

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
WORK SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2009**

The Work Session was called to order by Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the 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 Jean Hall Currie, Stan Eldridge and Mike Martin

Members Absent: Trustee Dee Sizemore

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters (arrived at approximately 6:10 p.m.)

1. DISCUSS SUPREME COURT RULING – WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS LAWSUIT (This will be discussed in Executive Session)

Supervisor Stumbo stated that the Board would not go directly into Executive Session since Attorney Winters hadn't arrived yet.

2. DISCUSS AUTHORIZING THREE FULL-TIME OFFICIALS TO PREPARE A NEWSLETTER AND TO UTILIZE MESSENGER PRINTING FOR DISTRIBUTION

Clerk Lovejoy Roe explained that she had been in contact with Messenger Printing and they were willing to honor the same bid they provided in March. They could meet the Township's quick deadline and if it was agreeable to the Board, they could add the item to the agenda.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that the purpose of the newsletter was to update the community on the Township's financial situation, as well as on the upcoming police millage. They would also include additional information, as they had done in the past on holiday closures, trash pickup information, etc.

Trustee Currie asked if the Trustees' names would be on the letter.

Supervisor Stumbo replied that they would, and the Board would see the newsletter before it was mailed.

Clerk Roe suggested that the Board could authorize the newsletter at a cost not to exceed \$8,000 for printing and mailing. She would provide the line items to the Board at the meeting. The Board agreed to add the item to the agenda under Other Business.

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3. 1325 COMMONWEALTH

Clerk Stumbo explained that an issues regarding 1325 Commonwealth had come up and was distributed to Board Members yesterday.

Michael Radzik, Community Standards Director explained that at some point, the owners of the home had dug out the crawl space for a basement. It was done improperly and as a result, the walls were bowed and collapsing. The house was vacant, he believed in foreclosure and the real estate company was trying to auction it with no disclosures. The Township was trying to protect the neighborhood so it would not be sold without the purchaser knowing. According to the estimate of Building Director Ron Fulton, it would be too cost prohibitive to repair the damage and the house would likely have to be demolished.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that if it was agreeable to the Board, they could add this item to the agenda under Attorney Report. The Board agreed.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that Trustee Eldridge would be a few minutes late to the meeting and Trustee Sizemore was recuperating very well and should be back within 30 days.

4. CIVIC CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION

Supervisor Stumbo explained that there was also a request to add the Civic Center hours of operation under Other Business. The board discussed implementing the 32 hour work week when they approved the union contract. They were looking at implementing it on October 5, 2009. Since there were only two clerical personnel in some departments, it would be easier to cover the schedule if the building hours were 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This had been suggested by managers in the past, as opposed to closing one full day, which would have a greater impact on residents. Discussion followed.

Treasurer Doe asked that if approved, the information be added to the newsletter. The Board agreed to add this item to the agenda under Other Business.

REVIEW AGENDA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. **2ND READING RESOLUTION NO. 2009-27, PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2009-397, AMENDING CODE OF ORDINANCES – ANIMAL CONTROL (1ST reading held at the August 18, 2009 Regular Meeting)**

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Trustee Martin explained that his concern was in Section 6, Paragraph 1. The final sentence stated that dogs may be adopted or euthanized if not claimed by the owner in a manner authorized by the Humane Society. He contacted the Humane Society and asked what their policy was. They told him the only dogs who were euthanized were ones that were sick and couldn't be treated or ones that were not able to be rehabilitated, in other words they were so vicious, there was no chance anyone could adopt them. Every other dog not claimed by the owner was put into the adoption system and would never be euthanized. He asked the Board to change the language to say the dog would be subject to the policy currently in place at the Huron Valley Humane Society. The Humane Society had asked that the Township not include the language regarding euthanizing. Discussion followed. The Board agreed to change the language in Section 6, Paragraph 1, as suggested by Trustee Martin.

Trustee Martin referenced Article 3, Section 2 where it discussed the fees for licensing.

Treasurer Doe explained that currently, the fees for tags purchased from November to the end of February were \$5.00. After February, the fees increased to \$10.00. This issue was discussed and it was agreed the license fee would be changed to \$6.00. Discussion followed.

The Board agreed to leave this language as it was.

Supervisor Stumbo stated that it had been requested that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the Supreme Court ruling regarding the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners lawsuit.

A motion was made by Trustee Currie, supported by Clerk Lovejoy Roe to enter into Executive Session at approximately 6:18 p.m. The motion carried as follows:

Martin:	Yes	Eldridge:	Yes	Currie:	Yes
Sizemore:	Absent	Roe:	Yes	Doe:	Yes
Stumbo:	Yes				

The Work Session adjourned at approximately 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk