

Meeting was called to order by Evie Bush. Board members present were Evie Bush, Mike Morofsky and Kathy Miles. David Tkaczyk arrived later.

Vic Celentino and Dale Copedge spoke about the 5.5 million shortfall for the 2010 year budget for county services. A PLA policy was passed which will allow union and non-union businesses to bid on projects slated to cost over \$100,000.00. This will apply to 1 or 2 projects per year. Benefits of this would be all costs would be known up front with no strikes allowed and no work stoppages.

Dale said that the Waverly road paving project would begin June 22<sup>nd</sup> and may be done by December. Commissioners decided the Mason site was not feasible for the new 911 Center. The location on Jolly road in back of the Human Services building is the best option. This site is already owned by the city and that would also be a cost savings.

Dale also mentioned that 7,500 Criminal Sexual Conduct offenders are about to be released. They will have their rent paid for by the State for a period of 90 days, during which time they are expected to look for work. Concerns about their release into the community are to be addressed to

Nancy Oliver, 492-5500 Capital Area Works.

It was noted that this is a State decision.

Regarding cuts to the Sheriff's road patrol, Vic said the Sheriff was notified 2 years ago and again last year that this was a possibility, with little response from the Sheriff's department until recently. Washtenaw county has had similar economic problems to Ingham's. Vic said that the commissioners are trying to save road patrol officer jobs by asking the counties for a 1 mil levy to help pay for them. It was also noted that Ingham county only got \$58,000.00 in stimulus money.

Dale said that they are in the process of setting up a committee to make sure that residents in rural areas are accurately counted in the census and asked for volunteers.

Mike Morofsky drew attention to the board with pictures of residents flowers and asked for more pictures if anyone would like to submit theirs.

He thanked Murdock Jemerson for his help in getting the swings repaired on Elmhurst playground. The latest report on the shooting on Lenore (last year) was not available from captain Szymanski due to a sewer back-up and flooding at the South precinct.

Mike also presented Greg Scrimger with a plaque of appreciation for his hard work and responsiveness on behalf of the south side in his job at Code Compliance. Greg's number is 483-7620.

Patrol officer Jason Spoelma spoke but had no crime maps due to the flood at the precinct. He answered a question regarding cars parked on the street for more than 48 hours. Once it is reported to the police, the vehicle will be ticketed. If it is not removed within 48 hours, they will have it towed.

Murdock Jemerson gave a presentation and slide show on progress of the South Side Community Center. Offices are expected to be moved in by next week. Repair and upgrades on the pool are almost completed, including facilities to make it handicap assessable. There was a delay on completion due to a delay in obtaining a DEQ permit but they hope to have it open by July 1. Phase 1 is being done by HBC Contractors. A question was asked if there was going to be senior water aerobics and that was enthusiastically endorsed by other residents.

Upgrades on the auditorium are almost complete and it is hoped that the Lansing Civic Players will use it as their base and also provide children's entertainment. Security doors have been installed to keep the community center and the school portions of the building separate.

A schedule of activities was shown. Contact them at the following address for further information on that.  
**South Side Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, 483-6685, Fax 272-5995.**

Phase 2 will involve renovations and landscaping on the outside of the building done by LAUX construction. A'Lyne Robinson raised the point that residents should have input as to what programs are implemented. Kathy Dunbar said she is already polling the low-income residents in that area and that a newsletter will be

coming out soon with a form for resident input. She also mentioned that they hope to take over the greenhouse on the center property to use for the Farmer's Market.

A question was asked as to what happens if the district decides to sell the facility and Brian Jeffries said that the city has a 30-year contract. If the facility gets sold in that time frame, the city will be reimbursed for their investment in the improvements. Brian also mentioned that a walking path is being constructed around the perimeter of Francis park as well as a walking path and soccer field at Lewton school and the softball field is being removed. The south river trail from the zoo to Aurelius has been improved and mile markers will be painted on the pavement.

Ken Szymussiak from EDC spoke to concerns regarding the proposed liquor store at the site on MLK and Holmes. He said that the mayor's office has sent a letter to the Liquor Commission asking that a permit be denied and the commission has said they will consider it. It should be noted that the city does not have the ability to make this determination. A company named ABM LLC is putting up the new building.

He said that citizen letters and attendance at the Liquor Control meetings would carry great impact and encouraged us to have input that way.

He and Brian Jeffries spoke on Economic Development and the measures they are taking to promote the area.

1. Business retention. Working with businesses to help them meet their needs.
2. Bringing in new businesses. Offering abatements and 12 year periods of tax-free status to businesses that construct new facilities.
3. Expand tax base. Using '425' agreements and combining incentives as well as tax sharing with other areas.
4. Trying to bring new homeowners into the area.

A question was raised as to why they are promoting new building on green spaces and not offering more incentives to renovate vacant and deteriorating sites already existing. Also, how are all the abatements and tax-free incentives affecting the heavy burden on homeowners. Further verification is needed on this issue.

Carol Wood addressed the issue concerning the mowing (or lack of) along MLK and the spraying of chemicals. She encouraged people to attend the Tri-County Planning meeting next Wednesday at the Ingham County building, door 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, room A. She will propose that MDOT be required to set aside funds to pay for mowing along state trunk lines.

Kathy Miles mentioned that she has called Joan Bauer twice; Scott House at 483-4165, who referred her to Rick Tyrer 324-2289 at MDOT, all with no response, to ascertain what chemicals are being sprayed along MLK and what their effects on residents and pets are.

**Brian Jeffries was able to give the names of 3 chemicals that MDOT is using:**

**Escort XP**

**Milestone - both broadleaf herbicides which will kill the grass**

**Plateau - a growth retardant.**

Brian also said that when MDOT was asked how they could do this without any notice to residents, MDOT's response was that it was in the paper in January but there was no mention of where they would be used. He said concerns could be addressed to: **Bob Batt, 750-0410.**

We will still need answers as to toxicity and long-term effects on people and pets.

A'Lynne reminded that First Saturday meetings are at the fire station on Holmes from 10:00 to 12:00. She also announced a new organization of the business along MLK. They are planning beautification projects and are going to have a celebration on August 18<sup>th</sup> in Logan Center with bands and barbecue plus other activities.

Mike McVay, representing Pinnacle home improvements, spoke about a service called "Inspired Green". This is a free service to help homeowners find and fix small areas in their homes that will help them save energy. He will have brochures next month.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05