



MINUTES

Monday December 19, 2016
7:00 P.M., Barber School
102 West Exchange Street
Spring Lake, Michigan

1. Call to Order

President **MacLachlan** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present: Doss, MacLachlan, Miller, Nauta, Powers, Tepastte, Van Strate.

Absent: Miller

Motion by **TePastte**, second from **Doss**, to excuse the absence of Council Member Miller.

Yes: 6 No: 0

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by **Van Strate**, second from **TePastte**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yes: 6 No: 0

5. Consent Agenda

A. Approved the payment of the bills (checks numbered 58401-58470) in the amount of \$206,794.92.

B. Approved the minutes for the November 21, 2016 regular Council meeting.

C. Approved the purchase of an O'Brien sewer cart (model 7040) thru the State of Michigan MiDEAL program for an amount not to exceed \$48,343.

D. Approved changes to the FY 2016/2017 Fee Schedule.

E. Approved Ms. Megan Doss as the Village Liaison with the Coast Guard Festival Committee for the 2017 Coast Guard dinner to be held at the Spring Lake

Country Club on August 3rd.

- F. Approved payment of \$10,156.01 to Spring Lake Township for ½ the cost of furniture and fixtures for the police portion of Fire Station #1.
- G. Approved a lease for 800 square feet of space at Fire Station #1 at a rate of \$7.27/square foot to be occupied by the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department.
- H. Approved the following Board & Committee Appointments:

Board	Appointee	Expiration
Police Commission	Joel TePastte	N/A
Planning Commission	Steven Nauta	11/2018
	Richard Martinus	11/2018
Coast Guard Liaison	Megan Doss	N/A
Ambulance Oversight	Joel TePasttite	N/A
SLT/SLV Committee	Michael Duer	N/A

- I. Approved the 2017 Board & Committee meeting dates.
- J. Approved Waste Hauling licensing agreements, with instructions to the Village Manager to pursue ordinance language changes regarding the parameters for haulers within the Village.
- K. Approved a grant agreement with the MEDC for the Whistle Stop Playground project in an amount of \$50,000.

Motion by **Nauta** second from **Doss**, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Yes: 6 No: 0

6. General Business

A. Economic Development Report

Subject: David Miller from the Chamber of Commerce was present and delivered his Economic Development report.

Mr. David Miller was present and said that this was his 10th year reporting to this Board. Mr. Miller explained that they have contracts with all 5 units of government so they do not have to have an Economic Developer. Mr. Miller also explained the different service opportunities they provide the businesses in North West Ottawa County.

B. Contract Revision

Subject: Village Manager Christine Burns requested a contract revision in light

of a movement for disincorporation. Ms. Burns presented potential revisions to the contract that have been reviewed by Mr. Ron Bultje and Council Member Mark Powers.

Manager **Burns** explained to Council that this contract revision was an incentive for her to stay on and oversee and disincorporation process should that happen.

President **MacLachlan** asked for a motion to approve, deny or table Manager **Burns** request for a contract revision.

Council Member **TePastte** asked to table this discussion until the January 2017 work session to give Council time to discuss this before making a decision. Council Member **Doss** agreed that she needed more time to study the revision and to research how other communities have handled this sort of situation. **President MacLachlan** said he saw some language that deserved further discussion also.

Council agreed that a revision was necessary, they just needed time to research it.

Attorney **Sullivan** said that they have some bright associates that could research this same sort of situation but they might have to look to other states.

Motion by **TePastte**, second from **Doss**, to table the discussion regarding Manager **Burns** requested contract revision until the January 9, 2017 Work Session to give Council more time to research and discuss the terms of the agreement.

Yes: 6 No: 0

President **MacLachlan** asked Council Member **Powers** if he would be the point person for this to determine what the other Council members would like to see to help make their decision. Council Member **Powers** said he would.

Attorney **Sullivan** reminded Council to be cautious of the Open Meetings Act as they compile their information.

C. Council Rules & Procedures

Subject: In order to efficiently and effectively carry out the business of the Council, Rules & Procedures have been submitted for Council approval. Language was included to address how Council interacts with those with whom the Village has a contractual relationship and billable hours.

Manager **Burns** explained that she had emailed Council a new red lined version of the Rules & Procedures showing one addition so they could see what

was different from what they had discussed at the Work Session. **Burns** said Attorney **Sullivan** had reviewed these and he was the one that made the last addition.

President **MacLachlan** asked for a motion to approve, disapprove or table this request.

Motion by **Nauta**, second from **Doss**, to approve the proposed Rules & Procedures designed for Council to efficiently and effectively carry out business.

Yes: 6 No: 0

D. You Make the Difference Award

Subject: As Village President, Jim MacLachlan's last official piece of business was presenting a You Make the Difference Award to Village resident Lee Schuitema.

Manager **Burns** asked resident Lee Schuitema to come forward. President **MacLachlan** read and presented Mr. Schuitema with a "You make the Difference Award" commending him for his extraordinary service to the community.

7. Department Reports

A. Village Manager – Manager **Burns** reported that she had given each Council Member a DPW Winter Maintenance procedure in case they received any calls from residents regarding their street plowing schedule.

B. Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director

C. OCSO

D. Fire

E. 911

F. DPW – President **MacLachlan** noted that DPW made it through another Leaf Pickup season with only one hiccup with the vacuum truck.

G. Building

H. Water

I. Sewer

J. Minutes from Various Board & Committees

1. Historic Conservation Commission

8. Old Business and Reports by the Village Council – **Powers** asked if the light on South St. had been reinstalled. **Doss** replied that she thought it had.

9. New Business and Reports by Village Council – President **MacLachlan** read a statement he had prepared:

It has been a privilege to serve as your President for past 5 years (and three on Council before that). We've accomplished a lot in that time: got ourselves back on track financially, successfully navigated a number of somewhat controversial issues, hired a new manager, reorganized Village departments, supervisory personnel, and the way we conduct our business. It's been a busy and very productive time for all of us.

You will all face difficult and complicated issues in the months ahead. However, I know that you'll be up to the task. I can't think of anyone better equipped to deal with these monumental issues. I know that you'll continue to be diligent and perceptive, and our community will benefit from your good judgement and faithfulness to your core principles.

Again, thanks for your support and your good will over the years. It's been a real pleasure to serve with all of you - Merry Christmas to all!

10. Status Report: Village Attorney – There was no report from the Village Attorney at this time.

11. Statement of Citizens

Joyce V. Hatton, 400 Lakeview Ct Unit 1-A, read a statement she had prepared regarding the Village Managers request for a revision to her contract.

Lee Schuitema asked to hear from Council Member Nauta on his last meeting as a Council Member.

Council Member **Nauta** said that he would miss working on Council and that he had enjoyed the last 8 years and felt they had done a good job. **Nauta** also said that it was an enjoyable group of people and that they had conducted themselves well. **Nauta** said he would like to especially thank President **MacLachlan** because he felt the meetings and their process got enormously better when Jim came on board and ran smoother and they made a lot of good decisions under his leadership.

Gary Hanks, 116 S. Jackson, asked for clarification on a statement from President Elect Joyce Hatton about Council not having the legal authority to amend the Village Managers contract. President **MacLachlan** said that his was a time for statements and suggested that Mr. Hanks talk to the Village Attorney after the meeting. Mr. Hanks also complemented President **MacLachlan** and Council Member **Nauta** on the fabulous job they had done over the last few years and said that some really appreciated it.

Jan Esh, 107 S. Division, thanked Council and Manager Burns for the great job they had done and that she felt really positive about the direction the Village had gone in the last 5 to 8 years. Esh also said that she loved living in the Village and the services that they provide and that, as a citizen, they needed to do what they needed to do, in a reasonable way, to keep Chris and keep headed in the direction they had been going.

Darcy Dye, 114 N. Fruitport Road, thanked Council for the years in which there had been a great deal conflict in the community, and yet, she felt Council and Manager Burns had done everything they could possibly do to work out a process for people to be able to express opinions, but not in such a combative fashion that work could not be accomplished. Dye thanked Council for working with citizens, for following a process that had everything to do with law and ordinances and for their good spirits when they had really been conflicted.

12. Adjournment

Motion by **Nauta**, second from **Van Strate**, Village Council adjourned the meeting at 7:48p.m.

Yes: 7 No: 0

James MacLachlan, Village President

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk