

**Vermontville Village**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Village Office, January 8, 2015**

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- I. Called to order at 7:02 pm.
- II. Roll Call – Present: Councilwomen Sandra Hosey, Beverly Villanueva; Councilmen Mark Jorgensen, Charles Viele, Jason Sheridan; President Ruth Wineman. Absent: Councilman Garry Patrick. Also present: Marisa Derusha, Kathy Joppie, Britiney and Christopher Rumsey, Terry Samann and Paradigm Design’s Brian Holleman.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Entered public hearing on the proposed state revolving fund project plan for improvements to the Village of Vermontville wastewater collection and treatment system at 7:05 pm.
  - A. Paradigm Design’s Brian Holleman gave a presentation on necessary improvements to the Vermontville wastewater collection and treatment system. The village applied for and received an S2 Grant to fund studies to the system that are necessary for applying for the State of Michigan State Revolving Fund Loan (SRF). The SRF loan is a low interest loan with rates between 2 and 2.5% over 20 years. The state requires input from residents as part of the application process.
  - B. The system was constructed in 1972 in response to the Clean Water Act of 1970. It is now over 40 years old and has remained largely unchanged. It has been well run and maintained. Many studies have been done that show that the system is a very cost effective and simple form of water treatment. In 1993, the EPA published a pamphlet about Vermontville and the benefit of the system.
  - C. In April 2010, the MDEQ called a meeting with the village to discuss operation of the waste water system and compliance with regulations. Due to MDEQ concerns, the Village contracted with Paradigm Design to prepare a study, evaluate current operation of the treatment facility and compliance with current permits. The village currently has a surface water discharge permit that allows discharge of treated wastewater to an unnamed tributary east of the lagoons.
  - D. Paradigm determined that the current system discharges to both surface water and groundwater. Because the Village does not have a groundwater discharge permit, they do not comply with State and Federal regulations. The village has 3 options to comply with regulations:
    - i. Convert to a surface water discharge and comply with current permit.
    - ii. Convert to a groundwater discharge and obtain a new permit.
    - iii. Apply for a groundwater permit and maintain dual permits.
  - E. The Village applied for a S2 Grant to fund the study in December 2011. They were notified that they had received the grant in July 2012.
  - F. The State requires 3 things in order to receive the SRF loan.

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- i. Project plan – study of the entire system which recommends options for meeting water quality requirements over a 20 year period.
- ii. Plans and specifications
- iii. A revenue system

G. During preparation of the Project Plan it was determined that the collection system was experiencing excessive inflow. The village obtained a second S2 grant for the Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) as required by the Project Plan. The results of the SSES confirmed that the Village suffers from excessive clear water inflow. Clear water inflow is:

- i. Inflow - water entering a sanitary sewer system by direct connection from a storm sewer, roof drains, basement sump pumps and manholes.
- ii. Infiltration – the entrance of ground water into a sanitary sewer system through breaks, cracks or defective pipe joints.

H. Project Plan Requirements:

- i. Project Background
- ii. Need for project
- iii. Analysis of alternative
- iv. The selected alternatives
- v. Evaluation of environmental impacts
- vi. Mitigation of environmental impacts
- vii. Public participation

Clear water connections create issues with hydraulic capacity of the sewer system (red lights at the lift stations)

I. Waste water lagoons

- i. Convert to surface water discharge – requires construction of outfall to creek and will need to add (filter). It requires electricity and storage tanks, flow meter and piping. Estimated cost of \$850,000 to \$1 million.
- ii. Groundwater discharge – would require additional property for seepage beds or for spray irrigation because existing seepage beds are not adequate. Estimated cost of \$1,250,000.

J. Required system improvements – The flow meter going to the lagoons has reached the end of its useful service life. The unit can't be serviced because they no longer make parts for it. Lift station No. 1 (E. Main) has reached its useful service life. It has a pneumatic system which requires constant maintenance. Estimated cost of \$80,000 to replace meter and lift station. It is recommended that the pumps, piping (including valve check) and flow meter be replaced at lift station No. 3 (Nut St.) with an estimated cost of \$60,000.

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- K. Clear water removal - The Village has 2 options:
- i. Upgrade the collection and pump stations to be able to accommodate the inflow. Significant improvements with an estimated cost of \$2,500,000.
  - ii. Initiate a clear water removal program where the village or homeowners disconnect the clear water sources. Estimated cost of \$540,000. This work is not eligible for SRF funding because it will be done on private property.

One of the options will be selected in the next month. The current options are expected to have minimal environmental impact. A formal public hearing will be held March 12, 2015.

Moved into regular council meeting at 8:24 pm.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER ITEM 5, 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 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 – December 11, 2014
- B. Bills for Approval –December 12, 2014 to January 8, 2015
- C. Revenue and Expenditure Report for the Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2014
- D. Treasurer Report

Councilman Sheridan made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilwoman Hosey seconded. Vote taken. All ayes carry.

VII. Reports from Council Committees

- A. Insurance/Legal/Finance - no report given.
- B. Water/Sewer – no report given.
- C. Grants – President Wineman received a letter from the State of Michigan. Our wellhead protection program was cancelled so that we can apply for a grant through Rural Water by July 1.
- D. Ordinance – committee will meet to discuss clear water ordinance.
- E. Street Drains and Sidewalks – no report given.
- F. Fire – Councilwoman Villanueva reported that the Fire Department sold two trucks.
- G. Buildings & Grounds – need to hold a meeting to discuss signs for the pavilion.

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- H. Technology – We will transition to our new website soon.
- I. Health & Safety – The Eaton County Sheriff’s report had 13 incidents in the village for December.
- J. Personnel – a meeting will be held toward the end of the month.

VIII. DPW Report

- A. DPW Supervisor Chris Rumsey brought in the sample obtained from the storm drain near Rip’s Place. A letter was sent on December 23 asking them not to dump grease into the storm sewer. We will need to pump it out in the spring.
- B. Councilman Jorgensen made a motion to have Chris Rumsey make an offer to AIS with a final cost of \$65,000 for the new 2014 backhoe that includes an extended warranty and trade-in of the old backhoe. Roll call vote:

Yes: Hosey, Villanueva, Jorgensen, Viele, Sheridan, Wineman

No:

Absent: Patrick

Motion carried.

- IX. Report from Planning and/ Zoning Boards – Planning Committee meets next week.
- X. President Report
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Public Comment
- XIV. Adjournment – Councilman Jorgensen made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Hosey seconded. Vote taken. All ayes carry.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marisa Derusha  
Village Clerk