

VILLAGE OF SPARTA

COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF JUNE 09, 2014

Held at Sparta Township Chambers, 160 East Division, Sparta MI

1.2. The meeting was called to order by President Leonard R. Meyer II at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call: Council persons Kristi Dougan, Paul Hibbard, Bonnie Koehn, Gary Moody, William Taylor, Robert Whalen and Interim Village Manager Sharon J. DeLange.

4. Additions or corrections to Business and Consent Agendas: Add Item D to New Business: Resolution R-14-15 – A Resolution appointing Pamela Buchanan as the Village Clerk and to change the Discussion item A. Discussion of DPW Supervisor to Unfinished Business.

A. Accept Village Council regular business meeting of May 12, 2014;

B. Accept Village Council special meeting minutes of May 22, 2014;

C. File Downtown Development Authority special meeting minutes of May 13, 2014;

D. File Fire Board meeting minutes of May 15, 2014;

E. Accept Village Zoning Board of Appeals meeting minutes of June 02, 2014;

F. Accept Sparta Recreational Authority meeting minutes of May 01, 2014.

5. Approval of Consent and Business Agendas:

Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard, to approve Business and Consent Agendas as amended. Motion carried 6-1 with Dougan providing the negative vote.

6. Approval of Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers:

Moved by Dougan, supported by Moody, to approve Accounts Payable and Transfers. Motion carried 7-0

7. Public Comment for Agenda Items:

A. Dwayne Pride of 466 Atkinson, questioned the addition of Item D to New Business on the Business Agenda.

B. Loren Peterson of 12201 Sparta Avenue, had questions concerning the appointment of the DPW Supervisor.

8. Public Hearing: None.

9. Unfinished Business: DPW Supervisor.

Moved by Dougan, supported by Moody, to table until July the discussion on the DPW Supervisor so that the new manager can help in his/her selection and to contact the six finalists for this position. Motion carried 5-2 with Hibbard and Whalen providing negative votes. It was determined that a special meeting of the Council be scheduled to pare the finalists down to three.

10. New Business:

A. Resolution R-14-14: A Resolution of intent to vacate a portion of the Union Street Public Right-of-Way between Silver Creek and Averill Street.

Moved by Hibbard, supported by Taylor, to adopt Resolution R-14-14. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Request from DDA Director to share costs for Rogers Park lighting upgrade.

Moved by Moody, supported by Whalen, to share costs of Rogers Park lighting. Motion carried 7-0. The Police Chief was requested to look into the cost of infra-red cameras.

C. Discussion of interviews for Village Manager:

Moved by Dougan, supported by Whalen, that Julius Suchy of Dundee, Michigan be selected as Village Manager pending criminal background investigation. President Meyer will contact Suchy.

D. Resolution R-14-15: A Resolution appointing Pamela Buchanan as the Village Clerk. Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard, to appoint Pamela Buchanan Village Clerk. Motion carried 7-0. She will complete the two-year term vacated by retiring Village Clerk Greta Heugel who was appointed Deputy Clerk.

11. Committee Reports (attached)

A. Finance Committee;

B. Policy & Personnel;

C. Public Facilities & Recreation Committee;

D. Airport Committee; Reported by Interim Village Manager DeLange that the terminal has been painted by the Pilots Association with the Village furnishing the paint. President Meyer said that the flagpole and plaque provided by Boy Scout Cody Havens as an Eagle Scout project was a great addition to the Airport.

E. Public Safety;

F. Fire Board;

12. Manager's Report (attached)

13. Police Chief's Report (attached)

14. Airport Manager's Report

15. Communications:

- A. Letters from Gale Taylor and a response by Robert Whalen were read.
See attachment A: Gale Taylor's letter.
See attachment B: Robert Whalen's letter.

16. Public Comment:

- A. Gale Taylor of 274 Creekside commented on Whalen's letter.
- B. Chuck Yates of 25 Pleasant thanked the president for his years of service and the lack of publicity concerning closure of South Union Street. Councilmember Whalen suggested that information on the proposed closure be included with the next water bill.

At this time, retiring Village Clerk gave the oath of office to Pamela Buchanan, the new Village Clerk.

17. Executive Session:

Moved by Whalen, supported by Moody, to go into Executive Session at 7:59 pm for the purpose of approving Executive Session minutes. Motion carried 7-0 by roll call vote.

Moved by Moody, supported by Whalen, to return to the regular session at 8:04 pm. Motion carried 7-0.

18. Announcements:

- A. President Meyer announced that he would not be a candidate for president at the next election. He has served 6 years as Councilman and 8 years as president.

19. Adjournment:

Moved by Moody, supported by Whalen, to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Greta C. Heugel,

[Sparta Village Clerk](#)

Following the session, coffee and cake were served in honor of retiring clerk Greta Heugel.