

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF APRIL 13, 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. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call: Council persons Paul Hibbard, Bonnie Koehn, Jayne Paasch, William Taylor, Robert Whalen and Village Manager Julius Suchy. Absent: Councilman Gale Taylor.

4. Additions or Corrections to Business and Consent Agendas: Change "Accept" on items a and b of Consent Agenda to "Approve" and add item k to New Business: Award bid for Bio Solids Removal and Land Application from the Sparta WWTP to Bio Tech Agronomics for the period of April 01, 2015 to December 17, 2017.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve Village Council regular meeting minutes of March 09, 2015;
- b. Approve Village Council special work session minutes of March 16, 2015;
- c. Accept Downtown Development Authority minutes of March 10, 2015;
- d. Accept Sparta Recreation Authority minutes of March 05, 2015;
- e. Accept Planning Commission meeting minutes of March 2, 2015
- f. Resolution R -15-05: A Resolution to appoint Mr. Phil Potter to the Sparta Downtown Development Board, term expiring December 31, 2018;
- g. Resolution R-15-06: A Resolution that a request from Sports Boosters of Sparta be recognized as a nonprofit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining charitable gaming licenses, be considered for approval.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda and Business Agenda:

Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor, to approve Consent and Business Agendas. Motion carried 6-0.

6. Public Comment for Agenda items:

- a. Ron "Rudy" Plank of 186 Washington Street outlined suggested plans to convert the skate park on East Gardner to a proposed dog park.
- b. Dwayne Pride of 466 Atkinson commented on the need of a dog park in the village. A discussion followed with input from Council members and it was decided to clean up the area, install a camera at the site and to determine the options of transitioning the site to a dog park.

7. Public hearing: none.

8. Unfinished Business: none.

9. New Business:

a. Authorize Village Manager to sign Sparta Rodeo License Agreement.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard, to authorize the Village Manager to sign the Sparta Rodeo Agreement. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Authorize the Village Manager to sign the Gov/Pay/Net Contract Moved by Hibbard, supported by Paasch, to authorize the Village Manager to sign the GovPayNet Contract. Motion carried 6-0.

c. Award Generator Repair Bid to Cummins Bridgeway for an amount not to exceed \$4,389.55.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Paasch, to award the Generator Repair Bid to Cummins Bridgeway for an amount not to exceed \$4,389.55. Motion carried 6-0.

d. Award Stump Removal Bid to Cut It Clean Stump and Tree Removal for an amount not to exceed \$2,910.

Moved by Paasch, supported by William Taylor, to award a Stump Removal Bid to Cut It Clean Stump and Tree Removal for an amount not to exceed \$2,910. Motion carried 6-0.

e. Award Street and Parking Lot Sweeping Bid to Tri-Us Services for an amount not to exceed \$13,271.

Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor, to award the Street and Parking Lot Sweeping Bid to Tri-Us Services for an amount not to exceed \$13,271. Motion carried 6-0.

f. Authorize the Village Manager to approve Abilita Telecommunications recommendations.

Moved by Hibbard, supported by Koehn, to authorize the Village Manager to approve Abilita Telecommunications recommendations. Motion carried 6-0.

g. Award Band Shell and Refinishing Bid to GAM Decorating for an amount not to exceed \$11,238.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Hibbard, to award the Band Shell and Refinishing Bid to GAM Decorating for an amount not to exceed \$11,238. Motion carried 6-0.

h. Authorize the Village Manager to award 2015 Crack Seal Bid with Kent County Road Commission bids.

Moved by William Taylor, supported by Paasch, to authorize the Village Manager to award the 2015 Crack Seal bid with Kent County Road Commission bids. Motion carried 6-0.

i. Award Village Hall Restoration Bid to RAM Construction for an amount not to exceed \$12,975.

Moved by Whalen, supported by William Taylor, to award the Village Hall Restoration Bid to RAM Construction for an amount not to exceed \$12,975. Motion carried 6-0.

j. Award 2015 Water Truck Replacement bid to Sparta Chevrolet for an amount not to exceed \$20,791.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard, to award the 2015 Water Truck Replacement bid to Sparta Chevrolet for an amount not to exceed \$20,791. Motion carried 6-0.

k. Award bid for Bio Solids Removal and Land Application from the Sparta WWTP to Bio Tech Agronomics for a period of April 01, 2015 to December 31, 2017.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Koehn, to award the Bid for Bio Solids Removal and Land Application from the Sparta WWTP to Bio Tech Agronomics for the period of April 01, 2015 to December 31, 2017. Motion carried 6-0.

l. Sparta Recreation Park information outreach.

Manager Suchy stated that more information needed to be delivered to the public regarding SRA property and the request to the Village to fund \$25,000 of in-kind services.

First, it will be covered completely in the April 15, 2015 "Sparta Today" newspaper so that the public will know that the issue will be discussed at the May Council meeting. Other options of getting the public informed and involved were discussed.

m. Rodeo Ground Public Participation Next Steps discussion.

Manager Suchy reported that residents should be involved in the utilization of the Rodeo Grounds property, not so much as what could be placed there (residential, commercial, industrial, entertainment) but their desires as to what should not be included at the site. He also stated that the Village has only two years in the high pressure reserves to pay off the district bonds. The public needs to be advised of the urgency to determine a plan. Several options were stated.

10. Committee Reports:

The evaluation of Julius Suchy as Village Manager is coming up as he approaches his first anniversary in June. It was determined that the Policy and Personnel Committee will meet with him first and bring recommendations to the Council.

11. Village Manager's Report:

12. Communications:

a. Letter from Ron "Rudy" Plank of 186 Washington Street regarding Dog Park at site of the skate park on East Gardner Street.

13. Payment of bills:

Moved by Koehn, supported by Taylor, to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$199,081.73. Motion carried 6-0.

14. Public Comment: none.

15. Executive Session:

Moved by Hibbard, supported by Whalen, to go into Executive Session at 8:17 pm for the purpose of updating pending litigation. Motion carried 6-0 by roll call vote.

Moved by Hibbard, supported by Whalen, to return to the regular session at 8:34 pm. Motion carried 6-0. M

16. Council Member Announcements:

A number of things were discussed:

a. The gas smell at 35 East Gardner has dissipated and no further borings will be made. The house is empty and DEQ has picked up the costs. Cause of the smell confined to that one location is unknown.

b. River Road extension was discussed.

c. The lighting of the East Water Tower on Prospect Street is scheduled to be repaired as the letters on it are not fully lighted.

d. The drinking fountain at Lamoreaux Park is inoperable and needs to be replaced or removed.

e. Days of Sparta Pick-Up Days will be Thursday thru Saturday, April 23 thru 25, 2015. Council persons were asked to assist the Township in checking identifications.

17. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Executive Privilege of the President at 8:42 pm.

Greta C. Heugel
Deputy Village Clerk