

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
Kent County, Michigan
Village Council Meeting
Monday, August 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM
276 W. Division St. (Sparta Village Complex)

Present:

President Robert Whalen, Council Members Brenda Braybrook, Robert Carlstrom, David Cumings, Christina Owens, Tom Peoples, Bill Taylor

Absent:

Also Present:

Village Manager James Lower, Chief Andrew Milanowski, Airport Manager Mike Krzciok, DPW Director Bill Hunter, Deputy DPW Director Conrad Bowman, Village Clerk Kristen Phelps,

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Whalen.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. The Pledge was recited.

3. Roll Call

- a. Formal Roll call was taken. See above for attendance.

4. Additions or Corrections to Consent and Business Agenda

Consent Agenda:

- a. *Approve Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2026*
- b. *Approved Special Village Council Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2026*
- c. *Approve Fireworks Display for Homecoming September 25, 2026*

5. Approval of Consent and Business Agenda

- a. The Consent and Business Agenda was approved as presented.
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve the agenda, with support from Cumings. **Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Public Comment for Agenda Item

Please Note: This Public Comment portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on agenda items. Personal or abusive attacks on Council members, staff members, or other participants will not be tolerated and may result in the Village President taking action, up to and including, having the speaker removed from the meeting by law enforcement officers.

7. Public Hearing

- a. None.

8. Old Business

- a. None.

9. New Business

- a. Res. 26-05 A Resolution to Provide for the Designation of September 18, 2026, as POW/MIA Recognition Day.
 - i. Motion: Cumings moved to approve Resolution 26-05 as presented, supported by Peoples. **Motion passes 7-0.**
- b. Res. 26-06 A Resolution to accept project grant agreement with MNRTF for project TF25-0107
 - i. Motion: Peoples moved to approve Resolution 26-06 as presented, supported by Carlstrom. **Motion passes 7-0.**
- c. Balyeat Bridge Bids/Contractor Selection
 - i. Motion: Cumings moved to approve award the bid to Miller Bridge Construction as presented, with support from Braybrook. **Motion passed 7-0.**
- d. Approve USDA Grant/Borrowing Applications
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve the USDA Grant and Loan Application for the Gardner Street Sewer Collection System Project as presented, with support from Peoples. **Motion passed 7-0.**
- e. Martindale Boardwalk Repair Bid
 - i. Motion: Braybrook moved to approve Tucker Marine with the Contingency for \$50,000 for Composite, supported by Peoples. **Motion passed 6-1 with a Nay vote from Taylor.**

10. Executive Session

- a. Motion: Cumings moved to go into Executive Session to Discuss attorney-client privileged communications & materials exempt from disclosure with support from Braybrook. Roll Call Vote: Yeah: Braybrook, Carlstrom, Cumings, Owens, Peoples, Taylor, Whalen Nays: None.
 - i. Executive Session started at 6:52 pm
 - ii. Executive Session adjourned at 8:17 pm

Regular Meeting Called back to Order at 8:17pm.

Motion: Braybrook moved to proceed as discussed in executive session, with support from Peoples. **Motion passed 5-2. Nay votes: Owens, Taylor**

11. Village Manager & Department Reports

- a. Village Manager Spoke
- b. Consensus to issue vouchers 6-1 Nay vote: Taylor

12. Communications

- a. None

13. Payment of Bills

- a. Motion: Cumings moved to approve the payables as presented, with support from Braybrook. **Motion passed 7-0**

July Payables

PAYABLES	
(101) General Fund	\$104,660.39
(202) Major Street Fund	\$10,855.39

(203) Local Street Fund	\$22,667.97
(581) Airport	\$53,074.80
(590) Sewer Department Fund	\$31,600.38
(591) Water Department Fund	\$82,143.86
(661) Equipment Rental Fund	\$8,185.19
Total	\$313,187.98

Informational:

(206) Fire Department	\$20,864.30
(208) SRA Park Fund	\$4,843.61
(248) Downtown Development Authority	\$6,817.38
Total	\$32,525.29

14. Public Comment

- a. None

15. Council Member Announcements

- a. None

16. Adjournment

- a. Adjournment at 8:22 pm presented by President Whalen.