

OFFICIAL MINUTES - VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 1, 2015

The June 1, 2015 meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Decatur, Michigan was called to order by President Carl Wickett at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call taken with all Trustees being present, i.e., Patrick Richardson, Robert Mead Jr., Tom Stull, Norma Strickler, Mike Heflin, Ali Elwaer and Carl Wickett. Also present was Village Manager James Krizan, Village Interim Clerk/Treasurer Roberta Rex, Police Chief David McLeese, Public Works Dale Avery, Attorney Matt Cooper, newly hired Clerk/Treasurer Aaron Mitchell, and 34 guests.

Aaron Mitchell was introduced and sworn in as Village of Decatur Clerk/Treasurer.

Public Comments: Kim Rouse questioned a partially completed structured being a blight matter. After some discussion Carl advised it would be looked into.

Don Hanson, Van Buren Co. Board of Commissioners advised the state is doing some budget cuts to substance abuse treatment and the county will subsidize monies; also Probate & District Court audio & video systems will be upgraded.

James Abshagen noted appreciation for the road repairs done on George Street.

Consent Agenda: Under Communication add letter B. Don Brown for Lions International. Motion to approve amended Agenda made by A, Elwaer, seconded R. Mead, all voted yes.

Motion to approve minutes of May 4 2015 regular meeting made by T. Stull, seconded M. Heflin, all voted yes. Motion to approve minutes of special meeting May 26, 2015 made by A. Elwaer, seconded P. Richardson, all voted yes. Motion to approve Bills in the sum of \$80,641.42 made by N. Strickler, seconded by M. Heflin, all voted yes.

Communication: No one present to speak to Decatur Public School Bond Issue.

Don Brown spoke on behalf of Lions International in regard to the lawsuit regarding demolition of the old school bldg. Advised it does not belong to Lions International and they have no interest in it, and apologized for the citizens who misrepresented them. As of July 1, 2015 there will no longer be a Lions club in Decatur because of said persons, but will try at another time to reestablish a club here,

Officer Reports: VT Rex advised County Treas. Karen Makay will input the 2015 tax program onto our computers and will print the tax bills this year. Rex will mail out taxes and help new treasurer with collection. Chief McLeese had nothing to add. Public works advised painting company still had work to finish up on road resurfacing project.

Attorney Cooper advised nothing done on Hurd situation (blight), and regarding the old school the Judge gave until July 15, 2015 to demolish and clean up the area. If not done within 180 days the village can do it and place a lien on all the property (which includes the building to be

demolished and the larger building), until then no one can use the larger building. VM advised he will proceed to obtain bids for demolishing same so village is ready in case needed.

Village Manger report: He has applied for the MI Land Bank Demolition Grant. Welcomed the new Clerk/Treasurer. Advised DWP employee mowing at ponds had mower slip and become stuck. No one hurt. He will look into reason. Contacted a realtor in regard to sale of village properties.

Unfinished Business: Goal setting meeting. Committee formed to decide how to implement goals, T. Stull, R. Mead, A. Elwaer and J. Krizan.

New Business: Motion by A. Elwaer seconded P. Richardson to set starting salary for Clerk/Treasurer at \$40,500.00. All voted yes.

Personnel Policy Review. Motion by M. Heflin seconded A. Elwaer to pursue MML and get quote for their review. Motion by N. Strickler seconded P. Richardson to make Workman's Comp budget adjustments pursuant to estimates received. All voted yes.

Motion by M. Heflin seconded P. Richardson to approve fireworks permit and change location to Sherburn property. All voted yes.

Motion by A. Elwaer seconded N. Strickler to approve Resolution 2015-05 Application to close M-51 for July 4, 2015 parade. All voted yes.

Motion by A. Elwaer seconded N. Strickler to approve Resolution 2015-06 close street for Steve's Raider Stomp July 11, 2015. All voted yes.

Motion by M. Heflin seconded N. Strickler to re-appointment of David Moormann and James Creagan each for a four year term to Downtown Development Association Board. All voted yes.

Motion by M. Heflin seconded T. Stull to advise VB County Treasurer we will not pursue purchase of real estate tax reverted properties offered. All voted yes.

VM advised Southwest MI Planning Commission Master Plan update is up for review between Decatur & Hamilton Townships and Village of Decatur. Cost to village will be \$3,100.87. A prepared survey will be included in tax mailings. Motion by T. Stull seconded N. Strickler to authorize VM Krizan to sign contracts for Master Plan Services. All voted yes.

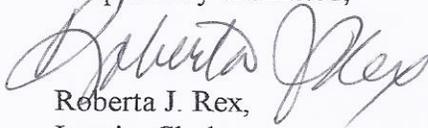
Motion by A. Elwaer seconded R. Mead to pay estimate of \$154,812.10 for Phelps Street resurfacing project. All voted yes.

Limited Public Comment: R. Seigel spoke to dog problems within village. J. Chapman introduced himself as new owner of property where old school sets. Asked if he could use larger building and was advised no one could use building until old school demolished, and thereafter only if required zoning and building permits were issued. J. Flanagan questioned demolition of old school and was advised it is to be torn down per Judge's decision before July 15, 2015, and correct permits need to be obtained from village.

Council Comment: T. Stull questioned noxious weed ordinance compliance. Will be put on next month agenda. C. Wickett commented on incident investigation regarding village car.

Motion by Ali Elwaer seconded P. Richardson to adjourn. 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Reberta J. Rex".

Reberta J. Rex,
Interim Clerk