

**CITY OF SOUTH LYON
AND
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LYON**

**SPECIAL MEETING
TO DISCUSS COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS**

Approved as submitted February 6, 2006.

DATE: Wednesday, January 18, 2006
TIME: 7:30 PM
PLACE: 58000 Grand River

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor John Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
Supervisor Young called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

Mayor Doyle thanked the Township for hosting tonight's meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

Abe Ayoub, N. Lyon Trail, expressed concern about the DARE program ending. He stated that this program has been great.

3. **Introductions:**

Mr. Young introduced Chris Olson, Township Superintendent, who made the following introductions:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| - Moderator – Gary Butler, PE; Butler-Fitzgerald Associates | - Lyon Township Board of Trustees |
| - City of South Lyon Officials | - John Hicks, Trustee |
| - Glenn Kivell | - Dan Cash, Trustee |
| - Harvey Wedell | - Patricia Carcone, Treasurer |
| - Ray Dryer, Mayor Pro Tem | - Pamela Johnson, Clerk |
| - John Doyle, Jr., Mayor | - Brent Hemker, Trustee |
| - Erin Kopkowski | - Troy Schilling, Trustee |
| - Patti Maida | - Lannie Young, Supervisor |

Also present: Rod Cook, City Manager
Chris Olson, Township Superintendent
Matt Quinn, Township Attorney
Alexis Marcarello, Township Planner

Jeff Potter, County Commissioner
14 Visitors

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Wedell motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Carcone supported the motion.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All
Nays: None

Motion approved.

5. **Brainstorming:**

- (a) What are the opportunities and constraints in the following areas?
- (b) What are the expectations of each community?
- (c) What is the fairest way to distribute expenses?

Mr. Butler explained that this is a brainstorming session, it is not a session to resolve issues. He asked everybody to be open and polite. One key thing in a brainstorming session is that there is no such thing as a bad idea. He stated that they would prefer not to have ideas criticized.

Mr. Butler noted that there are five categories listed under Traditional Services. He stated that he would like to begin by ranking these items in order of priority. Mr. Doyle indicated that they need to address whatever makes sense, not necessarily in the order that is indicated on the agenda. He noted that they will probably be having a second meeting and should possibly set a time limit for this meeting.

Ms. Carcone suggested that they set a time limit for the meeting. Mr. Doyle stated that he and Mr. Young discussed this earlier and suggested that they wrap up tonight's meeting after a couple hours, at 9:30 PM.

6. **Traditional Services:**

Mr. Butler went through the list and asked which category they should begin with. It was determined that the discussion would begin with Human/Enrichment.

Human/Enrichment:

- Recreation & Parks: Discussion of events that could take place at the park. There was talk about possibly opening park for some family winter sports. Ms. Carcone stated they are advocates of the South Lyon Recreation Authority. Mr. Dryer said he had heard good things about the Recreation Authority. It was noted that the school system has been deleting some programs and that these programs are now up to the municipalities.

- Library: The Library is a separate entity, as it is a District Library. Mr. Hemker stated that he would encourage the Library Board to try and get together with the other Library Board. He stated that he is behind the two Libraries working together. Mr. Doyle felt that this is something that could be explored. John Bell, Library Board President, stated that they did research this but felt that it was not an advantage at that time; that it was too much money. Mr. Dryer questioned how the Township Board and the City Council could help. Mr. Bell noted that because it is a District Library, it is out of their jurisdiction. It was felt they need to keep communicating. Jeff Potter, County Commissioner, stated that they have surveyed the residents and indicated that they were overwhelmingly in favor of sharing a Library. There was brief discussion regarding millages for Library. It was noted the City levies .79 for their Library.

- Senior: It was requested that Rod Cook, South Lyon City Manager, Chris Olson, Township Superintendent and Mark St. Charles, Green Oak Township, work to keep the budget in line with the Senior Center. It was noted that they have run in the "red" the past few years. Everyone is collaborating for the Senior program. Mr. Olson stated that growth in the area will increase the demand. There was discussion with regard to funding. Ms. Kopkowski stated that they may need to look at another center. She said they need to be effective with transportation. There was discussion with regard to transportation and how to fund it.

- Education (DARE): Mr. Doyle noted that there was a DARE graduation last week. He stated that Deputy Pasini has gone around to multiple schools teaching the interactive program of DARE.

Sergeant Crockett stated that all of the schools they go to are within the Township and the City, except for one in Green Oak. He noted that they are going to six schools at this time. He stated the funding for this program has been through a Grant and they have been told that at the end of this school year, the Grants will no longer be there. In order to keep the current program going, it would cost approximately \$20,000 a year. It was noted that the School District does not want to pay for this program.

There was discussion of interest in funding this program. It was noted that the Lyon Township Fire Fighters are planning on helping out by doing a fund-raiser for this program. Abe Ayoub indicated that in the spring they hope to do a car wash as a type of fund-raiser. It was questioned if there is any reason why a Fire Fighter couldn't teach this program. Sergeant Crockett responded that the person teaching this program has to go through hours of training.

Maggie Kurtzweil, serves on the Parks and Recreation, said she felt that the schools need to be accountable to the citizens by educating the kids. Mr. Cash concurred. He stated that the schools operate on a higher millage than the City or the Township, therefore, they should be able to fund the program. Ms. Kurtzweil felt that the school district is distancing themselves from the community. She felt that the school district has the opportunity to pay for preventative programs. John Bell felt that the School Board should be present for discussion of this issue. Ms. Johnson suggested contacting BCBS, who is tax exempt status, to see if they will donate their tax share back to the community. There was brief discussion of getting businesses to donate. Mr. Potter felt that this is an excellent suggestion. It was suggested that the Chamber of Commerce approach BCBS for a donation or sponsorship of the program. Police Chief Collins feels that this is a good program and that it does help in reducing incidents.

- Bike Trail: Areas of discussion on this issue were intersections, landscaping, safety, expansion. It was noted that there is a master plan for the bike trails.

Public Safety:

- Police: Mr. Hemker felt that these issues are the types of things that they need to look at in detail and suggested that they set up committees to look at these individual items.

The Township has 12 officers that cover 32 square miles of the Township. The City has 17 full-time officers that cover 3-1/2 square miles of the City. Discussion regarding budget for these issues and demographic impact of these services. It was noted that the City and the Township are at different ends of the growth cycle. Mr. Hemker stated that the Township could definitely use more officers now, especially with the growth that is going on. It was stated they need to keep the dialogue open. Ms. Carcone stated that she is in favor of the Oakland County Sheriff

Department.

- Fire:

- Ambulance:

- Emergency Prep:

Mr. Butler suggested that they plan on coming to the next meeting with specific information regarding public safety issues.

Development: Planning/Land Use, Building Safety, Business Recruitment

Administration: Leadership, Office Ops, Records

Public Works: Water, Sewer, Streets, Transit, Solid Waste

7. Capital Improvements:

Street Paving
Community Recreation Center
Library Construction/Expansion

8. Boundary Management (the "A" Word) – or should there be one?

9. Innovations: Technology Enhancements

10. Miscellaneous Discussion

Brief discussion as to a date for the next meeting, possibly in March. Mr. Doyle will check on date and alternate location.

Mr. Butler polled the members to see what worked and what didn't work here tonight. All members felt that this was a positive experience. They felt that it is a step in the right direction.

A question was asked regarding the status of the wireless internet. Mr. Potter gave a brief update of the status of the wireless internet in the County.

11. Adjournment:

Ms. Carcone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hemker supported the motion.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All
 Nays: None

Motion approved. The Board of Trustees meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Mr. Dryer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wedell supported the motion.

Voice Vote: Ayes: All
 Nays: None

Motion approved. The City Council meeting was adjourned at 9:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deby Cothery

Deby Cothery
Recording Secretary

Pamela Johnson
Clerk