

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
Township Board Minutes
Special Meeting
December 18, 2012

The Oshtemo Township Board held a special meeting at the Oshtemo Township Hall. Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell
Clerk Deb Everett
Treasurer Nancy Culp
Trustee Dave Bushouse
Trustee Nancy Carr
Trustee Dusty Farmer
Trustee Lee Larson

Also present were Fire Chief Mark Barnes and Sgt. Todd Myers from the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL POLICE PROTECTION

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised a request had been received from Sgt. Myers that the Township authorize additional police protection to provide two deputies on the day and evening shift through December 31st.

Sgt. Myers advised there has been an increase in retail fraud and theft from retail establishments. He had provided the Supervisor with a list of dates for which no Oshtemo contract deputies were available.

Lengthy discussion ensued, Clerk Everett, and Trustees Carr and Farmer expressed concern the schedule for coverage had not anticipated the need, Sgt. Myers advised requests for time off by officers is dictated by their union contract, he also advised most retail establishments have adopted a "hands off" policy regarding stopping individuals suspected of or known to be stealing merchandise. There was also concern expressed that if an officer is tied up with a retail fraud complaint, there would not be an officer available to respond to other needs in the Township; Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell commented she has no doubt regarding the need.

Motion by Culp, second by Farmer to authorize an expenditure in the amount of \$9,000 for additional police protection through December 31st. Carried.

Clerk Everett commented she would vote in favor, with reservation. Trustees Carr and Farmer concurred.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:50 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT
TOWNSHIP CLERK

Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COGSWELL
SUPERVISOR