

MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

DRAFT

Tuesday, September 16, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.

111 S. Michigan Ave., Room 200, Saginaw MI 48602

Present: Gerald Little - Committee Chair, Lisa Coney, Denny Harris, John Kaczynski, Sheldon Matthews, Mark Piotrowski, Tracey Slodowski, Richard Spitzer, Jack Tany, and Michael Webster

Absent: Christopher S. Boyd

Others: Vanessa Guerra, Mary Catherine Hannah, Dave Gilbert, Kelly Suppes, Brian Keenan-Lechel, Rachel Horton, Amy Bidwell, Jaime Ceja, Jamie Forbes, Chris Klawuhn, Kayla Pionk, Kevin Murphy, Ericka Newman, Jimmy Greene, Suzy Koepplinger, Renee Sharkey and Catherine Hicks

I. Call to order – ***Vice-Chair Little at 4:08 p.m.***

II. Welcome

III. Public comment (*Speakers limited to 3 minutes*)

IV. Agenda

- Craig Goslin, OHL Board of Governors and President/Managing Partner of the Saginaw Spirit, Kayla Pionk, Event Manager, and Kevin Murphy, General Manager of ASM Global, provided a report on the 2024 Memorial Cup. (*On file in the Board Office*) The venue is big enough to attract larger shows; they are attracting national tours and selling out. There was discussion about the agreement for the electronic banner in the arena. Craig Goslin will go back and look at the agreement, and he also wants to discuss the millage. Commissioner Kaczynski expressed his gratitude for the scholarships to SVSU students and disclosed that Canadian enrollment at the university has increased since the Memorial Cup was hosted in Saginaw. Commissioner Coney requested additional activities and events for kids. Chairman Tany recommended bringing High School and College tournaments to TheDOW and Vice-Chair Little thanked the group for their investment in the Saginaw community.
- Heather Fisher, President/CEO of CAN Council, gave a PowerPoint presentation with CAN Council highlights. Some points of discussion were the need for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), the Rolling Family Resource Center that makes services more accessible, promoting Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs), Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE), Training, Prevention, and Education. Vice-Chair Little thanked the group for their investment in the Saginaw community.
- Amy Bidwell, Executive Director of Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services (STARS), introduced herself and provided an update on STARS services. STARS now gives free rides for Delta and SVSU students and faculty if passengers show Identification. During the Memorial Cup, STARS gave 27,000 rides in 10 days. They have a free youth pass for those under 16 years of age. The door-to-door Lift Service is available for those over 60 or disabled individuals. Riders are picked up at their home and dropped off at their desired location. Amy Bidwell reported that Federal and State funding are decreasing and 71% voted yes for the STARS millage. A new roof was put on the building, and 17 new buses were purchased. Vice-Chair Little thanked Amy for what she does for the Saginaw Community.

- Other Issues of Interest/Concern – Board of Commissioners – None

V. Miscellaneous - None

VI. Adjournment

- ***Moved by Matthews, seconded by Coney, to adjourn. Motion carried; time being 4:58 p.m.***

Respectfully Submitted,
Gerald Little, Committee Chair
Vanessa Guerra, County Clerk