

SOUTHWEST WASHTENAW COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

7:00 pm Wednesday, MARCH 8, 2006

MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

1. Call to Order by Vaillencourt at 7:03 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Sign In

Pat Vaillencourt, Karl Racenis, Bob Little, Brian Sharkey (WCRC), Duane Beuerle, Ray Berg, Jesse O'Jack, Mark Roby (WC Planning & Environment), Jan Godek, Ron Mann, Mark Ouimet, Tom Lavender, Ron Ellison, George Daubner, Dick Irwin, Reno Feldkamp, Peter DeLoof

4. Introductions

5. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ellison, support by Little, approved by acclamation.

6. Approval of Minutes of February 8, 2006

Motion by Ellison, support by Little, approved by acclamation.

7. Washtenaw County Planning – Mark Roby

LIA grant application due April 1 (presented at MTA Convention in January).

Stronger proposal if SWWCOG applies jointly.

20% local match required (County would consider paying part of this).

Handout lists show proposal based on 2003 SWWCOG Plan and Vision & Expectations from December & January Minutes, together with County Master Plan.

- * Define “urban” growth area.
- * Look at “spheres of influence.”
- * Ideas for in-fill development.
- * Design standards for lighting, landscaping, etc.
- * Model ordinances.
- * 425 agreements.
- * Designate area for medium & high density housing (workforce housing).
- * Greenbelts between agriculture and developed areas.
- * Resolving inconsistencies.
- * Interface County Plan with SWWCOG Plan.

Level 1 of proposal mostly done already; should consider Level 2 and/or 3 items for proposal.

General discussion about development in Townships made possible by community septic systems.

Roby suggested that County prepare a proposal, review with SWWCOG CEO's, and submit by April 1.

Motion by Ellison, support by Little, approved by acclamation.

“Authorize County to prepare a proposal for submission to LIA by April 1, subject to final approval by SWWCOG”.

Roby will set up meetings with each entity as soon as possible.

Vaillencourt discussed road plan coordination within SWWCOG region, with support by Brian Sharkey.

8. Washtenaw County Public Safety & Justice Needs Update

Pat Vaillencourt-

Final Steering Committee meeting held, but there are many unresolved details.

Public meetings focused on Option 4, then County Administrator presented Options 5 & 6, further lowering costs. Option 7 was then presented to Board of Commissioners.

Sheriff's Office issuing statement that additional 12 deputies will not make a significant difference in County-wide Road Patrol.

Commissioners recommended that some type of committee continue to meet to maintain channels of communication.

Mark Ouimet

40% increase in cost at end of 4 year contract. (went from \$180,000+ to \$116,000 /year (\$135,000-140,000 range including command and overtime costs).

Issue has brought focus on price vs. cost of government, with need to continue to drive costs down. Were able to identify what these services cost.

Nobody got everything they wanted, but everybody got something.

Next issues are multiple lawsuits dealing with this subject.

Vaillencourt questioned status of "Bridge Contract"; per Ouimet no resolution to date. County wants differential between Townships that signed 4 year contract and those that did not.

Little asked why 4% increase from 08 to 09, compared to CPI which is usually lower. Ouimet responded that County government has grown 167% above CPI over last 20 years.

Increased Road Patrol will not significantly add to "police presence".

Little thanked Ouimet and Vaillencourt for their efforts.

Ouimet thanked Vaillencourt for her efforts, despite dual role of representing Manchester voters and Countywide considerations.

9. February CEO "Brown Bag" – update on sign ordinances

Nothing done regarding sign ordinance presented by Steve Puuri to CEO's last month.

Brian Sharkey will follow up with Road Commission about joint ordinance.

10. SWWCOG – Committee updates

a. Fire cost recovery (Lavendar, Mann, Little, Sheth)

Have not met, but Mann has received information from Freedom & Bridgewater Twp.

b. Mineral extraction ordinances (Township appointees)

Freedom updating ordinances based on recent experiences, including amendments to Conditional Use and Mineral Extraction permits. Will be presenting to Township Board for review and action.

- c. Joint police services (Blades, Mann, Little, Sheth, Wallace, Vaillencourt)
Chelsea contacted to get additional information. Wallace will set up another meeting.
- d. Regional planning (Vaillencourt, Mann, Blades, Wallace)
No action to date.

11. Wireless Project Report – Ray Berg

County received 4 bids yesterday, including consortiums of companies.

Subcommittees will be busy evaluating proposals.

Recommendation to advisory board by mid-April.

Revised Master Participation Agreement being distributed, with Township Attorney inputs reflected.

There are some Townships who are not participating in Wireless Washtenaw.

Meeting with attorney scheduled on March 22 at 1:30 PM at Western Service Center (Zeeb Rd.) to review agreement concerns.

Sharon Twp. met with Sylvan Twp's wireless provider; asked to sign "Underserved Certification". (20/20 Communications)

Freedom Twp. also contacted Ray Berg. through Michigan Broadband Development Act.

12. Roundtable Discussion –

Manchester Schools, waiting for State permit for new bus garage.

Travelled to Milan for hearing on State mandated curriculum requirements with several School Board members; frustrating experience because of usurpation of local control.

Ellison & Vickie Miller filed for re-election (currently unopposed).

Lockdown due to escaped prisoner from work detail. Will working with Village and Sheriff's Department to improve communication and coordination in future emergencies.

Sharon Township,

Received grant to rebuild porch on Twp. Hall.

Planning Commission meeting on new Zoning Ordinance.

Met with 20/20 Communications about private wireless Internet service.

Freedom Township,

Tight budget coming up.

Bridgewater Township,

PDR ordinance being presented to Twp. Board next Wednesday.

County seminars on how to write PDR Ordinances Mar 30 in Chelsea, April 3 in Lodi Twp.

Manchester Township,

Talked about PDR at PC and Board

PC putting out survey, including item about millage for PDR program.

Looking at 425 agreements.

5 fire runs last Saturday.

Concerned about community wastewater treatment plants.

Conditional zoning discussed at PC, no action.

Discussed public access to Leonard Preserve.

Stonegate Village at standstill due to soft real estate market.

Manchester Village,

Mitchell property rezoning, recommended denial by PC.

Request about rezoning Hogan Road Associates from Industrial to Commercial.

PC recommended rezoning Eckles Office to CBD, approved by Council. Complies with Master Plan.

Request for Conditional Use for Bed & Breakfast on Riverside.

Historic District Workshop on Districts on March 9.

Passed Conditional Zoning Ordinance.

PC will be looking at Future Land Use Map for adequate Commercial.

Met with MDOT on M-52 reconstruction opportunities for DDA. non-motorized transportation accommodation opportunities.

Escaped trustee from work detail. It took 15 minutes for Dept. of Corrections to respond. Sheriff responded within 3 minutes.

Need better system to disseminate information to merchants and citizens.

13. Other Business

Bob Little: County bought 152 acres on Waters Rd.

Freedom placed on tax roles because of commercial use, but expects Tax Tribunal action.

County Parks are concerned about issues of revenues generated on County land; indicate they are very willing to work with local communities on this issue.

Ron Mann:

SEMCOG meeting March 9 at 4:15 PM at Weber's in Ann Arbor.

Citizen Planner program coming up in April. Recommend to all Planning Commissioners.

Countywide seminar on community septic systems upcoming.

Brownfield letters going out to units about grant opportunities.

Brian Sharkey:

Bids for Wilbur Rd. bridge due on Mar. 24 at 3 PM. If no successful bid is received, it will be rebid without Historical requirements.

14. Adjourn at 9:13 PM Mann/Ellison

The next regular meeting will be April 12, 2006, Village of Manchester.