



**VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 20, 2011**

Mayor Goldhardt called the meeting to order. Fiscal Officer Hastings took roll call with the following members present: Dr. Weaver, Ms. Gooden-Kinney, Ms. Hutchins, Mr. Benedik, Mr. Cruz, and Mr. Kuzelka. Engineer Grosse and Solicitor Crites were also in attendance.

Dr. Weaver made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kuzelka to suspend the procedural rules. All members were in favor and the motion passed.

Resolution 13-2011 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY FOR A TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10.00) MILL LIMITATION TO RENEW THE FOUR (4.00) MILL CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY WHICH EXPIRES IN 2011. Mayor Goldhardt did a first reading of Resolution 13-2011, title only. At this time, Mayor Goldhardt explained that this was just a renewal and not a new tax. Out of the permanent 10 Mill levy, Commercial Point receives 2.3 Mill which generates about \$ 58,500 per year for our budget. The renewal of the additional 4 Mill will generate an additional \$108,500 for the General Fund. Mayor Goldhardt stressed to the public that this is not a new tax, just a renewal of what they are already paying through their property taxes.

Resolution 14-2011 A RESOLUTION INSTRUCTING THE PICKAWAY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PROCEED WITH THE ELECTION FOR A TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN (10.00) MILL LIMITATION TO RENEW THE FOUR (4.00) MILL CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY WHICH EXPIRES IN 2011. Mayor Goldhardt did a first reading of Resolution 14-2011, title only. Mayor Goldhardt explained this was a necessary step to get the renewal on the ballot for November 2011.

Resolution 15-2011 A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mayor Goldhardt did a second reading of Resolution 15-2011, title only. At this time, Mayor Goldhardt explained that this was not a raise for him. This is a raise for whoever is elected to the position of Mayor in 2012. Some members of Council feel that the current rate of \$ 6,000/year is not an adequate compensation for the position of Mayor.

At this time, many members of the public had questions for the Mayor and the Council. Mr. DJ Daugherty of 132 Foxfire Blvd asked why the "emergency" wording was in Resolution 15-2011. Mayor Goldhardt explained that this resolution, if passed by council, needed to be in effect before the August election deadline in order to take effect in January 2012. At this time, the only way to accomplish this is to pass it using the "emergency" language in the resolution. Mr. Ron Vogel of 125 Grove Run Road asked why council is considering a raise for the mayor's position because he feels that the national economy is currently in poor shape. Mayor Goldhardt explained that elected officials in the Village are not allowed to vote themselves a raise. Because of that, a raise in the Mayor's compensation may only be considered once every four years. If Council does not raise the salary this year, they will not have the opportunity to do so until 2015. Mr. Randy Shelton of 103 Yukon Dr. wanted to know why this has to be done by with "emergency" wording. For the second time, Mayor Goldhardt explained the timing issue with getting this done before the August deadline. Mayor Goldhardt said if Council had decided to do this raise for the Mayor position 6 months ago, the "emergency" wording would not have been necessary. Mr. Shelton and Mr. Rick Goodall questioned why such a large increase. Once again, Mayor Goldhardt stated that some members of Council feel that the current rate of \$ 6,000/year is not adequate compensation for the position of Mayor and that this resolution brings the salary more in line with the surrounding communities. Mr. Joe Culp of 108 Yukon wanted reassurance that the renewal of the 4Mill tax was not an increase in what we are paying now. Mayor Goldhardt reiterated that this was just a renewal, not an increase. Mr. Daugherty questioned the initiative petition process and the possibility of Council reversing the outcome of an election. He feels that Council members are elected to be the eyes and ears of the village residents, and should be making decisions for all residents. Mayor Goldhardt agreed and said that if Mr. Daugherty personally feels that this not happening, he is encouraged to run for mayor or a position on council. Mayor Goldhardt stated that the mayor's position and two council positions are up for election this November.



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Mr. Jim Lamb of 114 Grove Run wanted to know if the attendance at tonight's meeting was normal. Mayor Goldhardt said it was not. We usually have 3 or 4 members of the public in attendance, not 80 – 100. Mayor Goldhardt said he was glad to see all of the people attend a council meeting and encouraged them to keep coming back and get involved in our community. He felt that it was a shame that it took an individual passing out false and misleading information to bring this many people to a council meeting.

Mr. John Capretta asked what the Village would lose if the 4 Mill renewal levy was voted down. Mayor Goldhardt said it would be up to the Council to decide where to implement cuts in the General Fund budget.

Ms. Deb Gegas of 115 Foxfire asked how to get a copy of the budget. She was informed she could stop in the office during normal business hours and pick up a copy.

Mr. Bill Allen of 153 Walnut Creek Dr personally felt that a vote by the residents on the income tax would have been appreciated. Mayor Goldhardt said that the members of Council are elected by the public to make decisions for the Village. Although some decisions are not popular at the time, they must do what they feel is in the best interest of the Village, not only for today but in the future as well. He informed the public that the village income tax rate could not be raised over the current 1% limit without holding a public election.

Mr. Benedik informed the public the reason for the income tax and renewal of the 4 Mills was to make Commercial Point more attractive to businesses and residents. This Council would like to see our community grow and prosper.

A motion was made by Ms. Gooden-Kinney and seconded by Dr. Weaver to adjourn the Special Council Meeting. All members were in favor, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Allan D. Goldhardt, Mayor

Wendy L. Hastings, Fiscal Officer