

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings–November 15, 2011

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor LaJoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. **Roll Call** Members Present: Anthony, Demopoulos, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Taj, Williams Members Absent: Bennett Staff Present: Director Nemecek, Fire Chief Dunn, Deputy Police Chief Kerr, Deputy Fire Chief Meier, Lt. Mutchler, Kathleen Rich, Barb Caruso **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by McLaughlin, seconded by Williams to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. RADIO SYSTEM AND PUBLIC SAFETY CONSOLIDATION/PRIVATIZATION. (PSD)** Canton's current Public Safety radio system is VHF and is outdated. There is one main frequency for Fire and one main frequency for Police. One unit can talk at a time and one unit can respond at a time. Many communities around Canton are going to the 800 MHz, which allows for multiple frequencies and multiple units speaking at the same time. It is necessary to switch systems because the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) has issued a mandate to narrowband the radios. This means the FCC wants to cut the frequency band in half and go from a 25 kilohertz to 12.5 kilohertz spectrums to broadcast on. The FCC is voluntarily asking for users to go to 6.25 kilohertz, which causes Canton's radio equipment to be outdated. Currently, 60% of Canton radio equipment cannot be narrowband to the mandated 12.5 kilohertz. Should the FCC mandate the 6.25 kilohertz, none of the Canton radio equipment will be able to be narrowbanded. All public safety, industrial and business licenses in the 150-174 MHz (VHF) and 421-512 MHz (UHF) are required to meet the January 1, 2013 deadline. This new system switch will begin at the end of 2011 and go into 2012. The switch will affect the following radio communications within Canton: Public Safety, Outdoor Warning Siren System, Municipal Services and Leisure Services. The recommended approach to change over to the new system suggests 90 days per component: Police Department, Fire Department and Dispatch Console. This change over in communications will have no change in functionality of the Public Safety radios. The consoles can be "patched" for all radios to work as one. The only connection down time to occur is when individual radios in vehicles are being changed out. This will be a seamless transition. It is estimated the new system will cost \$1.3 - \$1.5 million, which includes equipment, hardware, MPSCS fees, installation and service agreements. The service agreement is paid upfront and an extended 3 year warranty was also quoted from Motorola. The MPSCS fees are \$200 per year, per prep and mobile radio. The new system will be funded with grants from the following: \$250,000 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (PD), \$224, 245 Homeland Security Grant (FD) and E911 Funds (saving in anticipation of new radio requirement) **Adjourn** Motion by McLaughlin, supported by Williams at 7:39 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried by all members present. – Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor – Terry G. Bennett, Clerk –

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval. Publish: November 23, 2011