

1997-59

Resolution to Increase the E-911/Central Dispatch Telephone Surcharge an Additional Four Percent

Whereas in August, 1996, the Clinton County Electorate authorized a five year telephone surcharge as a method of funding the operational and capital needs of the Enhanced 911/Central Dispatch Center, as allowed by P.A. 32 of 1986, as amended, and

Whereas the surcharge is authorized to be levied on single line telephones within the County at a maximum of 20% of the highest single line base rate found within the County, and

Whereas the Clinton County Board of Commissioners has levied 16% of the 20% surcharge for 911 operational expenses and equipment improvements, which currently costs \$2.32 per line per month, and

Whereas the Board did not wish to levy the additional 4%, which would raise the current surcharge \$.58 per month to \$2.90, until it was found that the cost of the necessary radio improvements warranted such an increase, and

Whereas the County commissioned a study of the problems with and possible solutions to the current radio system, and found that the 1970's radio system and equipment needed to be replaced to correct many deficiencies, including a lack of interoperability between police, fire, and EMS radios; continual breakdown of old police and central dispatch radio equipment; a lack of backup capabilities in the event the 911/Central Dispatch Center cannot function; non-existent radio communication in several areas of the county; towers which are in violation of FCC regulations; and a lack of available frequencies which crowd multiple users on the same frequency, and

Whereas, the study concluded that the only way to reduce or eliminate these difficulties would be to move to an 800 Mhz system, and

Whereas, in the process of researching the County's options and preparing the bid specifications with regard to radio improvements, it has been determined that the cost of the radio equipment and towers may exceed \$2 million if the County develops a comprehensive 800 Mhz system, and

Whereas, the amount which is anticipated to be generated from the additional 4% surcharge is estimated at \$200,000 per year, which, when combined with the current 16% surcharge, may not be sufficient to pay for the necessary improvements before the surcharge authorization expires; however, if it is found that the costs can be paid without levying the additional surcharge for the full four years, the Board can reduce the surcharge at that time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Clinton County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with P. A. 32 of 1986, as amended, and included in the ballot language which was approved by the voters of Clinton County in August, 1996, hereby authorizes an additional 4% surcharge on the highest single line base telephone rate within Clinton County. The additional surcharge will be approximately \$.58 per month for each single line telephone and is estimated to raise approximately \$200,000 per year to be used for radio system improvements for the enhanced 911/Central Dispatch system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners will levy the additional 4% surcharge to pay for radio improvements for the 911 system, however, if it is later found that the costs of the radio system improvements can be paid without levying the additional surcharge for the full four years remaining under the surcharge authorization, the Board will reduce the additional surcharge at that time.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF CLINTON)

I, DIANE ZUKER, Clerk of the County of Clinton do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Clinton County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held November 20, 1997 and is on file in the records of this office.

Diane Zuker, County Clerk