



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

**February 10, 2020**

**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. Barrett Boat Works Mural Request** – Barrett Boat Works would like to determine Council's level of interest in relocating the mural at Barber School. Representatives from BBW will be at the Work Session with their proposal. **Council** discussed this request, however, since no one from Barrett's attended the meeting, they agreed to deny the request until Barrett's attended a meeting and explained the details of their request.
- 2. Liquor license (Lilley Mansion)** - The Village received a completed application for a Development District Liquor License for the Lilley Mansion, parcel 70-03-15-361-010.  
**Burns** introduced Robert Lopez and explained that he was present to represent the Lilley Mansion and answer any questions Council might have. Mr. Lopez explained their intent for using the Liquor license. **Council** discussed the liquor license and agreed to support the application and asked to add this item to the consent agenda.
- 3. Budget Amendments (Marv Hinga)** - The Finance Committee reviewed proposed budget adjustments prior to the work session. **Hinga**, explained the Budget Amendments. **Council** agreed with these amendments.
- 4. Sewer Updates (Marv Hinga & Wally Delamater)** - Marv Hinga's presented a spreadsheet showing sewer charges billed to Village customers, versus charges to the Village from the sewer authority. With high water levels also comes inflow & infiltration (I & I) that we are obviously paying to treat. **Hinga** explained the sewer charges billed to customers versus charges that the Village paid the sewer authority. **Delamater** explained some of the issues they had found that were part of what caused the discrepancy and how they were working on a more accurate way to track usage.
- 5. Mill Point Brownfield Loan Repayment (Marv Hinga)** - The Mill Point Brownfield has sufficient tax captures to pay off the remaining balance (\$14,539) in the current fiscal year. Paying off the loan in the current year will result in the Mill Point Brownfield not capturing taxes in future years and the Village refunding the surplus capture (\$2,995) to the Spring Lake Schools, Ottawa Area Intermediate Schools and the State

of Michigan. The Finance Committee recommends early payoff of the loan. **Council** agreed and asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda.

- 6. Parks & Recreation Asset Management Plan** - RFPs were solicited and 4 proposals were received by the due date of 01/31/20. The proposals ranged in price from \$13,950 to \$38,000. The proposals were discussed at the February 3, 2020 Parks & Recreation Board Meeting. Based on feedback from Council during the strategic planning session, the P&R Board requested that the low bidder (MCSA) break the proposal into 2 parts (spread over 2 fiscal years) with Central Park being the priority this year and the other inventory taking place after 07/01. The proposal has been modified to reflect that request. The full proposals were available for review in the Village Manager's office. **Council** agreed and asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda.
- 7. Community Service Fund Establishment (Tanglefoot Park)** - Staff is preparing a grant application for the DNRTF. One of the steps that needs to be accomplished is setting up a fund for donations that will ultimately be used for the match necessary if the grant application is successful. **Burns** explained that this was the same formal process they had done for Whistle Stop and Central Park's redevelopment. **Council** agreed with having the fund established and asked to have this item on the Consent Agenda.
- 8. Wetland Monitoring Report** - Adrienne Peterson, Peterson Environmental, has prepared the fifth and final wetland monitoring report that was an obligation by the Village when the Grand River Greenway was constructed. With the exception of one tree that we cannot seem to get to live, the monitoring is basically done. We will plant a new tree (3<sup>rd</sup> time is the charm) but with the high-water levels, it's no guarantee the new sapling will live. There will be on-going treatment of invasive species in the wetland locations. **Petrus** asked if another type of tree could be planted or if they could postpone planting until the water levels went down? **Burns** said they had tried different types each year but that hadn't helped, and they were not able to wait on planting another one.
- 9. Planning Commission Appointment** - **Burns** shared that Steve Nauta would be resigning from the Planning Commission because he bought a house in Whitehall and would no longer be a Village resident but he and Jan would continue to run their business here and would still build the carriage house. **Burns** said that she and Stacey Fedewa had interviewed Eric VanderMuelen and recommended he be

appointed to fill the rest of Nauta's term. **Council** agreed and asked that this item be placed on the Consent Agenda.

**10. RFP for Marina Management** - At their January Work Session, Council tasked Marv Hinga with compiling a spreadsheet showing revenues/expenditures associated with the management of Village docks Council also inquired about the possibility of privatizing marina management. An RFP was drafted for Council's perusal; discussion of such would be appropriate at this time.

**Council** discussed the muskrat infestation and damage they were causing. **Burns** asked Council if they were interested in Marina Management. **Council** discussed options for docking or tying up to a sea wall and agreed they would like to send the RFP out and see what responses came in. **Council** also discussed whether they would open Mill Point Park, the docks and boat launch at all this year. **Delamater** said that he did not think Mill Point Park should not be opened for any activity. **Council** agreed to close Mill Point Park for the 2020 season and make some upgrades at Central Park to hold events there. **Burns** said she would add that to the Consent Agenda.

**11. High Water Level Damages** - On January 23, 2020 GH City Manager Pat McGinnis traveled to Lansing to testify regarding the extent of the damage that has been caused to public property as a result of high-water levels. It's been challenging to get anybody's attention in Lansing, but Pat was successful to some extent. MML asked communities to compile estimates to repair damage and submit, which the Village has done. Those estimates compiled by engineer Ryan Arends. **Burns** reported that that a couple of legislators were taking up the issue and were going to try and get the money set aside for dredging reallocated to repair damages to the municipalities. **Petrus** suggested that they think about closing the Jackson Street End in a more permanent way. **Burns** said they had talked about that last year, too.

**12. DDA Public Hearing** - Next week, Council will hold a public hearing for the expansion of the DDA District to include Tanglefoot Park.

**Petrus** shared that there had been a very good conversation at the last Parks & Rec meeting about Tanglefoot being the only revenue generating park and the Parks Board was concerned that the other parks would not be invested in like they had in the past if Tanglefoot was closed. **Petrus** said that if the Parks & Rec Board had those questions and concerns, then the general public would probably have the same questions so education would be important. **Burns** agreed that education was very important and they would be having more community engagement meetings.

**13. Communications**

- Calendar – Spring Lake District Library (February)
- Complaint - Marshall
- Complaint - Pugsley
- Complaint - Wheeler
- Inquiry - Tyson
- NOCH – Municipal Minute (February)
- Thank you – St. Mary's

**14. Minutes**

Minutes of the January 13, 2020 Work Session and January 20, 2020 regular meeting were attached for review.

**15. Public Comment**

Council Work Sessions are open to the public, and as such, the public is invited to speak at the end of each meeting. Each speaker should limit their comments to 3 minutes.

There was no public comment.

**16. Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Mark Powers, Village President

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Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk