessary.

Trustee Jarrell Roe stated if employees post on social media that they were employed by the Township, and post things that could offend people, they need to state their opinions are not those of the Township. She shared that the University of Michigan requires this to be done, if the employee indicates they are

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an employee, on their social media accounts. She said employees should post that their opinions are not the opinion of the employer.

Trustee Ross Williams questioned if our employees social media posts were regulated by the Township.

Trustee Jarrell Roe said she was concerned that employees posting opinions should make it clear they are not posting as an official spokesperson for the township.

Karen Wallin said she understood and would clarify the language in the policy.

Trustee Ross Williams asked if the employee needed to post every time or just in the heading of their social media account that their opinions were not the opinion of the Township.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that as long as employee's comments on social media did not adversely affect the Township there would not be an issue.

Trustee Jarrell Roe stated that the words adversely affect the Township was so subjective and could be interpreted differently by different individuals.

Karen Wallin stated that Deputy Clerk Stanfield was on the committee also and said she was thankful that she was on the committee. She indicated that the first policy did not allow the employees to do anything on social media. She said they spent a lot of time discussing the issues and said they were trying to find a happy medium.

Deputy Clerk Lisa Stanfield said her opinion was that if you are on your personnel Facebook page and you are commenting on a political item or someone's personal situation she feels people should understand that's a personal opinion. She said if she was not running a political page and that someone made a comment on their personal page others would not think that was the townships official position. Deputy Stanfield said she did not think it was necessary to add language requiring employees to post that their opinion was their opinion and not

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the official position of the Township. She said of course, that would be up to the board to decide.

Karen Wallin stated that using cell phones, either work phones or personal phones was not allowed in township vehicles and she wanted to include the election officials under that language. She explained she met with the unions in regards to the policies and made some changes they suggested and was satisfied she had buy in from the employees regarding the two policies.

3. REQUEST APPROVAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE WASHTENAW COUNTY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GRANT IN A NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$26,899.00 AND TO APPROVE THE WASHTENAW COUNTY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GRANT AGREEMENT

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated that we are confident that we will get the \$15,000.00 grant but there were other costs above this amount. She said we would know on May 2, 2019 what amount the Washtenaw County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority would provide for the grant.

Supervisor Stumbo stated this was coming from a Grant through Urban County for the Community Center flooring. She said the money comes from HUD and they require that we do this testing.

4. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH TETRA TECH FOR A PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UPDATE AND HAZARDOUS BUILDING MATERIALS SURVEY FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,701.00 TO BE BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM 212-970-000-976-008 CONTINGENT ON APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET AMENDMENT

5. REQUEST APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH FRIENDS OF RUTHERFORD POOL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00 BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM 101-956-000-882-004 WITH TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

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Supervisor Stumbo stated that this is a matching donation so Rutherford Pool will receive \$10,000.0 for our \$5,000.00 donation.

6. REQUEST OF MIKE RADZIK, OCS DIRECTOR FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK LEGAL ACTION TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE DRUG HOUSES BY PADLOCKING LOCATED AT 6934 POPLAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #101-950-000-801-023

Mike Radzik, OCS Director stated the resident who was selling heroin and fentanyl from this home was the son of the homeowner. Mr. Radzik stated the resident was selling drugs at the home but also would meet at various locations to conduct drug sales. Mr. Radzik said the resident was arrested and when they searched this home, they found large quantities of fentanyl. Mr. Radzik said the resident has an open active felony narcotics trafficking case pending against him.

7. REQUEST OF MIKE RADZIK, OCS DIRECTOR FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK LEGAL ACTION IF NECESSARY TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1474 ECORSE RD. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #101-950-000-801-023

Mike Radzik, OCS Director stated that in 2016 the owner of this building did not register it with the township. He said they met with the owner and he did make some of the changes that were needed. Mr. Radzik stated that although the outside of the building does not look bad the inside is deteriorating. Mr. Radzik said that currently the vacant building is a fire hazard and cannot be occupied. Mr. Radzik stated the owners, who are out of Detroit, do not seem to be willing to cooperate with us by making the necessary updates to the building.

Supervisor Stumbo stated this building has been an issue with the neighborhood watch group. She said it could be a thriving area with the right businesses going into this area.

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8. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION OF PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH DTE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TWO (2) NEW WOOD POLES, ONE (1) 58w LED LEOTECH FIXTURE, AND ONE 17'6" ARM TO BE LOCATED AT ONANDAGA AVE. AND THE SERVICE DR. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,696.06 TO BE BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #101-956-000-926-050 CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET AMENDMENT

Trustee Jarrell Roe asked if this would be an area that could benefit from adding a camera since we would be putting up a light fixture it would be easy to add a camera. She also asked if the light would shine in a residents' backyard and whether the residents were aware of this new light being installed.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe said she would visit the resident's house and talk with them about the light.

Michael Radzik reported that there was already a camera at this intersection.

JoAnn McCollum, Township Resident stated they are also happy to get cameras in West Willow and this intersection was one of the entrances to that area.

Supervisor Stumbo stated the residents would be notified in the area of the new light fixture.

9. REQUEST TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019 AT APPROXIMATELY 7:00PM – CREATION OF SECURITY CAMERA SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT #074 FOR THE CLIFFS CONDOS

10. BUDGET AMENDMENT #7

AUTHORIZATIONS AND BIDS

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- 1. REQUEST OF MIKE RADZIK, OCS DIRECTOR FOR APPROVAL TO SEEK SEALED BIDS FOR GENERATOR REPLACEMENT AT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

ATTORNEY REPORT

A. GENERAL LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney Winters stated the Re-Imagine Washtenaw Corridor is moving forward with installation of ADA compliant sidewalks and curb ramps. He said it would go out for bid this summer and work would begin in the Fall of 2019. Mr. Winters said that Crunch Fitness would be going into the old Farmer Jacks building on Washtenaw. He said they would be occupying 24,000 square feet. Attorney Winters stated the retaining wall behind Gault Village will now be taken down and will be replaced using the funds that were escrowed.

Mike Radzik, OCS Director stated construction began a couple days ago, most of the wall was already down, and they are beginning the reconstruction.

Attorney Winters stated the new owner of Gault Village has not been responsive. He said the court allowed him to purchase the property but the new owner has not moved forward in making the changes that need to be made. He said the Township would be going back to court and we would like the Judge to make an onsite visit to inspect this property.

Attorney Winters said the Ford Blvd. Fire Station parking lot was completed. He said the Civic Center would be getting a new roof this spring.

Attorney Winters stated R&L Carriers were expanding their business in Ypsilanti Township and will be looking for additional employees.

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Attorney Winters stated the Township closed on the River Grove Townhomes that were acquired through the Washtenaw County Tax Foreclosure process.

Attorney Winters stated Kettering School has been demolished and Thurston School should be demolished soon. He said we are still working on the funding for the clean up of Forbes Cleaners.

Attorney Winters stated they are working with ACM and will continue to stay involved with changing the property from WRAD to ACM and make sure Township interests are protected.

Trustee Ross-Williams thanked Attorney Winters and staff who continued to work on Re-Imagine Washtenaw. She said that it would change that corridor and make it more walkable for many residents and visitors.

Work Session ended at approximately 6:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk
Charter Township of Ypsilanti