



**ACME TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SAFETY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monday, October 17, 2005, 8:00 a.m.
Acme Township Hall
6042 Acme Road, Williamsburg MI 49690**

Meeting called to Order at 8:12 a.m.

Members present: P.Collins (Chair), L. Andres, J. Maitland, D. Nelson

Members excused: D. Hoxsie, W. Mervau, D. Smith

Staff present: S. Corpe, Township Manager, N. Edwardson, Staff

A. Correspondence: None

B. Reports: None

C. Limited Public Comment: None

D. Old Business:

1. Approve minutes of the July 18, 2005 meeting:

Motion by Nelson support by Andres to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2005 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Collins discussed 2006 Metro budget. Nelson asked what the millage would be if budget is adopted as is. Collins has performed rough calculations, would need 1.54 mills from Acme. There is about \$195,000 in fund balance forward, but there will probably be about \$10,000 in additional Metro expenses for 2005. If millage is kept at 1.4522, Collins believe about \$10,000 would be needed from the Fire Fund.

Nelson asked if health insurance benefit levels are mandated or can be changed. Maitland believes that Metro tries to mirror the County, as does the Planning Commission. Andres asked about the number of inspectors. The number has gone from 1 to 3 to 2 to 4 full-time, plus there will be 2 part-timers. Andres suggested that perhaps people like Tom Henkel could be used for inspections/plan reviews. Collins believes that by nature this function needs to be centralized. Andres also noted the longevity line item. He thinks that rather than this being separate it should be added to current wages. Maitland said that Metro is handling this the same as the county, hourly wages are increased by COLA plus a longevity factor. Nelson thinks its good to break this out for tracking purposes. Nelson is aware that Metro has ambitious expansion plans and feared the budget increase would be bigger. He is favorably impressed by how the budget does not seem to call for a significant additional burden on taxpayers. Maitland views this as a status quo budget. Any questions he has relates to capital outlays. If you are asking volunteers to serve, they need good equipment. He asked how much money is in Metro's equipment fund; Collins says it was cleaned out by the new building purchase. If anything, Maitland feels perhaps there isn't enough allocated for capital outlay. He also asked where any surplus funds are housed.

Corpe noted that a Public Hearing will be needed once the budget is adopted so this committee can make recommendation to the Board as to how many mills to levy for fire protection for next year.

MOTION MADE BY MAITLAND. SECONDED BY ANDRES to review Metro Fire 2006 Budget as proposed and recommends that township proceed with budget. Motion carried unanimous.

Public Hearing meeting set for Tuesday, October 25, 2005, at 7: 00 p.m.

Kurtz commended the advisory for identifying the necessary action re: Public Act 33. One goal of the advisories is to engage the broader public, and he sees this being accomplished. He hopes that now that immediate fire issues have been addressed, the scope will be broadened to include ambulance & policing issues. Growth is coming to the township. Meijer in Garfield township generates 400 calls for service yearly.

New Business: None

F. Public Comment/Other Business: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.