

## Village of Decatur Council Regular Meeting

March 7, 2016

At 6:58 p.m. on March 7<sup>th</sup> President Carl Wickett called the meeting to order, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call is taken with Trustee Richardson, Trustee Mead, Trustee Stull, Trustee Heflin, President Pro-Tem Elwaer and President Wickett being present, with Trustee Strickler absent. Village Attorney Cooper, Village Manager Krizan, Chief of Police McLeese, DPW Foreman Ebeling and Village Clerk/Treasurer Mitchell are also present, with 11 guests in the audience.

### **Consent Agenda**

VM adds two items under communications: De Young letter pertaining to a leak that was discovered, and a letter from SWMPC asking for the adoption of Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016 Update. Motion to accept the Agenda as presented with the alterations made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer and seconded by Trustee Mead. All in favor, motion carries.

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

Motion to accept the bills as presented in a total of \$65,769.09 made by Trustee Heflin, seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

### **Communications**

Van Buren County Commissioner Don Hanson gives a report explaining the efforts to change the way big box stores are being assessed. Hanson announces the retirement of Sherriff Dale Gribbler, thanks him for the years of service and the wonderful job he has done implementing technology into the department. Van Buren County Sherriff's Department is leading the state in the integration of some of these programs because of Dale's hard work. The County Courthouse is planning on a \$3M expansion for next year, the expansion is to accommodate the need for increased surveillance of new inmates. A letter is presented to the board that was written by Norman and Cherie De Young from 701 White Oak St. requesting forgiveness for 50% of the water usage after a major leak was found. The amount forgiven would be \$234.64. Motion to forgive \$234.64 for 701 White Oak made by Trustee Mead and seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission sends a letter requesting the Village Council for adoption of Hazard Mitigation Plan 2016 Update. Motion made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer to accept the update as presented, seconded by Trustee Stull. All in favor, motion carries.

### **Officer Reports**

Police Chief- Trustee Stull adds that he expects the enforcement of all ordinances.

Attorney- On the Lion's Club property, there is a high likelihood that "Michigan Community Organization" is going to ask for a postponement. Council is asked how they wish for the VA to proceed. Council agrees to no postponement and wishes VA to proceed as scheduled. Trustee Stull asks why the Hurd property is still waiting for an invoice to be completed. VA and VM explain that the homeowner has actually picked up some of the blight. The Village has not needed to do the actual clean-up themselves with a subsequent invoice. Next step will be to go out when the weather is more dependable to make sure that they are in full compliance of the blight ordinance.

Village Manager- Dump Day is all set for April 16<sup>th</sup> from 8-4.

### **Unfinished Business**

Nelson Property Demolition- Village has received 3 quotes for the demolition. Motion made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer to accept the bid by Flory Excavation for \$9750.00, seconded by Trustee Mead. All in favor, motion carries.

### **New Business**

a- Resolution 2016-02: Approval to place on the August ballot the Fire and QR additional Millage Motion made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer to approve the resolution as presented, seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

b- Village Hall Siding Repair: Pine Lake Builders are the only bid that was received for \$2400.00. Motion made to accept Pine Lake Builders' bid and to pursue an insurance claim if possible after the work is completed by President Pro-Tem Elwaer, seconded by Trustee Stull. All in favor, motion carries.

c- Lead Service Line Replacement- Formalizing a policy that we have put in practice in the recent past. This is the replacement of a "Gooseneck" (which contains lead), with a non-lead pipe when one is discovered in any water servicing. Motion to approve this policy made by Trustee Mead, seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

d- Phone system- Requests for more quotes, and to bring them back next month.

e- Personnel Manual- President Pro-Tem Elwaer asks to strike the last paragraph on page 48, since it was redundant. Motion made by Trustee Mead to accept the manual with the alteration, seconded by President Pro-Tem Elwaer. All in favor, motion carries.

f- Bereavement Policy Question- The question at hand is whether to allow an employee to push back the bereavement leave if there is an extended delay in any funeral services, or if they must use it immediately after a family member's death. Council agrees that it is up to the employee when they take the leave.

g- MDOT Contract- Contract to pay 20% to finish Phelps St. (Federal Funds to pay other 80%). Motion to enter into the contract made by Trustee Heflin, seconded by Trustee Richardson. All in favor, motion carries.

h- Council Meeting Schedule for FY 2017- Motion made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer to accept the schedule as presented, seconded by Trustee Stull. All in favor, motion carries.

### **Public Comment**

Jim Abshagen mentions there may be some public suspicion about why this portion of Phelps is being redone, when N. Phelps St. is still in really good shape. VM Krizan and Mickey Bittner from Wightman and Associates explains the requirements for the Federal funds, which pays for 80% of the road construction. Only optioned routes would be S. George south at Delaware, S. Williams south of Delaware and N. Phelps St. north of Delaware. President Wickett adds the fact that this patch is the only part of N. Phelps that has not been redone, and there is some water basin issues that will be resolved at the same time.

Trustee Stull is happy to see some oversight on conference spending.

Motion to adjourn made by President Pro-Tem Elwaer, seconded by Trustee Heflin. All in favor, motion carries at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Mitchell, Village Clerk