

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, December 10, 1991, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Angeli, Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Potvin, Comm. Seppanen, and Comm. Corkin. Absent: None.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the November 12, 1991, and the November 26, 1991, Committee of the Whole meetings be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following Late Addition: item 14) A Resolution honoring William Hampton on his retirement from the Commission on Aging Board.

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that Claims and Accounts for the period November 23, 1991 thru December 6, 1991, in the amount of \$529,731.99 be approved.

The Committee considered the Marquette County portion of Delinquent Personal Property Taxes. James Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, explained that some progress has been made in the administration and collection of personal property taxes; however, the tax is difficult to collect, hard to administer, and in his opinion an unfair tax. Local Treasurers are responsible for collecting the tax and are to commence action in the Circuit Court to strike taxes from the rolls that have been delinquent for 6 years. The Prosecutor's Office petitioned the court on behalf of all Treasurers to remove the delinquent personal property taxes in April, 1991. The City of Ishpeming, City of Negaunee, and Skandia Township, did not participate and Republic Township elected to go alone.

Mr. Sodergren further stated that the listing of taxes that he sent out on November 20, 1991 are for the years 1978-89 inclusive. Since that time it appears that Negaunee Township has reached an agreement with Simmons Airlines that will reduce the total delinquency by \$169,000. Also, Republic Township via Circuit Court, removed \$2,000.00 as uncollectible. In addition to the 1978-89 taxes 1990 delinquent personal taxes amount to \$125,000.00 for a total of \$265,000.00 as of this date.

Personal property taxes must be collected promptly and court action or sale as provided by law should commence in January so that no taxes are returned delinquent on March 1. Mr. Sodergren believes the tax should be eliminated from the property tax system and transferred to the single business tax as was done some time ago with respect to inventories.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve a resolution encouraging collection of personal property taxes by all units of government in a timely manner.

The Committee considered a Smoking Space Survey from DSS employees. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, gave a brief background on the establishment of the present designated smoking room in the Henry A. Skewis Annex. He stated that employees have requested an additional room be designated in the County Courthouse. It was the feeling that if DSS had a designated smoking room, the number of persons using the present facility would be lowered and the room more adequate.

A smoking space survey was conducted by DSS and after careful consideration, a decision against allocating any space as a smoking area for DSS employees was made.

An additional option is if the County Board would investigate the possibility of a second smoking room to be located in the Courthouse.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board does not designate an additional smoking room in the County Courthouse.

The Committee considered an Employment Contract between the Community Corrections Advisory Board acting as the agent of the County of Marquette, and Sharon Burns, Community Corrections Coordinator and Electronic Monitor Technician. David Payant, Civil Counsel, explained that the position is grant funded by the State of Michigan and will be terminated should funding from the State be unavailable. The County Board may reserve the right to renegotiate the agreement should there be cuts in allocated funding. At this time the agreement funding is approximately \$77,000.00 per year. Civil Counsel recommended that the County Board approve the employment contract with arrest powers as a non-union position. He also noted that Sharon Burns is a certified police officer and she should have the power to use her maximum abilities which also will free up local law enforcement time of an arrest is necessary.

Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, was present and stated that the position of Community Corrections Coordinator/Electronic Monitor Technician, has been point factored and the pay scale is taken from County salary scales for 1991. The salary is for grade U-09A which is a non-union position at a hire rate of 9.225 with increases as prescribed in salary scale.

Comm. Potvin stated he does not feel arrest powers are necessary and the monies recuperated from salary difference could be used for other areas of the program. He stressed that most probationers on the tether program are well screened, non-violent persons.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and carried by a 4-to-1 vote, with Comm. Potvin voting nay, that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the County Board adopt a resolution to accept the Employment Contract between the Community Corrections Advisory Board and Sharon Burns, Community Corrections Coordinator and Electronic Monitor Technician.

The Committee considered a communication from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Department, regarding bids for the purchase of equipment to implement the emergency 9-1-1 telephone system. Comm. Arsenault stated that on December 3, 1991, Brent Nault, Data Processing Manager, Jeff Selesky, 9-1-1 Coordinator, Lt. James Skaja, Michigan State Police Post Commander, Ron Koshorek, Resource Management/Development Dept. Director, and himself, met to evaluate the proposals received. The group feels that an outright purchase rather than lease-purchase should be the method of acquisition in order to avoid the financing cost.

Mr. Koshorek explained that it is the recommendation of the group to accept the Michigan Bell Communications proposal in the amount of \$47,220.00 for equipment including installation and training, and for maintenance in the four years following installation in the amount of \$21,062.45 contingent upon negotiation of acceptable purchase and maintenance agreements. Further recommendation of the group is to direct staff, including Civil Counsel and the County Risk Management Specialist, to enter into these negotiations returning the results to the County Board for their final approval.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the low bid of \$47,220.00 submitted by Michigan Bell Communications for the 9-1-1 equipment purchase and negotiate the terms of purchase and maintenance agreements.

The Committee considered Senate Bill 617 which amends the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act to allow additional monthly surcharges. Patricia Gruber, Planner, was in attendance and explained that Marquette County is in the process of implementing an enhanced 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone Service District. Marquette County service district excludes several areas of the County in telephone exchanges which are predominately in other Counties. The system will be financed using the surcharges allowed by Act 32 of 1986 as amended. Millage revenue will be used for Public Safety Answering Point hardware and personnel through 1995.

Senate Bill 617, by authorizing a surcharge for PSAP operation would expand County financing options for the future. However, there is concern that property owners who are supporting the Marquette County System through the levied millage will be "double charged" if the adjoining counties fund their system with a surcharge on their telephone. Because many telephone exchanges cross County lines, it is anticipated this will be a recurring problem if adjoining counties use different funding options.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board have staff request our State Legislators to include language in Senate Bill 617 to address the issue of "double charging" when a telephone surcharge exists in one County and levied millage in another.

The Committee considered a memorandum from the Marquette County Board of Commissioners to Hon. James M. Collins, District Court Judge, regarding liability for the agencies (participating non-governmental agencies) who utilize Community Service Workers.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the memo be placed on file.

The Committee considered a communication from the State Survey and Remonumentation Commission regarding the proposed Survey and Remonumentation Grant under Act 345, P.A. 1990. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, stated that Gerald Carlson, Registered Land Surveyor, and member of the State Survey and Remonumentation Commission, and Patricia Manley, Marquette County Register of Deeds, have met to discuss the appointment of an Adhoc Committee for the County Remonumentation Plan. They will submit their recommendations to the County Board.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried to place the communication on file.

The Committee considered the 1992 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement/Friend of the Court Agreement. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, stated that the Office of Child Support has instituted a new contract process for 1992, whereby the local Friend of the Court does not complete an application prior to initiating the contract. The funding authorization for 1992 will be provided by way of an amendment to the 1991 contract. This amendment will not accurately reflect true 1992 expenses; however, Mr. Aloia assured the Committee that the change has been taken into consideration and recommends approval of the contract.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the 1992 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement/Friend of the Court Agreement.

The Committee considered a resolution honoring William Hampton, Deputy Treasurer, Commission on Aging. Mr. Hampton is retiring after 10 years of service on the Commission on Aging Board. He has pulled together services for the residents of Champion Township and has served on the Finance Committee, Nursing Home Committee and Executive Committee.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt a resolution honoring William Hampton retiring Deputy Treasurer of the Commission on Aging.

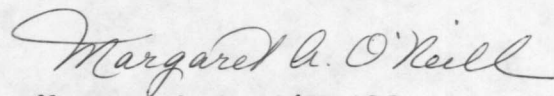
Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

Announcements: Meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 11, 1991, in Delta County regarding Funding of Regional Health Department subsidies.

Comm. Potvin gave a brief resume of his tour of the Marquette County Airport and reported on the EDC meeting he recently attended.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret A. O'Neill
Deputy County Clerk

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, December 10, 1991, 4:30 p.m.

Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 1991, and the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 26, 1991.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
- ~~6.~~ A list of Delinquent Personal Property Taxes owning Marquette County.
- ~~7.~~ A Smoking Space Survey from DSS employees.
- ~~8.~~ Employment Contract between the Community Corrections Advisory Board and Sharon Burns, Community Corrections Coordinator and Electronic Monitor Technician.
- ~~9.~~ 9-1-1 Equipment Purchase.
10. Senate Bill 617 which amends the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act to allow additional monthly surcharges.
- File* - 11. Liability - Community Service Workers.
- File* - 12. Proposed Survey and Remonumentation Grant under Public Act 345 of 1990.
- ~~13.~~ 1992 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement/Friend of the Court Agreement.
14. *Resolution honoring Wm. Hampton on retiring from COA*
- 15.
16. PUBLIC COMMENT.
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
18. ADJOURNMENT.