

**MINUTES OF THE
BUDGET COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2007

At a meeting of the **Budget Committee**, held Wednesday, February 14, 2007, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Brown-Chair, Brdak, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Drolet, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegghem, Lund, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Slinde, Switalski, Tocco, Torrice and Vosburg.

Absent and excused were Haggerty and Szczepanski.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

Chair Brown amended the agenda to include items #8A(a) through (c). He removed item #8, because appropriate staff was not available. He moved item #10 to #5A. He then moved item #14 to #5B. There were no objections.

MOTION

A motion was made by Mijac, supported by DiMaria, to adopt the agenda, as amended. **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Slinde, supported by Duzyj, to approve the November 20 and December 12, 2006 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

ADOPT THE “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDING OF THE MACOMB COUNTY BUILDING AUTHORITY, BUILDING AUTHORITY BONDS, SERIES 2002 AND APPROVING THE UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE”

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SLINDE, SUPPORTED BY DOHERTY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT THE “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDING OF THE MACOMB COUNTY BUILDING AUTHORITY, BUILDING AUTHORITY BONDS, SERIES 2002 AND APPROVING THE UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE” **(REQUESTED BY FINANCE DEPARTMENT).** **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR, EQUALIZATION DEPARTMENT ON MACOMB COUNTY TRENDS IN REAL ESTATE VALUATIONS

Mr. Mellen gave a PowerPoint presentation on Trends in Real Estate Values in Macomb County for 2006. Key topics covered included: Overview, Agricultural Valuations, Agricultural Units Sales, Developmental Valuations, Developmental Units Sales, Commercial Valuations, City Commercial Sales, Township Commercial Sales, Industrial Valuations, City Industrial Sales, Township Industrial Sales, Residential Valuations, City Residential Sales, Township Residential Sales, Residential Comparison Ratios, Conclusion, and Tax Effect.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Mellen about topics that he covered in his presentation.

Several commissioners expressed concern about rising property assessments, yet home values are falling.

A discussion ensued with Mr. Mellen about how a homeowner would go about appealing their assessment.

MOTION

A motion was made by Camphous-Peterson, supported by Rengert, to receive and file the presentation by Mr. Steven Mellen, Director, Equalization Department on Macomb County Trends in Real Estate Valuations. **The Motion Carried.**

**RECOMMENDATION FROM JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
OF 02-05-07**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENGERT, SUPPORTED BY VOSBURG, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION TO ACCREDITATE THE MACOMB COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER, PENDING REVIEW BY CORPORATION COUNSEL. THE ACCREDITATION FEE SHALL NOT EXCEED \$15,500. FUNDING WILL COME OUT OF THE EXISTING JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER BUDGET. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING OF 02-05-07**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SWITALSKI, SUPPORTED BY DAVID FLYNN, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:

AUTHORIZE SPENDING UP TO \$135,000 FROM THE REGISTER OF DEEDS AUTOMATION FUND SO THE CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS MAY FIGHT REAL ESTATE FRAUD AND HIRE “EXTRA HIRE” EMPLOYEES TO IMPLEMENT THE “ENTRY BOOK” REQUIRED BY LAW. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE REGISTER OF DEEDS AUTOMATION FUND, WHICH IS FUNDED FROM RECORDING FEES AND MAY ONLY BE SPENT ON REGISTER OF DEEDS IMPROVEMENTS;

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY CLERK TO PURCHASE LOCKERS FOR THE JURY ROOM AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,500. FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK’S SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT; AND

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY CLERK TO PURCHASE A DIGITAL CAMERA, PHOTO PRINTER AND RELATED EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE PHOTOS FOR CONCEALED WEAPONS LICENSE APPLICANTS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,300, AND AUTHORIZE THE CLERK TO CHARGE A FEE OF UP TO \$15 TO CCW LICENSE APPLICANTS TO COVER THE COST OF PROVIDING THIS SERVICE.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 02-08-07

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MIJAC, SUPPORTED BY DeSAELE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PAYMENTS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS: LAKE/RIVER FUND:

\$4,815.07 TO THE WE ARE HERE FOUNDATION FOR DEBRIS AND LOGJAM REMOVAL;

\$3,128.33 TO CLINTON TOWNSHIP FOR LOGJAM REMOVAL AS APPROVED MARCH 30, 2006; AND

\$14,610 TO RAY TOWNSHIP AS PARTIAL PAYMENT FOR DEBRIS AND OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL IN THE PRIEST DRAIN.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR EXTRA HIRE EMPLOYEES AND SUPPLIES IN ORDER FOR THE COUNTY CLERK TO COMPLY WITH MICHIGAN LAW TO RUN SCHOOL ELECTIONS IN CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, CLINTON TOWNSHIP, HARRISON TOWNSHIP, MACOMB TOWNSHIP, SHELBY TOWNSHIP, AND PART OF IRA TOWNSHIP IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$421,590 WHICH IS EXPECTED REQUIRED TO BE REIMBURSED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

During discussion, Chair Brown requested that the resolution sheet reflect the following change: The word “expected” be changed to read “required.”

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY SLINDE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR EXTRA HIRE EMPLOYEES AND SUPPLIES IN ORDER FOR THE COUNTY CLERK TO COMPLY WITH MICHIGAN LAW TO RUN SCHOOL ELECTIONS ON TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007 IN CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, CLINTON TOWNSHIP, HARRISON TOWNSHIP, MACOMB TOWNSHIP, SHELBY TOWNSHIP, AND PART OF IRA TOWNSHIP IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$421,590 WHICH IS REQUIRED TO BE REIMBURSED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Ms. Sabaugh pertaining to this request. Ms. Sabaugh was asked to provide figures on the additional cost that will be incurred by the school districts as a result of these township clerks refusal to conduct the May 8th school district elections for their residents.

Chair Brown called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATE REGARDING LEASE SPACE AT THE VerKUILEN BUILDING – LEGAL AID DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION AND LAKESHORE LEGAL AID

After a brief discussion with Mr. Diegel and Mr. Krycia, the following action was taken:

MOTION

A motion was made by Slinde, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to suspend the rules to allow action to be taken. **The Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOHERTY, SUPPORTED BY SLINDE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE CORPORATION COUNSEL TO GIVE A FINAL OFFER TO LEGAL AID DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION TO ACCEPT THE COUNTY'S LAST PROPOSAL AT \$9 A SQUARE FOOT OR VACATE THE PREMISES IN 60 DAYS.

A brief discussion ensued with Mr. Diegel.

Chair Brown called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED WITH BRULEY VOTING "NO."**

RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT ON 3% DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REDUCTIONS

MOTION

A motion was made by Sauger, supported by Mijac, to receive and file the report on the 3% departmental budget reductions.

Mr. Diegel overviewed his three-page memorandum dated February 6, 2007 that was provided in committee packets. Attached to the memorandum was Exhibits I and II.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Diegel about topics that he covered in his presentation.

Chair Brown informed commissioners that he intended to hold a special meeting of the Budget Committee later this month.

Commissioners directed questions to Sheriff Hackel about his department's budget.

Commissioners directed questions to Ms. Zerkowski about the Information Technology Department's budget.

Commissioner Flynn requested that commissioners be provided with a copy of the tabulation of the Discretionary Services Schedule which was reviewed by the Budget Committee in November, 2005.

Chair Brown called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

2007 CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT UPDATE

MOTION

A motion was made by Mijac, supported by Rocca, to receive and file the 2007 Contingency Account Update. **The Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Brown informed commissioners that due to the lateness of this meeting, that the committee chairs meeting was rescheduled to tomorrow after the Finance Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Slinde, to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 p.m. **The Motion Carried.**

**Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter**