



MINUTES  
Monday March 17, 2014  
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: Bennett, MacLachlan, Miller, Nauta (entered at 7:13 p.m.), Powers, Van Strate.

Absent: Meyers

Motion by VanStrate, support from Miller, to excuse the absence of Council Member Bill Meyers.

Yes: 5                      No: 0

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

On a motion by Bennett, support from VanStrate, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yes: 5                      No: 0

**5. Consent Agenda**

A. Approved the payment of the bills (checks numbered 55136-55234) in the amount of \$162,391.18.

B. Approved 21 budget adjustments for FY 2013-2014.

C. Approved the purchase of a backflow testing device from Midwest

Instrument in an amount not to exceed \$840.00.

- D. Approved the sale of surplus equipment (handguns) in the amount of \$400 each.
- E. Approved the support of the 3rd annual Grand River GreenUp on April 19, 2014.
- F. Approved a proposal from LIAA for the purpose of conducting stakeholder interviews and gathering information for a regional arts, culture and recreation framework.
- G. Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Spring Lake Township regarding a proposed bike path millage.
- H. Approved a letter of support for a MDNRTF application submitted by Grand Haven Township.
- I. Approved a letter of support for a MDNRTF application submitted by Crockery Township.
- J. Approved a working holiday (4 hours) on Friday, April 18, 2014 for office staff.
- K. Approved the minutes for the February 17, 2014 regular Village Council meeting.

On a motion by Bennett, support from Miller, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Yes: 5                      No: 0

**6. General Business**

- A. Held a Public Hearing and subsequently adopted an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 67, A Tax Exemption Ordinance (PILOT).

Subject: Due to several issues on the MSHDA application for tax credits, it is necessary to amend the ordinance that was adopted in May 2013 that addresses the Payment in Lieu of Taxes for Mill

Point Senior Housing.

President MacLachlan opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Ms. Elizabeth Wheeler asked for an explanation of the ordinance change. Village Attorney Bob Sullivan explained that it allowed for Spring Lake Township to be the collecting agency of the fees from the project, rather than the Village.

On a motion by Bennett, support from Miller, the Village Council closed the public hearing at 7:11p.m.

Yes: 5 No: 0

On a motion by Bennett, support from Miller, the Village Council approved the ordinance amendment for Chapter 67, A Tax Exemption Ordinance.

Yes: 5 No: 0

## **B. Barber School Carpet Bids**

Subject: The FY13-14 budget allocates funds for replacement of flooring at the Barber School Community Building. Staff received 3 sealed bids. Staff recommends accepting the bid from Builders Floor Covering at a cost of \$8,136.99, allowing the Historic Conservation Commission to recommend a color selection on both carpet and tile.

On a motion by Powers, support from Bennett, to approve the low bid for flooring from Builders Floor Covering in an amount not to exceed \$8,136.99.

Yes: 6 No: 0

## **C. Intergovernmental Police Services Agreement**

Subject: Over the course of the past year, the Village's Finance Committee and the Police Commission have been in discussions with the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety (GHDPs) and

the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) regarding contractual police protection. These discussions were essential as the intergovernmental agreement between the two communities expires on 06/30/14 and the legacy costs associated with maintaining our current structure are unsustainable long term. Village Manager Christine Burns will be meeting with the POLC union late Friday afternoon. Additional discussions regarding this agreement will take place at the Police Commission meeting scheduled for March 17, 2014.

Recommendation: Both the Police Commission and Finance Committee recommend contracting with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department due mainly to the Defined Contribution Plan offered by the County, rather than the Defined Benefit Plan offered by the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety. Village Council concurred.

**7. Department Reports**

- A. Village Manager
- B. Clerk/Treasurer
- C. DPW
- D. Sewer
- E. Code

**8. Old Business and Reports by the Village Council**

**9. New Business and Reports by Village Council**

Village President Jim MacLachlan noted that due to the exceptionally hard winter and lack of enforcement of the sidewalk snow removal ordinance, he recommends budgeting for staff and equipment to perform sidewalk snow removal for all property owners in future years. It is unsafe for pedestrians to have to walk in the street and that is what is happening in certain areas of the Village.

**10. Status Report: Village Attorney - none.**

**11. Statement of Citizens**

**Joyce Hatton**, 400Lakeview, stated that she is very pleased with

Council's discussion regarding the police department. The savings associated with the structural change are significant and she commended the Council for making some tough decisions.

**Jeff Ferguson** , 232 E. Exchange, asked what would happen to Police Clerk Lori Spelde with the contractual arrangement? VM Burns stated that she would stay on as a full-time employee of the Village. Mr. Ferguson stated that he, too, appreciated Council's efforts knowing that it is a complex matter.

**Elizabeth Wheeler**, 120 N. Lake, wished everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day. Ms. Wheeler is extremely happy with the direction of the conversations about the Police Department. She had concerns about getting out of a contract if things didn't go how Council envisioned. She supports what Ms. Hatton stated earlier in the public comment. Ms. Wheeler felt that the Village could "pad our pockets" by simply issuing tickets to all the violators on Savidge. The police could make some money if they could lean a little harder on those violators.

**12. Adjournment**

On a motion by VanStrate, support from Miller, the Village Council adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Yes: 6 No: 0

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James MacLachlan, Village President

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Christine Burns, Village Manager