



Budget & Finance Committee

Wednesday February 16, 2011 – 9:30 a.m.
Room 212 – Otsego County Building
225 West Main Gaylord, MI 49735

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Olsen called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

Roll call – Present: Lee Olsen, Paul Beachnau, Erma Backenstose, John Burt, Clark Bates

Others present – Rachel Frisch, Diann Axford

Absent (excused) – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Bates to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2011 budget and finance committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SANE Funding

Mr. Olsen indicated that many of the Townships have committed to allocating funds to the SANE program. Mr. Burt reported that thus far, the Townships will be contributing a total of \$5,050 for 2011.

Motion by Ms. Backenstose to recommend to the full board to increase the allocation to SANE for 2011 by \$5,000 (for a total allocation of \$10,000 in 2011), with funds to come from contingency. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Building Department Vehicle

Mr. Burt presented a summary of the bids received. The lowest bid for the crew-cab (4 door) pickup was Jim Wernig. Mr. Burt will check with Joe Ferrigan, Land Use Services Director, to verify that this truck will meet the needs of his department.

Motion by Mr. Beachnau to recommend to the full board approving the purchase of the crew cab, 4-door pickup truck from Jim Wernig's, at a cost of \$22,695, pending feedback from Joe Ferrigan. Motion passed unanimously.

B. VESI Natural Gas Contract

Ms. Frisch presented information from Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. which is a company that provides natural gas to business and residential customers. At this time, the VESI rates are lower than the DTE rates for the gas recovery charge. There is no binding contract to sign up for the program, and we can discontinue at anytime. Ms. Frisch has contacted the City of Gaylord, who currently use the VESI program, and they are pleased with it.

Motion by Mr. Beachnau to recommend to the full board transferring entering into the VESI natural gas program for the downtown county building first, and then other county buildings if the program is working well. Motion passed unanimously.

C. 2010 Budget Amendments and Updates

Ms. Frisch presented the final 2010 budget amendments to the Committee.

Motion by Mr. Beachnau to recommend to the full board approving the 2010 budget amendments. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Capital Projects Update

Mr. Burt presented an updated Capital Improvements Plan to the Committee.

He also updated the Committee on the buildings at 100 and 300 Livingston Blvd (the old Prosecutor's office and the Christenson building, respectively). An asbestos survey was done in both buildings. He will obtain costs for asbestos remediation and demolition, so the Committee can decide how to proceed.

E. Vehicle Update

Mr. Burt presented a Vehicle Replacement Plan to the Committee.

F. Sportsplex Fee Schedule

Mr. Burt presented a schedule of proposed rate increases, as requested by the Sportsplex board.

Motion by Mr. Beachnau to recommend to the full board approving the proposed fee increases at the Sportsplex, as requested by the Sportsplex board. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Millage Renewals

Mr. Burt distributed an updated list of millages and renewal dates.

H. Johannesburg Veterans Memorial

Mr. Olsen informed the Committee that protective fencing had to be put up around the Johannesburg Veterans Memorial, as snowmobiles were damaging it during the winter. Charlton Township spent \$7,000 on the fencing. Mr. Olsen is requesting that the County make a contribution to Charlton Township to assist with the cost.

Motion by Mr. Beachnau to recommend to the full board contributing \$300 toward the cost of protective fencing around the Johannesburg Veterans Memorial, funds to come from contingency. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Olsen adjourned the meeting at 10:40 AM