The 1394th Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on January 23, 2017 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Spencer.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

Commissioners  Leon Begue
                Sally Cole
                Tom Donald
                Connie Duncil
                Marcy M. Spencer

Absent          Bruce Krieger
                Sue Petipren

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Duncil, to approve the 1393rd Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion, by Duncil and seconded by Cole, to approve the bills in the amount of $106,836.37. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Curt VanderWall, 101st Michigan House Representative, introduced himself to the audience.

COMMUNICATIONS

Sara Tanis PhD sent some posters of species of insects that were identified at Riverside Park as a result of an exotic forest pest research project she did the last two years.
REPORTS

CITY MANAGER

Williams stated all the necessary paperwork regarding the alley that was abandoned between East Fourth and East Fifth Streets has been filed and recorded with the State of Michigan and the courthouse.

Williams stated because more and more people are using credit cards to make purchases, Shafer-Headworth has been researching what would be involved to have City Hall accept credit cards. She found a company that would charge a fee directly to the card holder instead of the merchant. Williams discussed this issue with the Finance Committee and they are recommending we move forward with it. It will take approximately 4-6 to get everything up and running.

Williams stated she would be meeting with the superintendent and transportation director of MCC Tuesday morning to discuss alternate street routes for the buses to use that are more suitable for that type of vehicle.

CITY ATTORNEY

Thompson stated he has been doing research regarding medical marijuana dispensaries. Thompson stated a person cannot apply to the state for a license to do so unless the local municipality has adopted an ordinance authorizing that type of facility and no one can apply to the state until December 2017. Thompson submitted information to the Commissioners regarding this issue and will keep them updated as he learns more about this over the next several months.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year-end report was submitted for review.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The monthly financial reports were submitted for review.

DDA REPORT

The committee for the Harvest Festival is moving forward with making plans for this year’s event. Volunteers are still needed. No contract has been signed with a carnival, although the carnival that was used last year has shown an interest in coming back if there is not a conflict with their schedule.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

New Business # 3 – Resolution for MDOT
OLD BUSINESS

The Mason-Lake Conversation District is once again soliciting support for their annual Household Hazardous Waste collection day. They are asking the City to contribute $450.00 towards the program, which is an increase of $50.00 from the previous year. Williams stated the City has always supported the program because it gives the residents a place to dispose their hazardous items in a safe way. Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to support the Household Hazardous Waste collection day. Motion carried.

Williams stated in November she received a letter of intent from Bill Lehrbass who wished to receive re-appointment to the Mason County Rural Fire Authority Board because his term was about to expire. The vacancy was advertised in the newspaper and Mr. Lehrbass’ letter was the only that was received. The appointment was never officially made so the Board is now asking for a formal appointment. Motion, by Duncil and seconded by Begue, to appoint Lehrbass to the MCRFA Board. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A few years ago the Finance Committee made a recommendation that the DPW set up a preventative maintenance schedule for their equipment. The purpose of this plan was to identify any potential problems and make the necessary repairs before it occurred, which would prevent the equipment from breaking down and be put out of commission during the peak time it is used. The City’s back hoe is getting older and needs a few repairs and the DPW is recommending that INA Store, Inc. of Tustin check it over because they are very familiar with that type of equipment. They would do the inspection in house, because the City has no way to transport the back hoe over to Tustin. Duncil asked if there was an estimate of the cost for them to do this. Williams stated it was approximately $1,500.00. Donald would prefer the City stay local and use Dave’s Auto Repair to the repairs. Williams stated the City does use Dave’s for maintenance on some of their vehicles, but she does not believe they work on back hoe’s and this company services Case back hoes. Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to approve the inspection at a cost of no more than $3,000. Motion carried. Commissioner Donald opposed the motion.

Williams stated Republic Services will be launching a new service to its customers. They are in the test phase of a new phone/tablet App for citizens who have internet phones that will allow them to do several options such as reporting a missed pick-up, find new service, etc. They will be using Scottville as one of the test areas due to Scottville’s population and because of the different refuse services the City offers its residents. A brochure containing information about this issue was included in the Commissioners meeting packet.

Williams stated she applied for the annual permit with MDOT that allows the DPW to do any maintenance along the SOM’s right-of-way. The permit also allows for the closure of U.S. 10/State Street for the parade for Harvest Festival. MDOT sent an e-mail to Williams asking for an updated resolution of an authorized person who can apply for the permit. MDOT requests updated version every few years because of the turnover of employees. Williams
noted the Harvest Festival committee will be combining the children’s parade with the grand parade so the street will only be closed on Saturday and no longer on Friday night. Motion, by Cole and seconded by Donald, to approve the resolution from MDOT authorizing Williams to apply for the annual permit. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

None.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Donald was wondering if it would be in the best interest of the City and the residents who reside on the north and south side of East Fourth Street if that street were to become a common area. He stated a potential solution would be to vacate the street and then the neighbors would enter a private agreement for a shared driveway. Thompson stated the City should not act on vacating the street unless one of the residents asks to have it done. Williams stated at the time Blaine Bacon was employed at the City, East Fourth Street was not abandoned, but removed from the map as it no longer received funding because Mr. Durfee agreed to maintain it as a driveway. Spencer is recommending that the Building & Grounds Committee and Financial Committee do some research and see if there are any alleys and streets that can be vacated throughout the City for a reasonable cost.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Duncil seconded by Cole to adjourn. So carried at 6:13 p.m.

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Marcy M. Spencer, Mayor Pro-Tem        Deborah A. Howe, Clerk