



**Village of Spring Lake
Council Work Session Minutes**

September 9, 2019

7:00 p.m.

**102 W Savidge Street (Upstairs Conference Room)
Spring Lake, MI 49456**

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

1. Preventative Maintenance Agreement (Generators)

Currently, the Village does not have a PM agreement for any of our generators. DPW Director Wally Delamater obtained quotes for a PM plan for ALL Village generators. Unfortunately, this PM is not a budgeted expense and would require a budget amendment for FY 19/20 should it be approved. **Delamater** explained that a previous Preventative Maintenance Agreement had lapsed so he was asking for approval on an agreement with Cummins, who submitted a slightly lower bid than Wolverine. **Council** agreed that this was needed and could be added to the Consent Agenda.

2. Buena Vista Traffic Concern

At the July work session, a resident approached Council about the installation of a speed bump along Buena Vista. At that time, Wally Delamater expressed concerns over the long-term, unintended consequences of doing such. Staff contacted traffic engineer Pete LaMourie for an estimate to perform a traffic study and to obtain his opinion. Staff also contacted the OCRC, which does not loan out their traffic counting device and they do not perform counts on local streets. Sgt. Jason Kik has placed the speed trailer on Buena Vista and has placed additional patrols on the street (only one speeder thus far, clocked at 11 mph over the 25-mph limit). **Burns** reported that the results from the speed trailer and reports from additional patrols did not find speed bumps to be necessary, however, the DPW will be installing speed limit signs, one on each end of the street. **Burns** said a letter had gone out to the residents and a formal report from Sgt. Kik would be submitted to Council.

3. Commercial Redevelopment Resolution

As part of the Commercial Redevelopment Grant Program that was approved in June, it is necessary to adopt Resolution 2019 - 21 finalizing such. The adoption of the resolution was delayed due to the need to get an agreement for artwork signed by the property owner. **Burns** explained that a Commercial Development with Barrett Boat Works had been approved by the DDA in June, and now a Resolution with the correct number of years needed Council's approval. **Burns** said an additional year had been added with the agreement of a mural. **Council** agreed this Resolution regarding Barrett's could be added to the Consent Agenda.

4. Agreement for Art Installation

Council and the DDA agreed to grant an additional year of tax abatement if the property owner of 813 W. Savidge would agree to an art installation. Details of

that installation have been finalized and now paperwork can be completed for a 7-year tax abatement. **Burns** reported that an agreement for the installation of the art work had just been signed on Friday, September 6, 2019 for a mural to be installed on the north wall of their building in the spring. **Council** agreed this item could also be added to the Consent Agenda.

5. High Water Levels

The Village has been battling high water levels for the past several years, with 2019 proving to be the most challenging. Ongoing conversations with our civil engineer as well as with Nick Bonstell, Emergency Management Director for Ottawa County, has repeatedly demonstrated that not much can be done until water levels recede. The Parks & Recreation Board has recommended the installation of signage on public property to indicate that the Village is aware of the issue(s) and will address when water levels recede. **Burns** shared an email from the Emergency Management Director, Nick Bonstell, who had been approved through the Michigan State Police to receive technical assistance from the Army Corp of Engineers, which would give the Village access to personnel, sand bags and other resources that had not been available before. **Burns** reported that next year's water levels were predicted to be higher than this year, so this was very welcome assistance.

6. Mass Gathering Ordinance

Staff has been working on a Mass Gathering Ordinance over the past several months in order to establish expectations and guidelines for the use of public property. A rough draft was submitted to attorney Bob Sullivan for his review with the intent that this item would be reviewed by Council, DDA and Parks & Recreation in the month of September with consideration and adoption in October.

Burns explained that they had used the application for two events by pretending the Ordinance was already in effect by going through the motions of the application process with the Courtyard Concert event on Saturday and the upcoming Oktoberfest marathon. **Burns** said this helped them find out where the short comings were so they could address issues prior to the Ordinance being adopted. **Hanks** said because of their experience, their event was very well planned so nothing further had to do to meet the requirements, but for those that did not have experience, this Ordinance would open communications and make sure that event promoters had all bases covered. **Council** discussed the process, fees and benefits of having this ordinance. **Petrus** asked Council to consider the fact that this process and cost, for something like a block party, might unnecessarily inhibit neighbors from getting together. **Duer** said that his concern was making sure that fees would be nominal or free for small gatherings. **Hanks** said that she believed that that was the intent. **Burns** said that this would be on the October Agenda so if anyone had any changes they would like to see to let her know. **Council** agreed to review for the October agenda.

7. Coast Guard Festival Discussion

Burns provided a Letter of Understanding regarding the Village's participation in the annual Coast Guard Festival.

Burns explained that the invoice had just been received for the Coast Guard Festival Dinner and, per the Letter of Understanding, the Village would contribute \$2000 towards the cost to hold the dinner event, plus pay for the meals of the elected officials that attended and, as previously discussed, spouses would pay for their own meals, so those who brought a spouse would be getting an invoice. **Burns** asked Council if they felt there was a benefit to continuing this practice each year. **Council** discussed whether or not they felt there was a benefit to the Village in continuing participation. The majority of **Council** felt the Village should be represented at the dinner. President **Powers** did not agree.

8. Request for Proposals – 109 S Jackson

On June 12, 2019 the Village released an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the property located at 109 S. Jackson. The property is currently owned by Savidge Three LLC with the offer to donate the property to the Village for redevelopment. The property owner agreed to allow the Village to solicit proposals prior to taking ownership to see what interest was expressed by developers. Proposals were due on 09/06/19. **Burns** shared that there had been a lot of interest in the property, however, due to the cost of renovations only one proposal had been received for Council consideration. **Burns** said that this proposal would need to be acted on, by the October meeting in order to close in December and keep it on the tax roll for 2020, unless Council felt this proposal did not meet their needs and/or vision. **Burns** shared preliminary numbers, put together by the assessor and Hinga, with the projected taxable value, explaining that there was really no way of knowing what the taxes would be until the building was complete. **Council** discussed the proposal and agreed that they wanted to continue this path but needed clarity on what the proceeds would be used for and provided the market analysis from Progressive AE was favorable.

9. Water Interconnection Agreement - Burns explained that this was essentially a housekeeping item to update the interconnections agreement between our communities and Muskegon for an emergency water connection in the event water service from Grand Haven was lost. **Council** agreed to approve this Water Interconnection Agreement.

10. Communications

- Calendar – SLDL (September) – **Burns** shared that the Bookkeeper at the Spring Lake Library was going to be retiring at the end of the year and they will be searching to hire a new one. **Burns** said she would like someone from Council to sit on the interview panel and that Hanks, TePastte and Hinga had offered to sit on that panel.
- Courtyard Concert/Earth's Edge Concert on 09/07/19 at Mill Point Park
- Grant Application – Consumers Energy Prosperity Awards – **Burns** reported that they had not been awarded the Prosperity Award, but she was quite sure they would be awarded an Art in the Park grant for the sculpture.

- Grant Application – DNR Forestry Grant
- NOCHS Municipal Minute
- Oktoberfest Marathon Schedule

11. Miscellaneous – Delamater reported that the Exchange Street project had come in over \$100,000 under budget. **Delamater** also reported that they had purchased a Silver Smith (GPS) to help create a Tree Inventory. **Burns** said they were waiting to hear if they would receive a grant from the DNR that would help collect additional information for the tree inventory. **Delamater** shared that he had met with Brian from West Michigan Regional Planning Commission to tour the Village and go over the Exchange Street project to see about getting funds to finish the entire street.

12. Minutes

Minutes of the August 12, 2019 Work Session and August 19, 2019 regular meeting were attached for review. Should Council wish to make edits, please share that information with Chris Burns or Maryann Fonkert prior to September 13, 2019.

13. Public Comment

Richard Martinus, 209 S Park, said he had thought Council would have continued their discussion on the water level issue at his home and the bike path so that it could be solved. Martinus said that it had become a health issue from the green stagnant water and wanted to know what the Village was going to do to address this issue.

Marianne Martinus, 209 S Park, said that more than anything, it was the damage being caused to the bike path that was an issue.

President **Powers** explained that the Villages professional engineers and staff had advised them that any repairs done now would be ruined by next year because the water levels were predicted to get higher. **Powers** said that they would be addressing repairs as soon as the engineers recommended the Village move ahead.

14. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mark Powers, Village President

Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk