



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLAINFIELD  
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
6161 BELMONT AVENUE NE; BELMONT, MICHIGAN 49306

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND  
THE PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 24, 2014

**Special Joint Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.**

1. The special joint meeting of the Plainfield Charter Township Board of Trustees and the Public Safety Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Jay Spencer. Board members present: Supervisor Jay Spencer, Clerk Ruth Ann Karnes, Treasurer Bill Brinkman, Trustees Dave Grant, Vic Matthews, Dale Pomeroy, and Jon Rathbun. Members absent: none. Also present: Superintendent Cameron Van Wyngarden, Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) Chair Cathy Bottema and Committee members Thomas Hendershot, Dan Karnes, and Jim Carr, Kent County Sheriff's Department representatives Chief Deputy Michelle Young and Road Patrol 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Bruce Ivy, Parks Development Director John Short, Fire Chief Dave Peterson, and citizens Dave Meyerholtz, Art Spalding, Ben Greene, and Dave Heyboer.
2. Public comments  
Art Spalding said he read the PSAC recommendation but that's all he has seen, and asked how much do we need and why do we need it. Speaking as Parks Development Director, John Short asked questions of Young about availability of the CPO and road patrol officers on weekends and some evenings for parks patrol. Short stated thousands of people use our parks each year and officers are needed to prevent incidents and to respond to calls for service at the parks and at other Township facilities, but current levels of law enforcement do not meet these needs.
3. Board members, PSAC members, and Sheriff's Department representatives Young and Ivy discussed the Public Safety Advisory Committee's recommendation to increase the level of law enforcement service by adding 16 hours of road patrol on a daily basis and add a full time Community Policing Officer (CPO) beginning in 2015. Board members asked questions of the PSAC members and Sheriff's Department representatives. Young gave the Board an overview of the recent data on law enforcement in Plainfield Township and comparable communities in Kent County which the PSAC relied on to determine their recommendation. PSAC Chair Cathy Bottema said the data provided and reviewed, as well as discussion with Kent County Sheriff's Department personnel, was extensive and moved the Committee to make their unanimous recommendation. Bottema commended the Sheriff's Department for their cooperation in supplying all the information the Committee asked for.  
Public comments:  
Art Spalding, John Short, Dave Heyboer, and Dave Meyerholtz spoke of their experiences with law enforcement needs, either on their own behalf or on behalf of the Township parks and the White Pine Trail, and were in support of the Committee's recommendation.
4. Van Wyngarden will add consideration of the Committee's recommendation, as well as funding options, to the agenda for the next Board meeting on December 1.
5. Karnes thanked the members of the Public Safety Advisory Committee for the many hours of time they devoted to this important issue and thanked Young and Ivy for their extensive assistance to the Committee and to the Board.
6. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

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Ruth Ann Karnes  
Plainfield Charter Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay D. Spencer  
Plainfield Charter Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, as the duly elected clerk of the township, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the special meeting minutes of November 24, 2014 as approved by the Township Board of Plainfield Charter Township, at which a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Plainfield Charter Township Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date