

**Muskegon County
Board of Commissioners**
*Hall of Justice, 990 Terrace, 4th Floor
Muskegon, MI 49442*

*Benjamin E. Cross
Marvin Engle
Susie Hughes
Kenneth Mahoney, Chair
Charles Nash*

*Terry Sabo
Robert Scolnik
Rillastine R. Wilkins, Vice Chair
District 7 - Vacant*

Board Minutes may be found on the web at <http://co.muskegon.mi.us/clerk>

Special Full Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

4:00 p.m.

Chairman Mahoney, Presiding

The Full Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mahoney. The invocation was given by Chairman Mahoney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Roll Call

Present: Benjamin Cross, Marvin Engle, Susie Hughes, Kenneth Mahoney, Terry Sabo, Robert Scolnik, Rillastine Wilkins

Excused: Charles Nash

Also Present: Mark Eisenbarth, County Administrator,
Nancy A. Waters, County Clerk,
Jeanne Pezet, Deputy County Clerk,
Doug Hughes, Corporate Counsel

2014-490 **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Commissioner Cross, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to approve the agenda.

Voice vote.

Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT (ON AN AGENDA ITEM)

There was no public comment.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

2014-491 **APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE MUSKEGON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS TO PLACE A 1.5 MILL LEVY ON THE FEBRUARY 24TH, 2015 BALLOT**

The Chairman recommends, moved by Commissioner Engle, seconded by Commissioner Sabo, to approve the request of the Muskegon County Road Commissioners to place a 1.5 mill levy on the February 24th, 2015 ballot. (Ballot language attached.)

Commissioner Engle noted a committee had been formed to review the infrastructure to development and the biggest issue was the condition of Roads. Commissioner Engle noted he and Commissioner Sabo listened to the recommendation of the Road Commissioner. The reason for the meeting today is that today is the last day for putting language on the February 2015 ballot.

Commissioner Hughes noted Muskegon Township would benefit from this millage.

2014-492 **AMEND THE MOTION TO INCLUDE THAT THE ROAD COMMISSION WOULD BE PAYING THE COST FOR THE ELECTION**

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to amend the motion to include that the Road Commission would be paying the cost for the election.

Discussion ensued.

Road Commission Managing Director Kenneth Hulka presented revised language. (see attached) Mr. Hulka further stated the Road Commission is prepared to pay for the election.

Based on discussion, including comments from Commissioner Scolnik, Commissioner Hughes withdrew her motion.

Commissioner Sabo noted that during the Committee meeting, it was clear that whatever happens at the state level will not solve our problem. The question Commissioner Sabo hears everywhere is about the condition of Muskegon County roads; this question will give voters the choice.

Commissioner Hughes noted this will actually give the tax payers more say in what to repair.

Commissioner Wilkins thanked Mr. Hulka for the Road Commission presentation at the Roadkill Banquet.

Commissioner Scolnik asked, since Norton Shores already voted on a road tax, will they collect one or both?

Corporate Counsel stated that options for municipalities with a current road millage would have to be determined by those municipalities.

Chairman Mahoney stated this is an excellent idea, especially for Townships and may increase funds with optional match.

Roll call on 2014-491

Yes: Commissioner Engle, Commissioner Hughes, Commissioner Sabo, Commissioner Scolnik, Commissioner Wilkins, Commissioner Cross, Commissioner Mahoney

No: None.

Excused: Commissioner Nash

Motion Carried

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Administrator had nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Elect Lohman congratulated the Board on their vote and stated that, as leaders, Commissioners need to promote a complete streets concept.

2014-493 **MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 4:23 P.M.**

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Cross, to adjourn at 4:23 p.m.

Voice vote

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Nancy A. Waters, County Clerk

NAW/jmp

Preliminary Minutes

To be approved at the Full Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2014



Muskegon County Road Commission

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Jack E. Kennedy
Chairman

Melvin L. Black
Vice Chair

John J. DeWolf
Commissioner

Lewis J. Collins
Commissioner

Gerald J. Walter
Commissioner

Shall the Muskegon County Road Commission as authorized by the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners levy against all taxable real and personal property within the County of Muskegon, as provided for by Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, the amount not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation (1.5 mills) for a period of ten (10) years, 2015 through 2024, inclusive, for the sole purpose of funding the repair, maintenance and improvements of primary roads, major streets, local roads, and bridges in each city, township and village in the County of Muskegon? The money raised can't be used for any other purpose. The proposal would increase property taxes for 10 years by a 1.5 mill county-wide, which would raise approximately \$6,750,000 in the first year. That means that for every \$100,000 in the market value of a home and \$50,000 in taxable value, property taxes would increase by \$75 per year, or approximately \$6.25 per month, for the next 10 years. The funds to be disbursed to the Muskegon County Road Commission, the Cities of Montague, Muskegon, Muskegon Heights, North Muskegon, Norton Shores, Roosevelt Park, Whitehall, and the villages of Casnovia, Fruitport, Lakewood Club and Ravenna. If approved, this would be a new millage, to be levied beginning July of 2015.