

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 15, 2011 REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center Board Room, 7200 S. Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti Township. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silent prayer was observed.

Members Present: Supervisor Brenda L. Stumbo, Clerk Karen Lovejoy Roe, Treasurer Larry Doe, Trustees Jean Hall Currie, Stan Eldridge and Mike Martin

Members Absent: None

Legal Counsel: Wm. Douglas Winters and Angela King

INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

**A. CANDIDATES REQUESTING APPOINTMENT TO TRUSTEE VACANCY
WILL BE ALLOCATED 2-3 MINUTES TO SPEAK ON THEIR REQUEST**

Each candidate spoke regarding their request for appointment to the vacant Trustee position on the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Board of Trustees. Clerk Lovejoy Roe introduced the candidates in alphabetical order as follows:

Maudie Abraham, Daniel Benefiel, Ethel Burns, Mark Clancy, Shoshana DeMaria, Dennis Dickinson, John Hoops, Kathy Leach, Scott Martin, Paul Nucci, Monica Ross-Williams, Lonnie Scott, Maria Shele-Edwards, Carol Simmers, Mattie Smith, Trudy Swanson, Kenneth Totten and Billy D. Williams

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated Mr. David Dykhouse requested his name be removed from consideration, two individuals that submitted resumes did not respond to the Board questions and a third person submitted information past the deadline.

Supervisor Stumbo thanked the candidates for the information they provided and for speaking at the meeting. She said the candidate information was available on the website.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe also thanked the candidates and stated Ypsilanti Township was a great community made up of fabulous people who were passionate about our community. She said only one person could be appointed but it would be great to harness all the collective energy into a team that could work together to bring forward innovative ideas and strategies to enrich Ypsilanti Township. Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated only one person could be selected and she hoped the candidates that were not selected would still like to remain active in the community and become part of such a team.

Supervisor Stumbo stated the Board would make the appointment at the March 1, 2011 Regular Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Angela Barbash, Township Resident stated it was great to see so many qualified candidates for the Trustee position. She asked if the Board continued to work on the issue of backyard breeders.

Supervisor Stumbo said there had been two meetings to discuss the issue of backyard breeders. The first meeting was with the Humane Society and the

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second meeting was with the attorney and the Sheriff's Department. Supervisor Stumbo stated she hoped an ordinance would be before the Board by May.

Mr. Sesi, Vice President of Sesi Motors located on Michigan Avenue, across from the Ypsi Mobile Village said his company had been living with the blight for many years. He wanted to give a word of gratitude and thanks to the Township Board for their persistence and professionalism in attacking the blight issue at Ypsi Mobile Village.

Arloa Kaiser, Township Resident stated she was happy so many people had attended the meeting and see encouraged the residents to come to the meetings.

Stan McGara, Township Resident stated he appreciated everyone attending the board meeting. He further stated Verizon was starting a plan that would allow residents to get unlimited, nationwide and local service for \$20 through their home phone.

Monica Ross-Williams, Township Resident thanked Supervisor Stumbo for the interview she did on FOX2 News regarding the GM Powertrain plant and she asked what would be done with the land.

Dan Benefiel, Township Resident stated the incarceration of non-violent criminals was a drain on the economy. He said an alternative sentencing program and restitution would save the State billions of dollars.

Linda Mealy, Township Resident thanked all the Trustee candidates for speaking at the meeting. She also thanked the Board for allowing Habitat for Humanity into our community to fix up homes.

MINUTES

A. FEBRUARY 1, 2011 REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Trustee Eldridge, supported by Treasurer Doe to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2011 Regular Meeting and Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Stumbo stated the Washtenaw County Parks Commission approved and funded the boathouse project.

Supervisor Stumbo reported the Township offices were closed on February 2, 2011 due to the blizzard and the maintenance employees and staff did an excellent job removing ice and snow from our facilities.

Supervisor Stumbo stated Bob George, Crystal Pond Condominium Developer was convicted and sentenced to five years probations and to make full restitution. She said Mr. George had taken over \$800,000 from people who were purchasing his condominiums.

Supervisor Stumbo provided the following detailed overview of meetings she attended with three full-time officials and/or staff:

- 2/3/11 Chief Copeland, Travis McDugald and I attended an arbitration hearing in Detroit. A fire in our community resulted in the death of one of our residents.
- 2/4/11 Met with Rick Fisher of Fisher Honda.

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Chief Copeland, Karen Wallin, Tammie Keen and I met with resident regarding concerns with firefighters.

Three full-time officials and Doug Winters met with Congressman Dingell regarding HUD funding and redevelopment of General Motors Facility.

- 2/5/11 Mike Martin and I attended a roundtable discussion with Congressman Dingell in Romulus. State Representative Dave Rutledge was present, as well as County Commissioners Judge and Peterson and City Council Representative Lois Richardson.
- 2/7/11 Three full-time officials met for their weekly administrative meeting.
- 2/8/11 Larry Doe, Mike Radzik and I attended weekly police meeting.
- 2/9/11 Met with resident regarding zoning issue on Harris Road.
- 2/10/11 Three full-time officials met with Washtenaw County Road Commission to discuss snow removal policy, street sweeping policy and future road improvements for 2011. Resident William Stuart and I attended Willow Run Airport Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study meeting. The public hearing is scheduled for March 28th at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel in Belleville. We will have a brief board presentation on this issue at the 28th meeting.
- 2/11/11 Karen Roe, Larry Doe and I met with Angela Barbash, NWWNA President to discuss issues in West Willow. We are thankful for their board and their commitment to our community.
- 2/14/11 Three full-time officials met with Shamar Herron and Jennifer Owens of Ann Arbor SPARK. They identified a list of retention businesses to visit in 2011 and we were told about another potential development in our community (this is great news).
- Three full-time officials met with Senator Rebecca Warren and her staff.
- Three full-time officials and Angela Barbash met with Habitat for Humanity. We discussed the tax abatement public hearing that will be held on March 1st and the possible use of dollars that are budgeted for home ownership program in identified high rental, low to moderate-income areas. Of course, this will come to the board for discussion and approval.
- 2/15/11 Three full-time officials met with Michael Ford and Sarah Presspritch of AATA regarding a countywide transit funding mechanism and countywide board of directors.
- Three full-time officials attended weekly police meeting with the Supervisor of the Washtenaw County parolee program. It was a very interesting meeting. They are willing to consider a pilot program working with our police department on identifying and making contact with parolees in our community.

CLERK REPORT

Clerk Lovejoy Roe provided the following written update:

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- Election Preparations are currently underway in the Clerk's Office for the Tuesday, May 3, 2011 election. This is a countywide election for a proposal for the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. We are working daily ordering supplies, communicating with election workers and doing normal preparation for an election.
- We have had several passport applications processed the past two weeks, this is a busy time for passport applications, in preparation for spring and summer break and vacation times.
- Filing and copying is a key part of what the Clerk's Office undertakes every day. Our office continues to work daily making approximately 600 plus paper copies of files sent electronically and filing then in our paper files.
- Storage room reorganization and clean out is almost complete. Our staff has made the transition of storage rooms to create a new expanded, more protected and secured election storage room. Staff has consistently worked on this project for about three months and it is almost completed. The Clerk's office would like to acknowledge the hard work and great cooperation of the maintenance staff. The other departments were also very helpful with identifying files to be destroyed and moved. Without the total efforts of all the staff and all the township departments, we could not have been successful in our reorganization.
- Tax collection is currently underway in the Treasurer's office and the Clerk's office has assisted the Treasurer's office during this time.
- AATA is rolling out countywide meetings as a part of the transportation strategic plan for AATA. The meetings and presentations are an effort to have public input on the future of transportation in our county. The residents have expressed concerns for the lack of public transportation to the Ypsilanti District Library. Most of the participants at the AATA presentations have supported a Smart Growth transportation plan that focuses on keeping major commercial, recreation and employment opportunities in urban core areas in the county to reduce the costs of services and transportation costs along with maintaining green spaces in our county. It was pointed out during the AATA strategic planning meetings that the plans to build a major recreation facility to serve the eastern side of the county at the Rolling Hills County Park would be in direct conflict with the Smart Growth plan. It was shared that a facility of this magnitude built in the open green space of the county so far removed from the urban cores, without public transportation would create another public facility like the library without public transportation access or the ability to reach this destination by bike or walking due to the lack of bike/walking paths in this area of the county.
- Reimaging Washtenaw, group of Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor City, Pittsfield and Ypsilanti Township representatives is moving forward to create a Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) for Washtenaw Avenue. The current state legislation does not allow a collaborative effort of this size to be in one large CIA so the group has decided to pursue legislative changes to allow all four municipalities to work together on this effort. The public hearings regarding the creation of the CIA are being scheduled in all four communities. Ypsilanti Township will hold our public hearing on March 1, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. for the Reimaging Washtenaw Concept Plan. The plan is to create the authority and a structure for inter-local government cooperation including developing by-laws and to begin formulating goals for capital projects to improve the area for economic development. The concept is to encourage private and public cooperation and investment to create a climate for economic growth in the corridor and to create jobs. The financing for these projects will be captured through tax increment financing where current taxes will continue to flow

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directly to the municipalities involved and new investment and new tax dollars will have a portion used as approved by the municipalities to fund the goals. Grants are also being applied for currently to help fund the operation of the CIA along with other projects in the Washtenaw Avenue Corridor.

The Reimaging Group is hosting a public meeting for the businesses and others in the corridor at Paesano's on Wednesday, February 23rd from 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM. Everyone is invited.

- At the February 1st board meeting, the Board rejected the request to allow the three full-time officials and department heads to view a product demonstration pertaining to proposals on the digital document/information management. The Board approved seeking the proposals at the October 5th Regular Meeting.

During the discussion, Board Members and residents raised questions concerning:

1. Financial benefit to Township residents
2. Cost associated with delaying implementation

For approximately two years, a group of employees, department heads and elected officials have been diligently researching the best solution for this type of document/information management system.

The detailed overview provided to the Board at the September 14th board meeting consisted of information pertaining to seven Township departments at the Civic Center.

Currently:

- 750,000 copies are made per year at a cost of \$11,890.00

Conservative projected reduction in copies (with digital system):

- 200,000 copies per year at a cost of \$3,382.00
- The reduction in copy and paper costs per year for 7 departments would be \$8,500.00

Cost associated with delaying implementation:

- \$8,500 per year including copy cost and paper cost

The information presented did not include the Fire Department, Recreation Department or Hydro Station files. Also not included in the overview was the cost associated with purchasing file folders and storage boxes.

Savings would be further increased by the reduced wear and tear on our copiers and substantially extend the life of the copiers and provide substantial savings in future copier replacement costs.

The yearly maintenance cost would offset some of the yearly savings on the copying and paper costs.

Microfilming permanent files would require estimated annual costs of \$5,000/per year. (This annual cost does not include the initial cost of microfilming all permanent back files which is estimated to be a one-time cost of \$25,000)

Microfilming would only be for permanent records and still require the \$11,890.00 per year expenditure for paper and copying costs.

Based upon the extensive research and time staff has spent over the past two years every day the township delays implementation of a document/information system the amount of annual costs and volume of paper files are going up exponentially and the savings are being lost in a compounded manner. The

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value to residents is significant in cost savings, compliance with state retention regulations and efficiency in streamlined workflow, along with efficient document/information management as explained in detail in the Document Management Overview distributed in September of 2010.

Trustee Vacancy and Applications-We have spent a large amount of time working with township residents in regards to communicating and processing a good number of letters of interest, resumes and answers to board questions in preparation for the board meeting. It has been a pleasure working with so many qualified and great township residents. We owe a great deal of thanks to Nancy Wrybkowski for her diligent efforts in notifying the press and working with residents and me during the process over the past two weeks.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated there had been two FOIA requests regarding the GM Powertrain facility in terms of cleanup. She thought it was a good sign because it showed someone was interested.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe said she sat on the Urban County Executive Committee that funneled the Community Development Block Grants HUD dollars and home dollars and there had been great success working with Habitat for Humanity.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe reported the Holmes Road Phase III project was scheduled to begin in the spring and would be completed before the end of the year.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe also reported the Ford Blvd. Bridge was scheduled for replaced in 2012.

TREASURER REPORT

A. JANUARY 2010

Treasurer Doe stated the beginning balance was \$30,577,622.25, cash receipts were \$4,742,571.85, cash disbursements were \$4,688,833.52 and the ending balance was \$30,631,360.58.

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to receive and file the January 2011 Treasurer's report (see attached). The motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Trustee Currie stated she attended the Appleridge Neighborhood Watch meeting and she was happy to report that crime was down.

Trustee Eldridge stated he spoke with Dee Sizemore earlier in the day and she passed along her best wishes for each of the candidates.

Trustee Eldridge also thanked the candidates and stated it would be a difficult decision. He recognized members of various Township Boards and Commission and former Supervisor Ruth Ann Jamnick.

Trustee Eldridge stated the proposed charter school at Hitchingham and Merritt Road attended a Planning Commission meeting to provide the community information even though they were not required to do so.

Trustee Eldridge said the Police Services Committee met with the consultant and a report was expected in March. He said there was a plan to have a discussion with officials in Lansing regarding collaboration.

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Trustee Eldridge stated the Office of Community Standards staff and Township Attorneys had done a tremendous job with the enforcement of blighted properties. He said it was businesses like Sesi Motors that made this a great community.

Trustee Martin said they continued to work on the backyard breeder issue. He said he was committed to seeing it through.

Trustee Martin thanked the candidates that spoke on their request for appointment. He stated he had received many compliments on the open, transparency of the process the Board chose for filing the Trustee position.

ATTORNEY REPORT

A. GENERAL LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney Winters provided an update and overview of blighted properties as follows:

- Ypsi Mobile Village:

Attorney Winters provided an extensive overview of the Ypsi Mobile Village lawsuit. He explained that just prior to going before Judge Shelton, the attorney for Ypsi Mobile Village filed for bankruptcy, asserting that Judge Shelton no longer had jurisdiction. Attorney Winters said an emergency hearing was held with the bankruptcy court judge, who entered an order that stated the automatic stay provisions did not apply to this situation and the Township could go forward with enforcement of the motion against Cormello, LLC. He said the show cause hearing was held on January 12, 2011 and the Judge Shelton ordered Dominic D'Mello to be added to the case as an independent party defendant. Judge Shelton provided a specific timeline of 30 days for removal of the mobile homes. Attorney Winters stated at some point, Mr. D'Mello would be held responsible for the attorney fees and court cost that were imposed upon Ypsilanti Township through his neglect.

- Grove Road Dairy Mart

Attorney Winters stated he, Mr. Radzik, Mr. Fulton, Lt. Anuszkiewicz and Detective Robbins attended a hearing with the Michigan LLC regarding the Dairy Mart on Grove Road. He said they requested the Dairy Mart liquor license be revoked because of their continued violation of selling liquor to minors and the bribery attempt where the detective was offered money to not report their violation

- 2404 Lakeview - Bottle and Basket

Attorney Winters stated the Township was repeatedly promised by the insurance company that the building would be demolished. He said the Township continued to babysit the location because people were climbing into the burnt-out structure to look for anything of value. Attorney Winters stated a lawsuit had been filed against the insured of the business.

- 2997 Washtenaw (Zeer property)

Attorney Winters stated it was the Township Board that saw Washtenaw Avenue as a gateway into Ypsilanti Township and realized the building needed to be demolished. Those plans are underway. He said plans were received from Happy Pizza to build a \$300,000 new commercial establishment.

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- 2260 E. Michigan Avenue

Attorney Winters said the Michigan Avenue corridor was important to the Township. He said the Woodard's commercial auto building had been demolished.

- Liberty Square

Attorney Winters stated approximately a dozen homeowners remained in the complex and the Township continued to work with the remaining homeowners in a humane, dignified manner. He said the complex continues to be a drain on the Township resources.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. REQUEST OF PARK COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL OF CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI NON-MOTORIZED PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE PATHWAY SYSTEM: NON-MOTORIZED FACILITIES INVENTORY, ANALYSIS, AND PLANNING STUDY** (referred to staff at the 12/07/11 Regular Meeting)

Supervisor Stumbo stated the agenda item was requested to be tabled by the Park Commission.

A motion was made by Trustee Currie, supported by Treasurer Doe to table the Charter Township of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway System: Non-Motorized Facilities Inventory Analysis and Planning Study to the March 1, 2011 Regular Meeting. The motion carried as follows:

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

- 2. 2nd READING RESOLUTION NO. 2011-1, ORDINANCE NO. 2011-411 AMENDING THE ONE AND TWO UNIT RENTAL INSPECTION ORDINANCE IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF YPSILANTI, WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN** (1st reading held at the January 18, 2011 Regular Meeting)

Clerk Lovejoy Roe read the resolution into the record.

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve Resolution No. 2011-1, Ordinance No. 2011-411 – Amending the One and Two Unit Rental Inspection Ordinance in the Code of Ordinances for the Charter Township of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, Michigan (see attached).

Mike Radzik, OCS Director provided a brief overview of the rental housing inspection program. He stated it was originally developed as a pilot program in low and moderate-income areas as designated by the Federal Housing and Urban Development office. Mr. Radzik said the Township qualified for federal community block grant funds to get the program off the ground. He said the Township had since become aware of how widespread the single-family rentals had become in our community. Mr. Radzik stressed the pilot program was an extreme success and he was requesting the program be implemented township-wide, outside the low to moderate-income areas.

The motion carried as follows:

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve Budget Amendment #2 (see attached). The motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Lovejoy Roe read the budget amendment into the record. She explained these were federal grant dollars received through the Department of Energy.

Jeff Allen, RSD Director stated the funds would be used for potentially energy efficiencies at the fire station.

2. WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION ROAD IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR TEXTILE ROAD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,333, BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #245-245-000-818-022

Clerk Lovejoy Roe made a request to combine agenda items 2 & 3

3. WASHTENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION ROAD IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR JAMES L. HART PARKWAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$158,800, BUDGETED IN LINE ITEM #245-245-000-818-022

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve the Road Improvement Agreements for James L. Hart Parkway, in the amount of \$158,000 and Textile Road, in the amount of \$43,330 and to authorize signing of the agreements (see attached). The motion carried unanimously.

4. REQUEST TO WAIVE THE CELL PHONE USE AGREEMENT POLICY TO ALLOW ASSESSOR TO ACCESS GROUPWISE SERVER VIA HER PERSONAL BLACKBERRY

A motion was made by Trustee Currie, supported by Clerk Lovejoy Roe to waive the Cell Phone Use Policy to allow Assessor to access GroupWise server via personal Blackberry. The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Stumbo explained the Township Policy did not allow the use of a personal cellphone to access the GroupWise email. She stated it would allow the Assessor access to her Township email without any cost to the Township.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 2011-5 BASIC FLEX SPENDING, CAFETERIA PLAN AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Eldridge to approve Resolution No. 2011-5, Basic Flex Spending, Cafeteria Plan Amendment (see attached). The motion carried unanimously.

6. REQUEST TRAVIS MCDUGALD, IS MANAGER TO ALLOW COMPUTER SUPPORT TO ENABLE A FEATURE TO OFFER WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS IN A SELECTED AREA OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER

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A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Eldridge to approve the request to enable a feature to offer Wi-Fi internet access in a selected area of the Community Center. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk Lovejoy Roe stated the preliminary census numbers were in and Ypsilanti Township had grown. She said Ypsilanti Township grew by about 4,000 residents and we were one of only two counties in the State of Michigan that grew. Clerk Lovejoy Roe thought one or two state legislatures would be added for Washtenaw County.

Treasurer Doe asked for the Boards approval to move forward with the Open Book software provided by the County at no cost to the Township. He said the software would provide more transparency by allowing for department specific posting statements and checks on the website. He said if there were any cost involved, it would be brought back to the Board. The Board had no objection with Treasurer Doe moving forward.

AUTHORIZATIONS AND BIDS

1. REQUEST OF RON FULTON, BUILDING DIRECTOR TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR DEMOLITION OF 1353 ROLLING COURT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Eldridge to approve the request to solicit proposals for the demolition of 1353 Rolling Court. The motion carried unanimously.

STATEMENTS AND CHECKS

A motion was made by Treasurer Doe, supported by Trustee Currie to approve Statements and Checks, in the amount of \$1,252,033.78 The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Clerk Lovejoy Roe, supported by Trustee Eldridge to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Stumbo, Supervisor
Charter Township of Ypsilanti

Karen Lovejoy Roe, Clerk
Charter Township of Ypsilanti