

Village of Decatur Council Regular Meeting

February 1, 2016

President Wickett calls the meeting to session at 7:00 p.m. and leads in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call is taken and Trustee Richardson, Trustee Mead, Trustee Stull, Trustee Strickler, President Pro-Tem Elwaer and President Wickett all being present, with Trustee Heflin being absent. Also present were Chief of Police McLeese, Deputy Chief Dahlquist, Officer Foster, DPW Foreman Ebeling, Village Attorney Cooper, Village Manager Krizan and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mitchell along with 10 guests in the crowd.

Public Comment:

Jim Abshagan on behalf of Decatur Township explains their plans of retaining Officer Simpson as their code enforcement officer. Also applauds the hiring of Officer Foster who comes with good credentials, believes the village will benefit from him being here.

Swearing in:

Newly hired Jonathon Foster is sworn in by President Wickett.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Trustee Richardson and seconded by President Pro-Tem Elwaer to accept the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer and seconded by Trustee Mead to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion made by Trustee Stull and seconded by Trustee Mead to accept the bills in a total of \$208,180.86. All in favor, motion carries.

Public Hearing:

Motion to open the Public Hearing on Proposed Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for the Village of Decatur made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer and seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

After presentation from VM Krizan and the opening of the floor to questions, which there were none.

Motion to close Public Hearing made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer and seconded by Trustee Stull. All in favor, motion carries.

Communications:

County Commissioner Don Hanson- Reports the correlations of substance abuse and mental illness. Van Buren County received a grant from the State of over \$132,000 to attempt at helping those with substance abuse. The Sherriff's department has already set up collections at pharmacies around the county that will collect prescription drugs that are expired or no longer being used. The county set a goal of 600 lbs. and actually collected 1496 lbs. Trustee Strickler suggests the county put a collection box in Decatur, Mr. Hanson said he will look into that. VM Krizan added that he will help in that effort anyway that he can.

Officer Reports:

Chief of Police- Nothing to add.

Financial Report- there is a loan check coming in the total of \$6915.00 from a home loan deferred in 1992, at that point there was a lien placed on the property. The property was recently purchased by the owner's daughter.

Village Attorney- Got the approval from the judge for the deficiency of the Nelson property loan to be

applied to the property at tax sale, to assure that the Village will not lose money on the deal. Also given permission to pursue personal responsibility, however there may not be much to get from the owners. Village Manager- Will be out of the office for a conference for the rest of the week. Had a Safety Committee meeting just before this meeting, went very well.

Unfinished Business:

Nelson property Abatement/Demolition- VM goes through the bids for abatement. The Villa Environmental bid is a third party check on the actual abatement. They will assure that the company we use obeys all the state regulations. Motion to accept the bid for abatement submitted by Installation and Environmental Services Inc. at \$8200.00 made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer and seconded by Trustee Stull. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to accept the bid by Villa Environmental for \$950.00 made by Trustee Stull and seconded by Trustee Mead. All in favor motion carries.

New Business:

a) Budget Amendment- Motion to accept final budget amendment of 15-16 made by Trustee Richardson and seconded by Trustee Strickler. All in favor, motion carries.

b) Resolution 2016-01: Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for the Village of Decatur- Motion to accept budget as presented made by Trustee Mead seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

c) Village Retirement Plan- Motion to adopt the new retirement plan that increases Village's contribution from 3% to 4.5% of the employee's salary made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

d) Collective Bargaining- Motion to accept the PD contract as presented made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer seconded by Trustee Strickler. All in favor, motion carries.

e) DPW-02: Emergency Call-In- Motion to accept policy made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

f) Water Department Capital Improvement Plan- Motion to accept plan made by Trustee Stull seconded by Trustee Mead. All in favor, motion carries.

Public Comment:

Jim Abshagen- Wants council to be aware that after the Tax Tribunal, there will likely be a bill from the county to the sum of nearly \$12,000.00. Due to a lowering of property values from the last year.

Rosemary Stull- Believes there is still an issue with trash cans being tended to and unlicensed vehicles in her neighborhood.

Council Comments:

Trustee Strickler- Wants PD to know what door to drop off packets at.

President Wickett- Dr. Burkoh was pleased to have Council write letter to retain services in town.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer seconded by Trustee Richardson at 7:27 p.m. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Mitchell, Village Clerk