

St. Clair Township Board Meeting
107 Service Street, Swansea
Executive Session December 15, 2015

Approved: January 26, 2016 Released: _____

At 7:58p.m. during the regular township meeting, Trustee Carroll made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss union negotiations under section 2(c)2 of the OMA. Trustee Sturgis seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Yes – Carroll, Sturgis, Hipkind, Barnes. No – Wells. Motion passed.

At 8:01p.m. Supervisor Barnes called the executive session to order to discuss union negotiations.

The following board members were present: Supervisor Dave Barnes, Trustees Mary Carroll, Jaynie Wells, Keith Sturgis, and Greg Hipkind.

Clerk Brenda Reed and Attorney Terry Bruckert were also present.

Supervisor Barnes stated negotiations are ongoing concerning the prescription drug premium payment. The contract states 100% of dental, vision, and prescription drug premiums will be paid by the township. The employees pay 20% of their health insurance premium and prescription drug coverage is included in that premium. No insurance company contacted by the township or the union is able to provide the amount of any health insurance premium that is attributed to prescription drug coverage.

The union's most recent proposal is that each employee be paid \$157.00 per month as compensation for the prescription drug premium. The union provided a printout of Medicare Part D drug plans as an example of prescription drug premiums. The Part D premium examples ranged from \$18.40 per month to \$157.40 per month.

The board discussed that paying each employee \$157.00 per month as compensation for a prescription drug premium would be unreasonable because some employees' healthcare premiums are less than that amount.

It was suggested each employee be reimbursed 3% to 5% of the portion of the premium they pay.

It was pointed out that the example of Medicare Part D premiums presented by the union would be considered a violation of good faith bargaining because none of the employees are eligible for Medicare.

The board suggested Supervisor Barnes ask the union to provide valid examples of prescription drug premiums.

At 8:33p.m. Trustee Hipkind made a motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to the regular meeting. Trustee Carroll seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Reed
St. Clair Township Clerk

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