

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012**

Supervisor Reaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Reaume, Supervisor
Kay Arnold, Trustee
Joe Bridgman, Clerk
Robert Doroshewitz, Trustee
Ron Edwards, Treasurer
Michael Kelly, Trustee
Steven Mann, Trustee

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Tiderington, Police Chief
Mark Wendel, Fire Chief
Timothy Cronin, Township Attorney
Eric Bacyinski, Deputy Clerk
Amy Hammye, Deputy Treasurer
Alice Geletzke, Recording Secretary
82 Members of the Public

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Special Meeting - Thursday, March 01, 2012

Moved by Mr. Bridgman, supported by Ms. Arnold, to approve the agenda for the Board of Trustees special meeting of March 1, 2012 as presented. Ayes all.

E. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Officers of the IAFF Local commented on possible layoffs, negotiations, concessions, and arbitration, operational concerns, transport, and concerns for public safety. They also requested that the Board's proposal be tabled until after results were received for the recently submitted request for a SAFER grant.

Two residents expressed their concerns for public safety and cited the possibility for increased insurance rates for homes and businesses.

G. PUBLIC HEARING

H. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:20 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Mann, seconded by Ms. Arnold, that a closed session be called for the purpose of discussing:

IAFF Contract Negotiations
Confidential Attorney-Client Opinion

This is a permissible purpose under the Michigan's Open Meeting Act, Public Act No. 267, Article 15.268, Section 8, Paragraph (c) and (h).

Ayes all on a roll call vote.

At 8:02 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Bridgman, seconded by Mr. Mann, to return to open session.

Ayes all on a roll call vote.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1) Fire Department Staffing

Mr. Reaume presented information on various aspects of fire and EMS service delivery such as financial considerations, workload, service requirements, mutual aid, and right sizing the Fire Department in accordance with the local contract and Public Act 78.

Moved by Mr. Doroshewitz, supported by Mr. Edwards, for economic reasons to authorize the Supervisor to reduce the number of full-time firefighters in the Fire Department by six members.

AYES: Doroshewitz, Edwards, Arnold, Kelly, Mann, Reaume
NAYS: Bridgman

Motion carried.

Discussion on the motion prior to the vote established that there would be no cost for having HVA continue making runs or to be housed at Station 2. Also established, with the loss of revenue and reduction in workload is to reduce fire department staffing by six (6) firefighters. The total number in fire suppression would be reduced from 21 to 15 firefighters, with five (5) firefighters working each 24-hour shift. The option to deploy five (5) firefighters between two fire stations on a fixed basis and place a HVA

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ambulance on a full time basis at the remaining third fire station. In addition, be supplemented by paid on-call firefighters and mutual aid.

Board members also commented on the difficulty and necessity for making these changes.

L. SUPERVISOR AND TRUSTEE COMMENTS - There were none.

M. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the Fire Department commented on economics, transport, reduced number of firefighters over the years, potential operating difficulties, mileage parameters for on-call firefighters, and concern for public safety.

Residents of the community commented on possible reduced fire and EMT protection and response times, particularly with regard to possible Hazmat situations with the railroad and freeways in close proximity.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Mann, supported by Mr. Edwards, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Ayes all.

Joseph Bridgman, MMC
Township Clerk

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meetings/Hearings upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following: Human Resource Office, 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number (734) 354-3202 TDD units: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Services)