

**DAVISON TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 18, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Tim Elkins, Clerk Cindy Shields, Treasurer Pat Miller,
Trustees Matthew Karr and Travis Howell

Police Chief Rick Freeman

Deputy Chief Jerry Harris

Recording Secretary Rhonda Clark

OTHERS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Davison Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 9:02 am at the Davison Township Municipal Center, 1280 N. Irish Road, Davison, MI 48423. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

NEW BUSINESS

POLC Letter of Understanding

Chief Freeman explained that the Officers have asked “what is the board doing for us?” for their added risk during the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” Executive Order. Chief reported information received from MACP, that Davison Township is in the minority when it comes to extra compensation for this added risk. He stated other entities have either given hazard pay or paid furlough days or both. There is no “right or wrong” way to do this; it would be at the board’s discretion. The officers pointed out that township office staff have been off with pay during the Stay Home Order. Chief told his staff that he would bring their concern to the board.

Tim reported there have been conversations throughout this unprecedented time regarding this issue. Cindy pointed out that it would not have been prudent to make a decision of this nature earlier as we had no way of knowing how long the Stay Home Order would last. She thanked the police department staff for their patience.

Cindy and Tim both emphasized this should be handled before upcoming contract negotiations and want the officers to know how much we appreciate what they are going through. They have done an excellent job during this pandemic and suggested Hazard Pay in amount of \$1,500 for sworn officers and \$1,000 for the Dispatcher/Clerks as a one-time stipend. A Letter of Understanding would need to be signed by both the POLC and the board.

Matthew and Pat stated that working under these conditions has been strenuous and not exactly what anyone signed up for, but do not want this to be protocol for any other situation that arises. Travis asked how the amount was decided. There was also discussion about the Dispatchers.

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MOTION BY KARR, SECOND BY HOWELL to approve a Letter of Understanding between the Police Officers Labor Council and Davison Township Board of Trustees for \$1,500 per sworn officer and \$1,000 per dispatcher. Roll call: Yes- Karr, Elkins, Miller, Howell, Shields. Motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS

Cindy discussed election issues regarding mail in voting, polling locations being open for the August election, and the cost of mailing one letter out to all registered voters being an additional \$12,200 over the mailing of permanent absentee voters. There is no money in the budget for this expense and does not recommend a mailing to all registered voters.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 am.

Cindy K. Shields, Clerk

Timothy W. Elkins, Supervisor