

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND BLANC**  
**Minutes of Joint Meeting of Fire Commission, Township Board, and City Council**  
**Held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2010**

The Joint Meeting of the Fire Commission, Township Board, and City Council was called at the request of the Fire Commission for the purpose of discussing long-range funding for the Fire Department. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Fire Commission Chairperson Patti Rockefeller with the Pledge of Allegiance in Fire Station #1, 117 High Street, Grand Blanc, Michigan.

Township Board Present: Supervisor Marilyn Hoffman, Clerk Cathy Lane, Treasurer Earl Guzak, and Trustees: Larry Anderson, Paul Bush [Fire Commission Representative], \*Hans Rodgers, and \*Ryan Thompson.

City Council Present: Mayor Michael Matheny [Fire Commission Representative] and Council Members: John Freil, Connie Lesley, Susan Soderstrom, and Michael Wolfgram.

City Council Absent: James Bappert and Steven Robinson.

Fire Commission Present: President Patti Rockefeller, Todd Barnes, Dennis Christman, and Elected Officials as noted above.

Staff Present: Fire Chief Jim Harnes, Township Manager Richard Dunnill\*, Township Attorney David Lattie\*, City Manager Randall Byrne, Assistant City Manager Wendy Jean Buhner, Clerk/Treasurer Bethany Smith, Finance Director Deb Barriger, DPW Director Kirk Richardson, Alexis Davlantes, Captain Peter Alexander, Deputy Chief Robert Burdette, Battalion Chief Troy Brancheau, Firefighter Don Welch, and Deputy Chief Richard Ferriby.

**138-2010 – Fire Department Long-Range Funding**

Fire Commission President Patti Rockefeller explained a Township Subcommittee comprised of Fire Chief Harnes, herself, Township Manager Dunnill and Trustees Rodgers and Bush met with Mayor Matheny on Monday, May 3, 2010, to discuss the long-term goals and the funding needed to operate the Fire Department. Mayor Matheny and Supervisor Hoffman welcomed everyone to this Joint Meeting and encouraged the City and Township officials to work together on behalf of our community. Township Trustee Hans Rodgers arrived and presented a power- point presentation he developed following the Subcommittee meeting. The Subcommittee agreed to drop further discussion of Act 57.

\*Township Manager, Township Attorney, and Trustee Thompson left to attend Planning Commission meeting.

The presentation enumerated the initial goals of the Fire Department:

- reduce response time from ten (10) minutes to six (6) minutes;
- staff Fire Station #1 with three (3) full time drivers augmented with part-time firefighters for 24/7 coverage;

- properly fund the Equipment Fund; and
- City and Township residents pay the same for fire protection – .5 mill from the General Fund budget and a ballot question of .5 mill.

The discussion included:

- the Internal Fund, which enumerated each vehicle and type of equipment, date of purchase, original cost, and projected replacement costs;
- varying millage options from .25 mill to 1.0 mills; and
- staffing alternatives.

Consensus:

- Trustee Rodgers to meet with Township and City staff to verify the accuracy of the numbers;
- the Mayor would add another member of the Council to the Subcommittee;
- a request for millage must be supported by both Boards;
- a proposal may be on the August or November ballot;
- everyone agreed this was a beneficial meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Lane  
Township Clerk

**Board Approved: June 10, 2010**