

Joint Special Meeting
June 17, 2009

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WILLIAMS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING – June 17, 2009**

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Williams held a special joint meeting with the Auburn City Commission and the Auburn-Williams Intergovernmental Advisory Committee on Wednesday June 17, 2009 at the Township Hall. The agenda is attached Exhibit A.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Tom Paige, Supervisor at 7:00 p.m. The city of Auburn was called to order by their Mayor, John McNally. Betty Owen, Chairperson/Recording Secretary of the Auburn-Williams Intergovernmental Advisory Committee called the committee to order. Roll was taken by each municipality/committee. Board of Trustees present: Paige (Supervisor), Hoverman (Treasurer), Charney (Clerk), Gower (Trustee), Putt (Trustee), and Wasek (Trustee). Excused: Plant (Trustee).

Also present: Pat Beson, Chairperson of the Bay County Commission, John Miller, Bay County Sheriff, JoElla Krantz, Auburn City Administrator, Karen Bellor, Auburn City Clerk, and Slyvestor Poltorak, Auburn City Policeman. The sign in sheet is attached Exhibit B.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was said in unison.

III. Introduction of Guests

T. Paige welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the above mentioned guests. He also stated Bay3 TV was present to videotape the meeting. Other members of the press were also in attendance.

IV. Report of the Auburn-Williams Intergovernmental Advisory Committee

The purpose of the combined meeting was to inform the public of information included in the Final Report of the Auburn-Williams Intergovernmental Advisory Committee regarding law enforcement service for the City and Township.

The Board of Trustees of Williams Township and the Auburn City Commission held a special joint meeting on Thursday April 24, 2008 to discuss intergovernmental cooperation. It was agreed that the two communities were looking for opportunities to cooperate and combine services, where feasible, for expansion of services that could benefit the residents of both communities. It was never the intent to combine governmental units.

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It was at this meeting the Auburn-Williams Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (AWIAC) was established by both governmental units. It was also decided that the mayor of the city and one elected commissioner should serve on the committee with two residents appointed by the city commission. Also, the township supervisor, one elected trustee and two residents would be appointed by the township, for an eight member committee. The Committee is strictly advisory to the township and city and has no authority to make or change policy.

Members of the Committee representing the city are:

John McNally, Mayor
Bill Reder, Auburn City Commission elected official
James Dominowski, city resident
Betty Owen, city resident

Members of the Committee representing the township are:

Tom Paige, Supervisor
Paul Wasek, Williams Township elected official
Tom Putt, Williams Township elected official (alternate member)
Rebecca King, township resident
Ron Kohn, township resident

The Committee followed all rules of the Open Meetings Act, minutes were recorded by Betty Owen, who was also chosen to be the chairperson of the committee, and all meeting dates and times were posted.

The committee initially identified areas of mutual interest that should be explored including administration, public works, police protection, and equipment. The goal was to determine if a cost savings could be realized while offering the citizens the same or a better level of service. Police protection was initially concentrated on as Chief Jim Klann retired from the city police department in early 2009. The committee agreed to focus their research on possible ways the city and township could share law enforcement services to reduce costs or to increase hours of coverage for both municipalities.

T. Paige reviewed the committee's report with a power point presentation, explained that no decision would be made at this meeting and also that the township cannot do anything until the city commission determines what method of law enforcement services it will provide for city residents. The township will continue to contract with the Bay County Sheriff Department for two deputies (just as they are now) if Auburn chooses to maintain their own police department with two full time officers or one full time officer and a combination of part time officers.

V. Auburn Update

John McNally, Auburn Mayor, provided an update on cost estimates that are included in the committee report. The city commission asked for updated estimates at their last meeting. He also used a power point presentation that showed:

- Option 1 \$206,450.00 is the estimated city expense for one full time police chief and one full time officer for 80 hours of coverage per week.
- Option 1A \$190,594.00 is the estimated city expense for one full time chief and two part time officers for 96 hours of coverage per week.
- Option 4 \$182,817.00 is the estimated city expense for one full time officer and one deputy for 40 hours of coverage per week from the full time officer. This option also provides for the possibility of sharing 80 hours per week between the city and township for a total city coverage of 120 hours per week.
- Option 2 \$161,224.00 is the estimated city expense to contract with the Bay County Sheriff Department for two full time deputies. This option has potential coverage of 160 hours per week for the township and city.

J. McNally reiterated that more hours of coverage benefit the residents of the city and township. He also reminded those present that Sheriff Miller has agreed to hire Officer Poltorak.

VI. Public Comment

T. Paige outlined the rules for public comment. He also advised that comment cards are available at the sign in table for anyone wishing to comment in writing rather than making a verbal presentation. Comments can also be sent to the township or city office at a later date.

Twenty five persons expressed their views and Ann Machelski read a letter she received from a city resident.

VII. City Commission, Township Board, AWIAC, and Guest Comments

City Commissioner Reder thanked everyone for attending and stated that a hasty decision will not be made by the city commission. He also remarked that the commission should spend the resident's tax dollars conscientiously and in a prudent manner.

City Commissioner Machelski thanked the attendees for their comments and for signing the petition that was circulated in support of the city maintaining their own police department.

Sheriff Miller clarified a few items that were discussed earlier in the meeting. He was contacted by the committee for information and a cost proposal. No grant dollars are funding current deputies paid for by various communities within the county. He has applied for a grant to assist with general road patrol but is unsure whether he will receive any funding.

Officer Poltorak thanked residents for their support. He is not looking for another job, he works for the city of Auburn. He also indicated he is a Medical First Responder and assists the fire department whenever possible. He was humbled by the support from those commenting earlier in the meeting.

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VIII. Other

There was no other business.

IX. Adjournment

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Williams Charter Township

Amy Charney, Clerk

Thomas Paige, Supervisor