

Newberry Village Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2018
302 East McMillan Ave.
6:00 p.m.

Present: President DeWitt, Trustees: Brown, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Hitts, Medelis.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager - James-Mesloh, Assistant Village Manager – Vallad, Superintendent WWTP - Blakely, Superintendent of Water & Light – Perry, Fire Chief – Wendt, Ordinance Enforcement Officer – Fossitt, Clerk – Schummer, Jim Diem, Steve Stiffler, Eric Buckler, Bruce Lane, Lori Stokes, Robert Stevens, Chuck Pipes, Sterling McGinn, Rebecca Handa, John Bergman, Donald Jones, Mike Schnorr.

Call to Order: President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village of Newberry Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Brown, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda with one addition, under New Business #3 – FOIA status. Ayes: All.

Minutes: Moved by Brown, support by Hitts, **CARRIED**, to approve the May 21, 2018, special session Truth in Taxation Hearing minutes as written. Ayes: Brown, Dewitt, Hendrickson, Hitts, Medelis. Abstain: Hardenbrook. Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve the May 21, 2018, regular session minutes as written. Ayes: All.

Village President’s Announcements: President DeWitt had a representative from ReVize Government Websites do a presentation as to how to add and edit on the new website that ReVize will be designing for the Village.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: Comments heard from: Eric Buckler – Newberry, Lori Stokes – 301 W. John St.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

- 1.) Village of Newberry – Monthly Bills. Moved by Medelis, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, to approve the May 2018 bills as presented, in the amount of \$77,096.37. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- 2.) Village of Newberry - Cash Balance – April 2018. Reviewed.
- 3.) Water & Light monthly bills for May 2018. Moved by Brown, support by Hitts, **CARRIED**, to pay the May Water & Light bills in the amount of \$143,719.13. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.
- 4.) Water & Light – Cash Balance – April 2018 - Reviewed.
- 5.) Treasurer’s Report - Accepted by Council as presented.
- 6.) Request for Disbursement of Funds – Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRP) and Clean Water State Revolving Funds: Moved by Brown, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to pay request #27 for March 17 - May 31, 2018, in the amount of \$5,779.00. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.

Petitions and Communications: Communications addressed to the Village Council are distributed to all members and are acknowledged for information, or are referred to a committee or staff for follow-up.
Letter received from John and Peggy Lamb.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions: None.

Reports of Boards:

- 1.) 1.) Water & Light Board Meeting from Tuesday, June 12, 2018: Medelis gave the report. He and the rest of the Council thanked Superintendent of W&L, Matt Perry, for his 33 years of service to the Village. Matt is retiring in July. Medelis also stated that at the W&L meeting, Assistant Village Manager Vallad, asked permission to purchase good topsoil to fix the grassy areas affected by the water project. He stated people would need to contact the Village office if you feel your lawn was damaged from the project. He also stated that the W&L Board discussed the Rate Change Evaluation from Michigan Rural Water Association. Their recommendation is a flat rate of \$77.92. If we went back to the per-thousand rate, their recommendation was a base rate of \$60.00 and the per-thousand would be \$11.56. No action was taken. The Board is going to wait until the end of the budget-year and an audit, next spring, to look at the rates again.
- 2.) Planning Commission Meeting: Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 25, 2018.

Reports of Village Officers and Management:

- A.) Fire Chief: Wendt gave a verbal report. He stated two firemen would be going to propane training this week.
- B.) Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Fossitt stated that the dumpsters were well utilized for the spring cleanup. The dumpsters were available to residents for 17 days and over 20 tons was collected. He stated, now that Village residents had the opportunity to get rid of their junk for free, those who didn't could be ticketed.
- C.) Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement: Watkins submitted a written report.
- D.) Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant: Blakely gave a verbal as well as written report.
- E.) Superintendent of Water & Light: Perry gave a written as well as a verbal report. He stated that there is a planned outage for Sunday, June 24th in order to do electrical maintenance work.
- F.) Superintendent of Parks and Recreation: James-Mesloh gave a verbal report. Sharon Brown presented a written and verbal update on TORC and Atlas Park.
- G.) Assistant Village Manager: Vallad gave a written report and presented charts. Council Action: Moved by Medelis, support by Hitts, **CARRIED**, to authorize purchase of a new Merit Pump for the Camel Jet, which is used to clean sewer and storm pipes, at the quoted price of \$6,280.00. Ayes: All.
- H.) Village Manager: James-Mesloh gave a written as well as a verbal report.

Committee Reports:

- 1.) Project Rising Tide: The next meeting is Monday, June 25, 2018.
- 2.) Save the Bells: The meetings and work-bees will begin soon. Some of the proceeds from the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus, coming to town on July 2nd, will go towards the Save the Bells project.
- 3.) Fire Committee Meeting from Wednesday, May 23rd: Medelis gave the report. He stated that the tires for all of the fire trucks need to be replaced, 30 at \$500 apiece. Moving the bathroom at the fire hall will be going out to bid. The fire department received a grant from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians for \$1,888.75 for a portable pump.

Unfinished Business:

- 1.) Website Design: Moved by Brown, support by Hitts, **CARRIED**, moved to engage ReVize Website Design for \$2,600, which would be building the website for \$1,400.00 and \$1,200.00 for the annual subscription fee. Discussion followed. Ayes: All.

New Business:

1. **Ordinance 21:2:8** – Proper Care and Control. Owner’s Duty:
 - a.) Barking dogs and care of pets. Council action: Council was asked to review the ordinance and make suggestions for revisions. There have been several complaints of barking and stray animals. Discussion followed.
2. **Appointment to Planning Commission:** Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Brown, **CARRIED**, to appoint Steve Stiffler to the Planning Commission. Ayes: All.
3. **FOIA Status Report:** Hitts stated that he asked for and received a status report on all FOIA requests and there will be one available for everyone at each meeting.

Public Comment: Comments were heard from: Mike Schnorr – 306 E. Truman, Eric Buckler – 412 W. Ave. C, Lori Stokes – 301 W. John, Rebecca Handa – 108 E. Ave. B, Clifford Fossitt, Terese Schummer – 214 W. Truman, Don Jones – 514 E. Ave. B, Jim Diem – W. Truman, Chuck Pipes – 210 W. Truman, Matt Perry.

Comments by Council Members: Comment heard from: Medelis, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson.

Adjourn Meeting: Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Hitts, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Ayes: All.

These minutes are unofficial until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

John DeWitt, Village President