

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 19, 2021 WORK SESSION**

Supervisor Stumbo called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. on a Zoom Virtual Board meeting.

Members Present: Supervisor Stumbo, Clerk Heather Jarrell Roe, and Treasurer Eldridge
Trustees: Gloria Peterson, Debbie Swanson,
John Newman & Jimmie Wilson Jr.
(arrived approx. 5:20PM)

Members Absent: none

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters

1. DISCUSSION ON UPDATED LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION....Treasurer Eldridge

Treasurer Eldridge stated the Township has had the same liquor license application process they had for many years and it needed updated. He said he met with members of the Township Liquor Commission and they concluded the application needed to be revised. Treasurer Eldridge said he researched other municipality's policies to come came up with the draft that the board has in front of them tonight for review. He said the document contains the fees we currently charge and what the liquor commission has suggested the fees should be in the future.

Trustee Swanson asked if the application fee was refundable if the license was denied. Treasurer Eldridge stated it was non-refundable because of the amount of work that staff would be doing with background checks and examining site locations, etc. He said there would still be the ground work that would have to be done to make the decision to approve or deny the application.

Trustee Peterson asked if the liquor license stays with the applicant if they sell the business. Treasurer Eldridge stated it is transferred to the new owner.

Attorney Winters said that the liquor license goes to the applicant and they are the owner of license. He said the owner can sell that license anywhere in the county.

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He said if the owner of the business sells it along with the business then the liquor license could be transferred to the new owner. He said there are only a number of licenses allocated to the Township every decade based upon population.

Clerk Jarrell Roe stated there are two potential businesses waiting to apply for a liquor license.

Trustee Swanson questioned when the application is rejected since the applicant has given us private personal information where is that application kept or is it destroyed.

Attorney Winters should be returned to the applicant.

Supervisor Stumbo stated the application was old and needed updated and they want those applying to be treated equally. She said one of the applicants had opened a restaurant and wanted to apply for a license and found out that the building they were in already had a license attached to it. She said if the Board would have approved the license, the building would have had two liquor licenses assigned to them. She said that is why we need to investigate thoroughly moving forward and hence needing the new application. She asked if of the five licenses the Township has left is there a difference when asking for just a beer/wine license versus a full bar.

Michael Radik, OCS Director stated they are the same, we have five left it can be just beer/wine or spirits but if it's beer/wine only that still counts as one license. He said when we craft the language for the Ordinance Amendment we should list the types of State licenses that people would be required to come to the Township Board for approval what you need a license and board approval for. He said a micro-brewery needs a manufacturing license and does not need board approval but if they have a tasting room to provide samples that's an on premise service and that does need Township Board approval but it doesn't come out of our quota for liquor licenses. He said it would be beneficial for all if we explain this thoroughly so everyone is clear on what type of license they need for each business.

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Supervisor Stumbo said she wondered if having different levels of approval should they all pay the same application fee.

Michael Radzik stated that he would think the board should consider that although someone can sell a liquor license, someone with approval for a tasting room cannot sell it and maybe their fee should be different.

Attorney Winters stated that this is a good first draft and he would work with Treasurer Eldridge and the rest of the committee and come back at the next meeting with more of a final form.

Michael Radzik stated that a liquor license was purchased from a business in Ann Arbor and the purchaser is opening a business in Ypsilanti Township and will be bringing that license to the township. He said this will need to be approved by the Township Board. He said that will not come out of the Townships' quota and should not be a problem for that to move forward.

Trustee Newman asked if all liquor licenses in each county cost the same. Supervisor Stumbo stated the license from the State cost the same but the municipality has different fees for the applications.

Supervisor Stumbo thanked Treasurer Eldridge and the committee for their work on this issue. She said having a liquor license is a valuable asset for a business to grow but we want the license to stay within the Township.

AGENDA REVIEW

A. MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2020 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Stumbo gave her changes to Clerk Jarrell Roe.

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B. STATEMENTS AND CHECKS

- 1. STATEMENTS AND CHECKS FOR JANUARY 19, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,227,603.71**
- 2. CHOICE HEALTHCARE DEDUCTIBLE ACH EFT FOR DECEMBER 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,412.57**
- 3. CHOICE HEALTHCARE ADMIN FEE FOR DECEMBER 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,205.00**

C. TREASURER'S REPORT DECEMBER 2020

ATTORNEY REPORT

A. GENERAL LEGAL UPDATE

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. RESOLUTION 2021-03, RESOLUTION APPROVING REFUNDING CONTRACT BETWEEN THE YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITY AUTHORITY AND YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP**

Tom Colis, Bonding Representative with YCUA gave an overview of the refunding contract. He said they can redeem Bonds after ten years and refinance them at a lower interest rate.

- 2. RESOLUTION 2021-01, POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES**

Brian McCleery, Deputy Assessor stated the State mandates every year that we approve a resolution with poverty exemption guidelines. He said residents apply in March, July or December for a poverty exemption and if they meet the criteria they will only have to pay a portion of their property taxes. He said this year the State is

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changing the form and the formula for calculating the property tax adjustment. He said with this new formula the very least a resident who qualifies will receive is 25% off their property tax bill.

Trustee Swanson asked where the personal information goes to after they have been accepted or denied the exemption. She asked if there is help with filling out the forms if needed.

Deputy McCleery stated if a resident receives a poverty exemption it is public record but other confidential information they had to provide is redacted out of the forms. He said their staff will help residents through the process.

3. REQUEST TO APPROVE 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING DATES

4. RESOLUTION 2021-02, OWNERS DAM SAFETY PROGRAM (ODSP)

Michael Sararen, Hydro Operations Manager, stated this has to be renewed every year by the Board.

5. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES ON ROSEDALE RD. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,862.00 AND ON ONANDAGA AVE. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,912.00 BOTH BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #101-446-000-818-022

6. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH WASHTENAW COUNTY FOR SERVICES IN RELATION TO REIMAGINE WASHTENAW FOR 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000.00 BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #101-956-000-801-000

Supervisor Stumbo stated this is something we have been working on for several years. She said last year the sidewalk was completed from Golfside to the Big Boy on Washtenaw.

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Jason Iacoangeli, Planning Director stated we pay this to the Washtenaw County Planning Office to provide beneficial services that go along with the Reimagine Washtenaw Plan. He said has been money well spent in the amount of help they have given to Ypsilanti Township in the way of transportation, block crossing development and design and the sidewalk infill down Washtenaw Avenue.

**7. REQUEST TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH MISSION CONTROL GG LLC.
FOR E-SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES WITH FEES BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM
#230-751-000-740-100**

John Hines, Recreation Coordinator, stated that Mission Control GG LLC is a company that specializes in e-sports gaming. He said it's a platform similar to the civic rec which is what is used for our program registration at the Recreation Center. He said this agreement includes Ypsilanti Township, Pittsfield Township and the City of Saline recreation centers. He said the three of them creating this partnership offer e-sports to the Washtenaw area and greater southeast Michigan. He said it give individuals forming like a sport league to sign up, pay a fee, and allow them to play games competitively. He said it fills a void where in-person recreation has been lacking this year.

Trustee Newman asked if you have to be a member of a Recreation Center. Mr. Hines stated they are hosting these leagues through the three Recreation centers but anyone can join them.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:52PM

Respectfully Submitted,

**Heather Jarrell Roe, Clerk
Charter Township of Ypsilanti**