



WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

August 4, 2010

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comms. Bergman, Gunn, Irwin, Judge, Ouimet, Peterson, Ping, Prater, Schwartz, Sizemore and Smith.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator, Verna McDaniel; Corporation Counsel Curtis Hedger; Jerry Clayton, County Sheriff; Diane Heidt, Human Resources; Jennifer Watson, Budget; Ken Schrader, ITS; Kelly Belknap, Finance; Bob Tetens, Tom Freeman, Parks and Recreation; James McFarlane, Support Services; Anthony VanDerworp, Brett Lenart, Economic Development and Energy; Joanna Bidlack, County Administration; Jason Brooks, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

Roll Call

Citizen Participation

Tom Partridge stated that he would like to congratulate primary election winners. He added that he would like the County Commission to add expansion of affordable housing to the agenda. Partridge stated that he would like more affordable public transportation in Washtenaw County.

Spalding Clark, Scio Township Supervisor, stated that he would like the Board of Commissioners to place the Natural Areas Renewal on the November ballot. He added that Scio Township approved a similar program in 2004. Clark stated that the Township is proud to have the County program.

Theresa Finney Dumais, Habitat for Humanity, stated that Habitat for Washtenaw County has led to successful re-entry of clients. She added that clients have a higher than average skill and stated that they complete quality work. She stated that there are offers from companies to work with MPRI groups.

Terril Cotton stated that banning the felony box on employment applications will offer a fair chance to obtain employment. He added that he has not been hired because of felony convictions. He stated that banning the box would prevent a lot of crime.

Suzanne Goodrich, Ann Arbor, stated that she sold 10 acres to the Natural Areas program in October, 2006 for natural preservation. She stated that Goodrich Reserve is now 35 acres due to other purchases. Goodrich added that she believes that it is important to preserve lands in a natural state and stated that she would like to urge the Board to place the measure on the ballot.

Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizens' Participation

Comm. Schwartz stated that the Burns-Stokes acquisition has been very popular in this hot weather and added that it would not have been possible without the Natural Areas Program.

Comm. Judge stated that people will stop reoffending if they have something to do. She stated that people appreciate the Natural Areas program and added that the millage would only be a renewal and not an increase.

New Business:

Public Safety & Justice:

Sheriff:

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program: Local Solicitation

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution ratifying the submission of the electronic grant application to the Federal Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$43,954 for the period of October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2012 be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Economic Development:

Economic Development and Energy:

Near North Apartments Brownfield Redevelopment Plan

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to adopt the Brownfield Plan for the Near North Apartments in the City of Ann Arbor be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Zingerman's Delicatessen Redevelopment Plan

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution to adopt the Brownfield plan for the Zingerman's Delicatessen Redevelopment Project in the City of Ann Arbor be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Land Use & Environment:

Water Resources Commissioner:

Lake Forest Highlands Drain Project

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution pledging the Full Faith and Credit of the County of Washtenaw, within constitutional limitations, for the payment of the bonds of the Lake Forest Highlands Drain Drainage District be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Hiland Lake Dam

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing expenditure in excess of \$10,000 for maintenance and repair of Hiland Lake Dam be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation:

Natural Areas Preservation Program Millage Renewal

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution submitting to the Washtenaw County electors a question of whether the quarter mill presently in effect for the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program should be renewed for ten years, beginning with the December 2011 levy and terminating after the December 2020 levy and certifying the ballot question for said question be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Portage Lake Dam Repairs

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing expenditure in excess of \$10,000 for repair of the Portage Lake Dam be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Support Services:

Human Resources:

County Policy to Address the Employment of Individuals with Felony Convictions

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution approving an amendment to Volume II (Human Resources) of the Washtenaw County Policies and Procedures to add a policy concerning the employment of individuals with felony convictions be adopted.

Comm. Schwartz seconded by Comm. Judge moved to table the resolution until September 1, 2010. Roll call vote: YEAS: 5 NAYS: 6 (Comms. Bergman, Gunn, Irwin, Peterson, Sizemore and Smith) ABSENT: 0. Motion failed.

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Judge moved to remove everything in the fifth "Whereas" after the word "applications", delete the final "Whereas", change the old "Now therefore, be it resolved" language to read: "Now therefore, be it resolved" that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners will remove the box referring to past felony convictions on the Washtenaw County Employment Application and continuing the current Human Resources policy, and deleting "Be it further resolved, that adopted policy on the "Employment of Individuals with Felony Convictions" shall be effective on September 1, 2010." This changed the title of the resolution referring to policy. The resolution title now reads: A resolution amending the Washtenaw County Employment Application by removing the box referring to past felony convictions.

Accepted as a friendly amendment by Comm. Gunn and Comm. Peterson.

Comm. Irwin moved to amend the resolution to restore all of the original language. Motion failed due to lack of support.

Comm. Gunn moved that this item be separated from the rest of the agenda.

Comm. Ping seconded by Comm. Gunn moved to call the question. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Finance:

Contract for the Annual Financial Audit and Single Audit

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board to sign a contract with Rehmann Robson to perform the annual financial audit and single audit of the County for the five years ending December 31, 2010-2014 (with the possibility of (2) one year extensions) be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

County Administrator:

Appointing the Finance Director

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution appointing Kelly L. Belknap as Finance Director effective August 2, 2010 pay period be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

House by the Side of the Road

Comm. Gunn seconded by Comm. Peterson moved to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the resolution rescinding all prior resolutions of the Washtenaw County Board of Supervisors/Commissioners to permit the House by the Side of the Road to operate at no cost at the County's Service Center and reaffirming the 1996 Agreement between Washtenaw County and the House by the Side of the Road concerning the parties' responsibilities upon House by the Side of the Road's removal from the Service Center be adopted.

Roll call vote: YEAS: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0. Motion carried.

Report of the Administrator:

2010 Second Quarter Budget Update

Comm. Irwin stated that the change made in the Police Services contracts caused the County to take the hit. He added that this changes the math for all of the townships. Comm. Irwin stated that he hopes that some of the larger contracting communities find a way to increase their contributions to police services.

Comm. Ouimet asked if the 4th quarter usually tends to have a higher level of variance. He added that he feels that it seems the County is in a better position to absorb the 4th quarter. Comm. Ouimet asked if there is a percentage put to the first three quarters to prepare for the fourth. He stated that he would encourage an evaluation of fourth quarter variance over the years to refine projections.

Comm. Judge asked when a decision will be made if a lump sum agreement is not reached with the District Court. McDaniel reported that there is no drop dead date and added that talks continue.

Report of the Chair of the Board

Comm. Sizemore reported that there would be a short break before the start of the Board of Commissioners meeting.

Items for Current/Future Discussion

Comm. Schwartz reported that some counties are doing veterans courts providing services to veterans. He stated that this may be something that the County could look into.

Citizen Participation

Jim Mogensen, 3780 Green Briar Blvd., Ann Arbor City, stated that he would like to suggest that it may be helpful to get a place to put walkers or other devices for safety purposes.

Commissioners Follow-up to Citizen Participation

None

Pending

None

Adjournment

Comm. Prater seconded by Comm. Ping moved that the meeting be adjourned until September 1st, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Conan Smith, Chair

Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register

By: Jason Brooks, Deputy Clerk

APPROVED: September 1, 2010