

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
SPECIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF SEPTEMBER 24, 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 Agenda: None.

Consent Agenda:

a. Approve Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda AND Business Agenda

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

5. Executive Session #1:

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Paasch to go into Executive Session at 7:03p.m. to review written legal opinion. Motion carried 6-0.

Moved by Gale Taylor supported by Paasch to return to the regular session at 7:22 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Once Village Council returned to open session Village President Kristi Dougan acknowledged that at the September 14, 2015 Village Council meeting, Member Paul Hibbard resigned his seat from the Village Council.

6. Public Comment for Agenda Items:

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

7. Public Hearing: None.

8. Old Business: None.

9. New Business

a. Request from Paul Hibbard to Address Village Council:

Mary Jo Hibbard at 123 Amelia Street addressed the Council and stated that her husband Paul was proud to be on the Council and she wanted him to come home on September 24 due to a death in the family, he did not intend to resign from council.

Paul Hibbard at 123 Amelia Street addressed the Council and stated that he used a poor choice of words and that he never intended to resign his seat from council. He indicated

that the meeting was going long and that he had a funeral the next day and he just needed to leave and he said he was resigning, but wasn't intending to resign from the council. Mr. Hibbard stated that he withdrew his poor choice of words.

Council member Whalen indicated to Mr. Hibbard that for him to officially withdraw his resignation that Paul would need to state that he was withdrawing his resignation that occurred at the September 14th council meeting.

Mr. Hibbard then stated that he withdrew his alleged resignation.

Motion made by Whalen supported by William Taylor to rescind Mr. Hibbard's resignation. Roll call vote to rescind his resignation. Whalen – yes, William Taylor – yes, Dougan, no, Koehn no, Gale Taylor, no, Paasch no. MOTION FAILED.

Motion made by Paasch, supported by Koehn to move forward to fill the vacancy on the Village Council. It will be put on the agenda for discussion at the October Council Meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

b. Utility Rate/Infrastructure Needs Discussion:

Manager Suchy provided the Council with Village of Sparta Debt Schedule FY 2015, Sewer & Water Cash Flow with No Rate Increase and only Anderson Street Project, Sewer & Water Cash Flow with no Rate Increase and with Anderson St project & CIP items included, WWTP Operating Budget Projection – No Rate Increase – No CIP Projects and Water Operating – No Rate Increase – No CIP Items. Discussion was held on possible rate adjustments and Manager Suchy indicated he will have a recommendation coming with the draft budget in a few months.

10 Committee Reports:

The Fire Board Meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 7.

11. Village Managers Report:

Manager Suchy showed the Council two posters titled "Where Does My Tax Dollar Go?" They will be putting these posters in businesses around the Sparta area to educate citizens about where their tax dollars go.

12. Communications: None.

13. Payment of Bills: None.

14. Public Comment: None.

15. Executive Session:

Moved by Whalen, supported by Gale Taylor to go into Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. To discuss strategy regarding negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement and consider the purchase of real property. Motion carried 6-0.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Gale Taylor, to return to the regular session at 9:09 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Manager Suchy would like to have a motion to purchase property at 28 S Union Street for \$42,000.00 for expansion of parking for downtown.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Gale Taylor, to purchase the property at 28 S Union Street for \$42,000.00. Motion carried 6-0.

16. Council Member Announcements:

Finance Director Sharon DeLange husband Gary was in a car accident and has passed away.

17. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Dougan at 9:13 p.m. by executive privilege.

Pam Buchanan
Sparta Village Clerk