

## VILLAGE OF SPARTA

### COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF OCTOBER 12, 2015

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

1. The meeting was called to order by President Kristi Dougan at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. Roll Call: Council persons Kristi Dougan, Bonnie Koehn, Jayne Paasch, Gale Taylor, William Taylor, Robert Whalen and Village Manager Julius Suchy.

3. Additions or corrections to Business and Consent Agendas: Add to New Business: Item A, Request from Tim Harkema re: Rodeo Ground Property for metal detecting, Item M, Purchase of a new Ricoh color copy machine for cost not to exceed \$7,502.07, Item N, Discuss Replacement of Lamoreaux Park Playground Equipment.

Consent Agenda:

I. Approve Special Village Council Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2015

II. Accept Reschedule Downtown Development Authority Minutes of September 22, 2015

III. Accept Regular Planning Commission Minutes of October 5, 2015

IV. Accept Fire Board Minutes of September 17, 2015

V. Accept Regular SRA Minutes of September 3, 2015

VI. Appointment of Gale Taylor to Sparta Fire Board

4. Approval of Consent AND Business Agendas:

Moved by Paasch, supported by Whalen, to approve Consent and Business Agendas with additions to the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

5. Public Comment for Agenda Items: None.

Please note: This Public Comment portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on agenda items.

6. Public Hearing: None.

7. Old Business: None.

8. New Business:

A. Request from Tim Harkema re: Rodeo Ground Property for metal detecting. At the March 9, 2015 meeting Harvey Poling had also requested permission to utilize metal detector. The Council was concerned that if use was granted to one individual the Village would see other residents ask for use of the property which could set a precedent. The Council chose at that time to take no action.

B. Nash Creek Stream Bank Restoration Presentation – Sue Blackhall

Sue gave her presentation on proposed restoration method, importance of using native plants, implementation and resources and proposed site plan. Funding for the purchase of plant material would come from a grant issued thru Groundswell. Groundswell is a coalition of community partners that creates opportunities for hands-on environmental learning for students.

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Paasch. Motion carried 6-0.

C. Resolution #15-14: A Resolution To Authorize Issuance of Water Supply System Revenue Refunding Bonds. Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor to adopt Resolution #15-14. Motion carried 5-1 with Koehn abstain.

D. Resolution #15-15: A Resolution To Vacate The Public Right-Of-Way Of South Union Street Between The South Right-Of-Way Line Of East Averill Street And The North Right-Of-Way Line Of Silver Creek Avenue. Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Koehn to adopt Resolution #15-15 contingent upon the signing of all other agreements and easements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

E. S. Union Street Right-of-Way Vacation and Utility Encasement Agreement.

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Whalen for S. Union Street Right-of-Way Vacation and Utility Encasement Agreement contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

F. Limitation of Liability Agreement for Public Utility Encasement in S. Union Street.

Councilman Whalen asked who would be responsible in case of an issue or accident and Engineer Brian Vilmont indicated that if it was a design issue than Prein & Newhof would be responsible, otherwise the agreement is meant to keep people from taking others to court since everyone is aware there is a risk building over the utility lines. Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor for Limitation of Liability Agreement for Public Utility Encasement in S. Union Street contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

G. S. Union Street Quit Claim Deed Documents.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Gale Taylor for S. Union Street Quit Claim Deed Documents contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

H. S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (Celia Corp – 290 S. Union).

Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor for S. Union Street Vacation Utility Easement (Celia Corp – 290 S. Union) contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

I. S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (Handy Wacks – 100 E. Averill Street).

Moved by Paasch, supported by Gale Taylor for S Union Vacation Utility Easement (Handy Wacks

100 E. Averill Street) contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

J. S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (Celia Corp – 140 E. Averill Street).

Moved by Whalen, supported by Gale Taylor for S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (Celia Corp

140 E. Averill Street) contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.



K. S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (CC Holdings LLC – 309 S. Union Street).  
Moved by Whalen, supported by Koehn for S. Union Vacation Utility Easement (CC Holdings LLC

309 S. Union Street) contingent upon all other parties signing all other agreements associated with the S. Union St. closure. Motion carried 6-0.

L. Approve Distribution of 2015 Amended Master Plan to local planning agencies for public comment period. Moved by Paasch supported by Gale Taylor to distribute Master Plan to local planning agencies as required by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act. Motion carried 6-0.

M. Purchase a new Ricoh color copy machine for cost not to exceed \$7,502.07.

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Whalen to purchase a new Ricoh color copy machine for a cost not to exceed \$7,502.07. Motion carried 6-0.

N. Discuss Replacement of Lamoreaux Park Playground Equipment.

The total purchase price is approximately \$47,307.30 including freight and would include a \$15,868 grant if we issue a check when we place the order. The DPW would remove the old and install the new equipment.

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Paasch to purchase Lamoreaux Park Playground Equipment not to exceed \$31,502.30 from Game Time.

O. Discuss utilizing Rodeo Grounds as winter sledding hill open to the public.

Manager Suchy was interested if Council was open to using the Rodeo Grounds for a winter sledding hill open to the public. Council was open to the idea and Manager Suchy will bring back more details at the November meeting.

P. Vacant Council Seat Discussion.

President Dougan would like interested candidates to submit a letter of interest. The deadline for accepting letters is 5:00 p.m. Monday, October 19th. Manager Suchy will create a list of questions for the candidates and e-mail them to council prior to the special meeting to interview candidates. There will be a special meeting held on Thursday, October 29th at 7:00 p.m. to interview council candidates.

Q. Schedule Work Session to Discuss 2016 Village Council Goals.

On Wednesday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m. a special meeting will be scheduled to discuss Village Council Goals for 2016. The deadline for the goals will be October 30th for existing council members and the new council member will submit by the 3rd.

9. Committee Reports:

10. Village Manager Report:

MISOH was at the DPW Building on Friday, October 9 and did some testing everything was good. He will provide a letter on any recommendations he has to the Village.

Sharon De Lange will not be retiring on December 31, she will be continuing her employment with the Village.

11. Communications:

a. 2014 Water Fluoridation Quality Award

12. Payment of Bills:

Approval of Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers.

Moved by Koehn, supported by William Taylor, to approve Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers. Motion carried 6-0.

13. Public Comment:

Paul Hibbard of 123 Amelia Street commented on Rodeo Grounds having electricity and how we could advertise for night sledding.

14. Executive Session:

Moved by Whalen supported by Gale Taylor to go into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss strategy regarding negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement and discuss sale of real property. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Whalen to return to the regular session 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

15. Council Member Announcements:

President Dougan would like Council to set up a flower money fund. Council members can donate if they wish and the Village will use it for employee related funerals and other related items. If there is money left over at the end of the year council would like to be used to throw an employee lunch.

16. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Dougan at 9:36 p.m. by executive privilege.

Pam Buchanan  
Sparta Village Clerk

