

## CITY/COUNTY SHARED SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Administration Building  
508 New York Avenue  
Sheboygan WI

**Monday, October 29, 2012**

**Called to Order: 6:01 P.M.**

**Adjourned: 6:32 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Te Stroete, Terry Van Akkeren, Peggy Feider, Mike Vandersteen, Tom Epping, Don Hammond, Terry Katsma

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Maples, Cory Roeseler, David Van Akkeren

ALSO PRESENT: Adam Payne, Gail Ulezelski, Todd Priebe, William Bruckbauer, Jim Risseeuw, Terry Hanson, Tom Wegner, Vernon Koch, Jeff Hermann, Chris Domagalski, Dave Augustin, Jim Amodeo, Dan Benson, Jon DeMaster, Dolcye Johnson

Chairperson Feider called the meeting to order. Gail Ulezelski verified that the meeting notice was posted on October 26, 2012 at 12:00 P.M. in compliance with the open meeting law.

There was no public input or comments on agenda/non-agenda items.

Chairperson Feider thanked members of the Combined Dispatch Ad Hoc Committee for the time and effort put forth in the development of a palatable draft proposal.

Terry Hanson, Finance and IT Director for Sheboygan County reviewed the Combined Dispatch Proposal dated October 25, 2012. Highlights: Sheboygan County runs the combined dispatch operations at the County's Law Enforcement Center, the City of Sheboygan provides a one-time \$2.5 million payment to cover remodeling costs and associated equipment for the combined dispatch center, and Sheboygan County funds the operation of the combined dispatch center going forward.

Under the proposal, City of Sheboygan taxpayers save \$287,174 per year while funding the 10 years of debt service (or a net savings of \$2,871,740). Thereafter, estimated savings would be \$613,174 annually. Tax impact for both City and County taxpayers owning a home with an equalized value of \$150,000 would be \$37.62 per year (or \$3.13 per month) for dispatch services.

Mr. Hanson reviewed the timeline for the project. It is anticipated the new combined dispatch center will open in 2015.

Supervisor Vandersteen questioned if the proposal included sprinklers or if this project qualifies for an exemption per State Code. Inspector Bill Bruckbauer confirmed the intent is to pursue the exemption.

County Administrator Adam Payne echoed accolades for the Ad Hoc Committee. He stated emergency response such as from the Fire Department isn't nearly as helpful if not timely. Because of the hard work and compromise among the Ad Hoc Committee, this is the first time we've been in a position to move forward and see combined dispatch become a reality.

Aldersperson Don Hammond moved/seconded by Supervisor Vandersteen to approve the Combined Dispatch Proposal dated October 25, 2012 and forward to both governing bodies (the

Committee of the Whole for the City of Sheboygan and the Law Committee of the County Board) for consideration. Discussion ensued.

Terry Van Akkeren, Mayor for City of Sheboygan, thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for bringing the project home, following through during difficult negotiations even though it would have been easier not to.

Supervisor Vandersteen stated he knew when the Common Council and County Board adopted resolutions in 2012 once again endorsing the concept of establishing combined dispatch, that things were pointed in the right direction. But it was the foresight of the Ad Hoc Committee that brought it all together.

Terry Katsma asked for summarization of changes from the initial \$3 million proposal to the current \$2.5 million proposal. Mr. Payne and Mr. Hanson indicated that operating the dispatch center out of the LEC was preferable because it is a hardened structure. In addition, if the Sheriff's Department is going to be responsible for operating combined dispatch, they wanted it located in their own house.

County Board Chairman Roger TeStroete noted he was against the original proposal as it relates to his constituents, but as County Board Chairperson, he understands the County Board as a whole supports combined dispatch, so he negotiated and attempted to keep in mind the best interest of all County taxpayers.

Supervisor Epping acknowledged the good work of the Ad Hoc Committee, but shared that he still has reservations about the proposal.

Supervisor Vandersteen indicated the Sheriff, Police Chief and Fire Chiefs Association want to see combined dispatch to better address handling multiple emergencies.

Aldersperson Hammond noted with the current proposal there are four supervisors and one manager and that cell phone 911 calls are handled directly versus being transferred between entities as is currently done.

Dolcye Johnson asked for clarification on whether the \$8 million radio upgrade costs are included as part of this proposal and what percentage of that cost the City is expected to pay. Mr. Payne stated the radio upgrade is not part of this proposal.

Sheriff Todd Priebe stated communication is the key. Combined dispatch will allow a better and more effective working relationship with law enforcement, fire and emergency rescue. It makes no sense if both government entities move forward upgrading systems on an individual basis, in essence duplicating services.

With no further comments, the motion passed 5-2 (TeStroete and Epping voting against).

The next meeting will be November 14, 2012 at 5:00 P.M. in Room 302 of the Administration Building.

Moved by Aldersperson Hammond/seconded by Supervisor Vandersteen to adjourn; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Ulezelski  
Recording Secretary