

SHARON TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING
February 17, 2011 (unapproved)

The Sharon Township Board held a special Board meeting on Thursday, February 17, 2011. Frey called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Board members present: Aiuto, Frey, Lavender and Yordanich. There were (21) twenty-one guests present.

The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Frey asked if there were any public comments and/or questions.

Bill Lewis inquired if the Board was going to appoint a Trustee this evening? Frey answered "at the March meeting."

The proposed fire millage wording was read and discussed.

There were many public comments and questions regarding the wording.

The word "emergency" was inserted between local and unit to amend the ballot wording.

A resolution was made by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to approve the following millage proposal:

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Sharon Township wishes to provide fire protection and emergency medical services to the residents of the Township; and

WHEREAS, townships may contract with another municipality to provide for fire protection and emergency medical services, as authorized by Public Act 33 of 1951, MCL 41801 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance lawful public services, as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of Sharon Township wishes to levy a 0.5 mill for the purpose of paying for fire protection and emergency medical services;

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WHEREAS, effective 7/1/11 the Sharon Township Board will no longer invoice residents for fire and emergency services upon the passage of the proposed millage for fire services on the May 3, 2011 ballot;

NOW THEREFORE, WE RESOLVE that the following proposal shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Sharon Township at the election to be held in conjunction with the Washtenaw Intermediate School District election to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011:

Proposed Millage for Fire Services

Shall Sharon Township impose an increase of up to 0.5 mill (\$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for 2 years, 2011 through 2012 inclusive, for fire protection and emergency medical services, which 0.50 mills increase will raise an estimated \$45,966 in the first year the millage is levied of which all or a portion may be disbursed to such other local emergency units of government as the Township Board determines appropriate?

Yes

No

Upon roll-call vote, the following members voted:

YEA: Yordanich, Frey, Aiuto and Lavender

NAY:

ABSENT:

Supervisor John Frey declared the resolution passed.

It was discussed that volunteers were needed for an educational committee to publicize the millage on the ballot and to get the residents to come to the polls and vote.

It was a concern that the millage would pass and that the Board would still continue to invoice the residents for fire runs. The Board stated that the residents would not be billed for any fire/EMS runs if the millage was passed on the May 3, 2011 ballot.

Aiuto introduced Kathy Spiegel and Joseph Murray as the candidates that applied for the Trustee position. Both Spiegel and Murray spoke about their resumes. Spiegel reported that she had read that once a Board position was vacant, that it needed to be filled within 45 days. Aiuto calculated the days since Chizmar's resignation and the 45th day would be February 18, 2011.

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Lavender asked "is there anything that you would change on the zoning map and if so, what?"

Spiegel: I would learn more about the RC and AG areas and keep them as rural as possible. Commercial along the M-52 corridor. These make the lifestyle of the Township and that is why we are here. The pressure is off due to the economy but I would definitely keep it this way.

Murray: Not a whole lot different. What is important to the residents revolves around the 10 acres and so am I. Commercial development and keep rural the character of the Township. In the case of more development, I would look at it case by case. I don't see anything that I would change. I would re-evaluate it over time.

Aiuto asked "what make you interested in getting involved in Township government?"

Spiegel: I have been involved in the last few months and feel that I have something to offer i.e. communication and computer skills.

Murray: A duty to serve the community. I can problem solve and have management experience. As a leader of the community I can do research and find out what my constituents think.

Yordanich asked "what interests you most about the position?"

Spiegel: Communication. I don't know what was going on in the past, but I would like to explore ways to communicate with the residents with technology. Subscribers to an e-mail server and newsletters. Many people still don't know what is going on.

Murray: This is where I live. I want to see Sharon Township the best it can be and that we are progressing the best that we can. Communication skills for process and policies.

Frey asked: "what is the driving force behind your decision making?"

Murray: To work in a manner to set policies and to make decisions on how the citizen's feel.

Spiegel: To serve with integrity and to do each thing the best I can.

Lavender asked "belief on more government and less regulation?"

Spiegel: Environmental regulations are very important.

Murray: Less regulation is better.

Bill Lewis stated that what Spiegel read was correct.

Lavender asked about "office hours".

Spiegel: I have a flexible schedule.

Murray: I have a flexible schedule.

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A resolution was made by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to go into a closed session at 8:46 P.M. to discuss the candidates. Roll Call Vote: Lavender: yes; Aiuto: yes; Frey: yes and Yordanich: yes. The resolution was passed.

The Board opened the meeting at 8:54 P.M.

Motion by Aiuto, supported by Lavender to appoint Kathy Spiegel as interim Trustee.
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Teri L. Aiuto, Sharon Township Clerk

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