

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
Kent County, Michigan
Village Council Meeting
Monday, January 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM
276 W. Division St. (Sparta Village Complex)

Present:

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

Absent:

Also Present:

Village Manager James Lower, Chief Andrew Milanowski, DPW Supervisor William Hunter, Airport Manager Mike Krzciok, Village Clerk Kristen Phelps

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Robert 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 December 15, 2025*
- b. *Approve Special Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2025*
- c. *Approve Fire Board Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2025*

5. Approval of Consent and Business Agenda

- a. The Consent and Business Agenda were approved with the additional New Business of Manager Review as Item E.
 - i. Motion: Braybrook moved to approve the consent agenda with support of Carlstrom. **Motion passed 6-0**

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. Council Vacancy
 - i. Motion: Councilmember Braybrook moved to appoint Christina Owens to fill Councilmember Mais vacancy, supported by Peoples. **Motion passed 6--0**
- b. Res. 26-01 A resolution to appoint members to the Sparta Area Fire Authority
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve Resolution 26-01 as presented, supported by Braybrook. **Motion passed 6-0.**
- c. Draft City Boundary Map Discussion
 - i. City Boundary Map was discussed
- d. Police Chief Contract Extension
 - i. Motion: Braybrook moved to approve Police Chief's Contract Extension as presented, supported by Cumings. **Motion passed 6-0.**
- e. Village Manager review and contract Amendment
 - i. Motion: Cumings moved to approve the contract amendment as presented, supported by Braybrook. **Motion passed 6-0**

10. Executive Session

- a. None.

11. Village Manager & Department Reports

- a. Villager Manager spoke about Waste Water Project.

12. Communications

- a. Council meeting recording was talked about. Council Members want to see a policy for the recordings.

13. Payment of Bills

December Payables

PAYABLES	
(101) General Fund	\$1,427,857.58
(202) Major Street Fund	\$43,764.12
(203) Local Street Fund	\$9,987.58
(581) Airport	\$251,526.82
(590) Sewer Department Fund	\$259,068.01
(591) Water Department Fund	\$76,619.97

(661) Equipment Rental Fund	\$11,986.12
Total	\$2,080,810.20

Informational:

(206) Fire Department	\$26,380.36
(208) SRA Park Fund	\$14,888.05
(248) Downtown Development Authority	\$46,892.05
Total	\$88,160.46

- a. Motion: Peoples made a motion to approve the payables as presented, supported by Braybrook. **Motion passed 6-0.**

14. Public Comment

- a. Kristie Caine 8795 Baumhoff commented.

15. Council Member Announcements

- a. None

16. Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 7:12 pm by President Whalen.