

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF MAY 11, 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, Gale Taylor, William Taylor, Robert Whalen and Village Manager Julius Suchy.

4. Additions or Corrections to Business and Consent Agenda: Add item j to New Business: Fire Department Utilizing High Pressure District for Practice.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2015;
- b. Accept Downtown Development Authority Minutes of April 14, 2015;
- c. Accept Sparta Recreation Authority Minutes of April 2, 2015;
- d. Accept Planning Commission Minutes of April 27, 2015;
- e. Accept Fire Board Minutes of April 16, 2015.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda AND Business Agenda

Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard, to approve Consent and Business Agendas. Motion carried 7-0.

6. Public Comment for Agenda Items: None.

7. Public Hearing: None.

8. Old Business: None.

9. New Business

- a. Presentation by Sue Blackhall 3rd grade class on landscaping with native plants.
- b. Motion to Approve Rezoning Request from Tesa Tape to rezone southern 240 ft. x 588 ft. of the parcel from R-1 Residential to LI Light Industrial because of rezoning is consistent with the future land use map and will not have a negative impact on surrounding properties.

Moved by Hibbard, supported by Gale Taylor to approve rezoning request from Tesa Tape to rezone southern 240 ft. x 588 ft. of the parcel from R-1 Residential to LI Light Industrial because of rezoning is consistent with the future land use map and will not have negative impact on surrounding properties. Motion carried 7-0.

c. Masonic Temple Association Parking Lot Issue. Edward James of Fennville, MI was the representative for the Masonic Temple Association and would like the Masonic Temple to be tax exempt. The Association received a letter from Cliff Turner the Sparta Township Assessor in 2012 informing them that they are no longer tax exempt. In his letter he had advised them that they could go to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for an appeal, however as of this date they have not appealed. The parking lot issue has not been resolved they will still be leaving the parking

lot roped off and would also like to do it with the sidewalks. Village Council directed the Masons to speak to the Township Board about the issue, the Village does not have the authority to abate taxes without a state statute that allows for it.

d. Sparta Recreation Authority Park In Kind Commitment Consideration.

Moved by Koehn, supported by Whalen to provide in-kind services for SRA Park for \$25,000 starting in 2017 and continuing thru 2019. Motion carried 6-1 with Gale Taylor providing the negative vote.

e. Recommendation from Airport Committee to approve updated Sparta Municipal Airport (SMA) rules and regulations pending review from Village Attorney.

Moved by Gale Taylor, supported by Bill Taylor to approve Sparta Municipal Airport (SMA) rules and regulations pending review from Village Attorney. Motion carried 7-0.

f. Award Waste Water Treatment Plant Operations Contract to Infrastructure Alternatives for a 3 year period.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Gale Taylor to award Waste Water Treatment Plant Operations Contract to Infrastructure Alternatives for a 3 year period.

Motion carried 7-0.

g. Kent County Central Dispatch Agreement. Moved by Whalen, supported by Paasch to authorize Village Manager to sign Kent County Dispatch Agreement for Police Services. Motion carried 7-0.

h. Village Hall Sandstone Restoration/Preservation Bid by RAM Construction – Bid Rejection.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Paasch to reject Bid by RAM Construction for the Village Hall Sandstone Restoration/Preservation. Motion carried 7-0.

i. Request from Village Manager for approval to teach Public Administration Course.

Moved by Whalen, supported by Hibbard to approve the Village Manager to teach a Public Administration Course. Motion carried 7-0.

j. Fire Department Utilizing High Pressure District for Practice. The Water Hammer Issue was discussed and the Council directed the Village Manager to provide the Fire Department with a letter that if they practice on the High Pressure District they will be fined \$1,000. For repeated offenses it could increase to \$2,000 and then \$5,000.

Motion carried 6-1 with Gale Taylor providing the negative vote.

10. Committee Reports:

11. Village Managers Report:

12. Communications: None

13. Payment of Bills:

Approval of Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Koehn, to approve Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers.
Motion carried 7-0.

14. Public Comment: None.

15. Executive Session: None.

16. Council Member Announcements: A collection for Greta Heugel was taken up for flowers. She is in St. Mary's Living Center.

17. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Dougan at 9:04 p.m. by executive privilege.

Pam Buchanan
Sparta Village Clerk