

Vermontville Village
Council Meeting Minutes
Village Office, September 12, 2013

- I. Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. by President, Ruth Wineman
- II. Roll Call – Present: Councilmen Sheridan, Viele, Jorgensen and Patrick; Councilwomen Villanueva and Hosey; President Ruth Wineman and Treasurer Kathy Joppie. Also in attendance, Monte O’Dell and Shari Carney.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Jason Orton – Chapman Agency
 - a) Jason Orton of David Chapman Agency reviewed three proposals for liability insurance. He compared the current policy with Trident against new proposals from Selective and U.S. Specialty MI Twp Participating Plan. Jason recommended moving to U.S. Specialty as our new carrier. The new premium would be \$10,252.00/year. Jason Orton will remain our agent.
- VI. Consent Agenda Items

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM 6, CONSENT AGENDA, ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL NOT BE A SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

 - a) Minutes – August 8, 2013 Meeting
 - b) Bills for approval - August 9-September 12, 2013
 - c) Revenue & Expenditure Report for eight months ended August 31, 2013

-Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to accept the Consent Agenda items as presented. Councilwoman Villanueva seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.
- VII. Treasurer Report – Kathy Joppie
 - a) Kathy Joppie discussed treasurer reports and gave an update on incoming tax collection data. As of September 12, 2013 / \$150,000 has been collected, leaving a balance of \$44,000 remaining.
 - b) Note: The Revenue/Expenditure report bottom line has used 1.41% of budget. This % of budget does not include tax collections after August 31, 2013. This % will improve when tax collections conclude.

-Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to accept the treasurer’s report. Councilman Sheridan seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

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VIII. Reports from Council Committees

- a) Insurance/Legal/Finance – Nothing new to report
- b) Water/Sewer – Nothing new to report
- c) Grants – Nothing new to report
- d) Ordinance – Ordinance Committee will be meeting at a later date to discuss garage sales.
- e) Streets Drains & Sidewalks
 - Councilman Patrick and DPW Supervisor Monte O’Dell worked with a resident on Sherman St. to add gravel in front of said residence. Meetings with the homeowner took place on several occasions to work on improving the site. Councilman Patrick inspected it today and is pleased with the results.

 - Discussion ensued regarding the wash out on E. Main Street. The water goes to a catch basin. DPW Supervisor Monte O’Dell will try to take care of the washout with millings, which will need to be rolled. Millings are less expensive than asphaltting the ditch.
- f) Fire – Monte O’Dell
 - Looking for an alternative siding for fire station as quote came in quite high.

 - Consumers upgraded meter for 7” water column. A full load test is being completed every month automatically. It is all natural gas.
- g) Buildings & Grounds – Siding and windows for Village offices still on track. Windows are expected to be completed in 2013 and siding in 2014.
- h) Technology – Treasurer’s laptop was replaced with the desktop computer currently used by Nathan for remoting in. Council would like to see if laptop can be cleaned up for possible use by other council members in the office.
- i) Health & Safety – Nothing new to report
- j) Personnel
 - Kathy Laseur, Village Clerk resigned her position, in writing on September 12, 2013.

Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to accept the Clerk’s resignation as of today, September 12, 2013. Councilman Patrick seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried, with regrets.

- Discussed changing the pay schedule for employees; which would take effect in March of 2014. The first pay period would cover two days. Further discussion at a future date.
- Discussed paying bonuses for employees, but funds are just not there.
- Discussed exploring insurance and legal guidance regarding employee health insurance. The projected increase expected is 30-50%.

IX. DPW Report – Monte O’Dell

- Sherman Street is taken care of.
- Treasurer office and new furniture set up and looking great!
- Monte O’Dell was invited to State Capital on Sept. 9th; spent the day with Theresa Abed and discussed Act 51. He had the opportunity to sit on the House Floor.
- Received quote from Bader and Sons for an 8’ Boss straight plow for new truck. List price of \$5,750.15. Quote came in at \$4,300.00 after government discount.

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- X. Report from Planning & Zoning Boards
- No new business to report for Planning.
 - Councilman Jorgensen – discussed purchase of new MML Zoning Books that have been delivered. This purchase came out of the 2013 budget. Discussed the newspaper format for completing variance applications. This format needs to be consistent with office. It should be a template. Mark will look in his files. May need to have legal guidance.
- XI. President Report – Insurance decision needs to be made soon. Discussion will take place with Personnel Committee.
- a) During the next two weeks Ruth will be unavailable between Tuesdays and Thursdays. Councilwoman Villanueva is President Pro-tem during that time.
- XII. Old Business – Nothing new to report.
- XIII. New Business
- a) Recommendation to approve Kathy Joppie, Treasurer as an authorized signer on all accounts.
- Motion made by Councilwoman Villanueva to approve Kathy Joppie, Treasurer, as an authorized signer on all accounts at Independent Bank, Hastings City Bank and Eaton Federal. Councilman Viele seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.
- b) Regarding Clerk resignation - Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to remove Kathy Laseur off all accounts at Independent Bank, Hastings City Bank and Eaton Federal. Councilwoman Villanueva seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.
- c) Discussion surrounding the selection of another Clerk. After legal discussion, posting of position is not required as long as hiring file is active of 180 days or less.
- Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to accept the Personnel Committee’s recommendation to hire new clerk Marisa Derusha. Councilman Viele seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilman Sheridan to approve new clerk, Marisa Derusha as an authorized signer on all accounts at Independent Bank, Hastings City Bank and Eaton Federal. Councilman Viele seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.
- d) Councilman Jorgensen will meet with Bldg & Grounds this fall to get ready for spring 2014. A calendar and form will be designed and placed on theVillage Website to reserve the pavilion. Monte O’Dell will create a permanent sign to be placed in the Pavilion for usage.
- e) Councilman Patrick recommended that the Village have 4 signers. The motion was tabled for discussion in October.
- Motion made by Councilman Sheridan to purchase plow for \$4300. Funds are already in account. Councilman Viele seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

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- f) Monte O'Dell discussed new phone system that is now set up by individual. Anyone can call the main number and choose which person they wish to speak with by pushing #1, #2 or #3. They are given the option to also leave a message.
- g) Motion made by Councilman Jorgensen to accept the proposal from U.S. Specialty MI Twp Participating Plan for the next year at a cost of \$10,252.00. Councilwoman Hosey seconded it. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

XIV. Public Comment – Nothing new

XV. Councilman Viele motioned to adjourn. Councilman Patrick seconded. Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m .

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Joppie, Treasurer