The 1369th Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on January 4, 2016 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Maki.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

Commissioners
Sally Cole
Connie Duncil
Ann Genson
Edward Hahn
Bruce Krieger
Richard L. Maki

Absent
Marcy M. Spencer

Also in attendance were City Manager Williams, Clerk Howe, Chief Riley and Attorney Thompson.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Hahn stated at the last meeting when he was discussing an issue with Krieger, Rob Alway jumped in with his own opinion and was out of order and he should not have been allowed to speak. Clerk Howe noted it was Hahn who asked for the audience’s opinion and that is why Alway spoke when he did. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Genson, to approve the 1368th Regular Commission Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion, by Genson and seconded by Duncil, to approve the bills in the amount of $7,537.16. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Williams stated she submitted information from the Rural Fire Authority regarding the millage proposals that will be placed on the ballot of the August Primary Election. They will be asking for an increase of .5
mills as well as a Headlee override and they are asking for everyone’s support on both of the proposals. Krieger stated he served on the board of the Rural Fire Authority for many years and he knows the equipment and vehicles have to be tested on a regular basis and eventually replaced, which is costly. He noted the Rural Fire Authority is a good organization and he supports it.

REPORTS
CITY MANAGER

Williams noted there is Finance Committee meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, January 5 at 7:10 a.m. at City Hall.

Williams stated the 1999 plow truck had a small issue with the brakes, but Dave’s Truck and Auto was able to make the repairs quickly and the truck was back on the road the next day.

Williams reminded everyone that there is no parking on the streets during the winter months.

Williams stated she is working with Amber Township regarding the 40-year water agreement, which is very similar to the one the Commission just approved with the City of Ludington. The agreement allows the City to continue to serve the residents of Amber Township from the City limits to Stiles Road. Williams noted the City of Scottville receives a 90% credit for the businesses located between Stiles Road and Brye Road because the water goes through Scottville’s meter. The credit is done through the agreement with the City of Ludington.

CITY ATTORNEY

Thompson stated he has been spending time at the court house to confirm the City has the titles for the easement right-of-ways regarding the upcoming water project.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Riley noted Officer Skinner responded to a small fire at the Reinberg Avenue apartments and was able to evacuate the residents without incident. Riley also noted the officers have been writing tickets regarding the snow ordinance.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The monthly financial report will be submitted at the next meeting.
DDA REPORT

Keefer was absent, but Williams stated she was in the office earlier that day and sent out thank you notices to everyone involved with the events that were held in December.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Williams stated at a Commission meeting held in January 2014 a discussion was held about limiting the length of time that people could park on the west side of the 100 block of North Main Street because there was a problem with vehicles parking long term in those parking spaces. This made it difficult for customers wanting to do business with City Hall, the McMaster Building and North Country Cafe because there are limited parking spaces available in that area. At that meeting a 15 minute time limit was recommended, but after a lengthy discussion the Commissioners chose to contact the owners of the vehicles who consistently parked long term and ask them to consider parking elsewhere. Williams stated this plan did work for awhile, but the situation has reoccurred and even though several attempts have been made to resolve the problem, there are still vehicles that park on the street from the time City Hall opens to after it closes. A discussion followed regarding the length of the time limit that should be enforced and whether to also include the east side of North Main Street and South Main Street. After some consideration the Commissioners decided against the two-hour term limit on South Main Street because there is adequate parking available on the street and in the east and west parking lots. Attorney Thompson stated to make a change to the parking schedules it is done by resolution under the Uniform Traffic Code and not by ordinance, which speeds up the process. He noted the resolution has to be very specific and say exactly what will be changed. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Duncil, to enforce a two-hour parking limit for the spaces on the west side of the 100 block of North Main Street. Motion carried. The Commission will consider doing the same on the east side of the street at a future meeting.

Williams stated Howard Vanderlaan is interested in filling the one-year vacancy on the Board of Review. Vanderlaan has lived in the City for many years and at one time owned a business here. Motion, by Duncil and seconded by Krieger, to appoint Vanderlaan to the Board of Review. Motion carried.
NEW BUSINESS

None.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Sue Petipren asked if the parking spaces in front of City Hall could be designated for use by City Hall customers only, but Williams stated she would prefer to have them available for all customers to use.

Sue Petipren does not want to have the police department disbanded, but is concerned about the number of officers that are employed and was wondering if the Commission could consider restructuring the police department.

Maki stated the structure of the police department was discussed at length last year and it is too soon to discuss the issue again.

Chad Nelson stated there is a litter problem at Riverside Park and was wondering if a sign could be put up asking people not to throw their cigarette butts down on the ground.

Williams stated she would have the DPW look into doing that.

Sue Petipren is happy with the job Williams is doing, but feels the city manager and treasurer’s job should be separated.

Maki stated the Finance Committee is taking this into consideration and discusses it on a regular basis.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Hahn asked which Commissioners serve on the Public Safety Committee.

Williams stated Commissioners Maki, Genson and Cole serve on the Public Safety/Building & Grounds Committee. Williams stated she would provide the Commissioners with an updated list of the committees at the next meeting.

Hahn asked if the readiness-to-serve fees for water would be increased 21%.

Williams stated that both the readiness-to-serve and usage fees will be increased at that rate.
Hahn asked what the status of the carnival was for the Harvest Festival.

Williams stated she is still waiting confirmation from the owner of the carnival whether he plans on coming back or not.

Krieger was under the impression that the Commission only approved to increase the usage fees for water and did not remember increasing the readiness-to-serve fees.

Williams provided a copy of the resolution that shows the Commissioners approved the rate increase for both usage and the readiness-to-serve fees.

**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Duncil and seconded by Cole to adjourn. So carried at 6:09 p.m.

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Richard Maki, Mayor                Deborah A. Howe, Clerk