

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CANTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 09, 2005**

The Canton Township Board of Trustees met in a Special Session on
Tuesday, August 09, 2005 with all three Trustees present.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLE CALL:	Mr. James A. Wilcox	-	Present
	Mr. William C. Smith	-	Present
	Mr. Christopher B. Nichols	-	Present

Also in attendance: Clerk Ron Smith

This Special Meeting is to discuss and determine if a levy will be put on the November 8th ballot to approve the Township entering into a contract for additional police service.

Community Development Committee members in attendance:
Dan Brooks, Bob Burns, Sandra Corner, Kevin Heim, and John Ring

Why Additional Police Service:

Mr. Smith gave a summary of the Board's research concerning the possibility of additional police service for the Township. The Board has been approached several times over the past several years by business owners, residents and the school district concerning this issue. A sub-committee was formed from the CTCDC (Canton Township Community Development Committee) to research if additional police service was necessary; and would Township residents, both home owners and business owners, be willing to pay for it. Mr. Smith proceeded to report to those in attendance what brought them to this point.

Proposed Cost:

Mr. Nichols explained the Police Protection Budget Forecast for the five-year period of 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. One police vehicle would average \$485,150.00 per year over five years. Two police vehicles would average \$630,696 per year over five years. According to the Stark County Auditor's office, \$600,000.00 per year would be approximately two mills. That averages out to roughly \$200.00 per year for an owner of a \$100,000.00 home.

(Microphone at podium not working properly, cannot clearly hear comments.)

CTCDC Members:

John Ring: He feels there is a definite need for additional police service in Canton Township.

Kevin Heim: No comment at the present time.

Bob Burns: He feels there is a need for additional police service. He has asked neighbors for their opinion; they feel it possibly could be a positive benefit for the Township, but would need more information before making a decision. He invited several people to attend tonight's meeting, but no-one showed up.

Sandra Corner: She also feels there is need for additional police service. She asked elderly residents their opinion; and they are for the levy. Their main concern is how much money it will cost them.

Dan Brooks: He lives on Valentine Circle NW, which is in the northwest section of Canton Township. He also is of the opinion that this levy is good for Canton Township. However, the residents in his area that he spoke with feel secure with the present police protection because there are not a lot of problems. They are on the edge of Canton City, and they see Canton City police cars in the area quite often. This gives them a false sense of security because they think Canton City is taking care of their police protection, but they are not. The business owners in the area think additional police service would be good. Ultimately, though, this area of Canton Township, which is in the Canton City School District, will be dealing with a school levy; and the bottom line is the extra money it will cost them.

Township Residents:

There were comments from several Township residents that were in attendance. Some for the levy, some against. One concern was: Why should we pay additional tax money; we already pay taxes for protection from the Stark County Sheriff Department. Mr. Smith stated patrolling the Township is at the bottom of the list for the Sheriff. His budget first covers deputies stationed at the Courthouse, second the deputies to staff the jail, and then patrolling areas of the county that do not have their own police protection. The main concern for residents is the money it will cost them. Canton Township will also be facing a school levy next year, which will be more tax money. Levy after levy is more than some residents can financially handle.

Trustees:

The Board was all in agreement that it should be the residents of Canton Township to decide if we need additional police protection. It would be on the ballot only one time. Whether the voters say YES or NO, it is their decision. The levy will not be put on the ballot over and over again to get it to pass. One time only.

Resolutions:

Mr. Nichols made a motion to approve a Resolution to exclude the territory comprising the Village of Meyers Lake, Ohio from a Canton Township Police District. Motion seconded by Mr. Smith and voting YES – Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Nichols.

Mr. Nichols made a motion to approve a Resolution requesting Stark County Auditor to certify what millage it would require to generate \$600,000.00 for the Canton Township Police District. This additional tax levy would be for each tax year beginning with tax year 2005 and five successive years being 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009, under the current tax valuation; and to specifically exclude the territory comprising the Village of Meyers Lake, Ohio. Motion seconded by Mr. Wilcox and voting YES – Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Nichols.

No further business coming before the Board, Mr. Nichols made a motion to adjourn at 8:02pm, seconded by Mr. Wilcox and voting YES – Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Nichols.

Ronald L. Smith, Clerk

James A. Wilcox, President

William C. Smith, Vice President

Christopher B. Nichols, Trustee