

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF SCOTTVILLE, MICHIGAN**

The 1396th Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on February 20, 2017 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Krieger.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

Commissioners	Leon Begue
	Sally Cole
	Tom Donald
	Connie Duncil
	Bruce Krieger
	Sue Petipren
	Marcy M. Spencer

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to approve the 1395th Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion, by Duncil and seconded by Spencer, to approve the bills in the amount of \$130,123.55. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Roy Holden wanted to know the status of the variance request from Mark Pehrson.

Williams stated the Planning Commission denied Mr. Pehrson's request, so he withdrew the request and has decided to seek a commercial renter for the space that is currently being used for a residential apartment. The Planning Commission will continue to discuss the issue of allowing residential apartments on the ground floor and they may make a recommendation to change the ordinance in the future.

Williams stated there is another property owner in the business district who has tenants living on the first floor. He will be sent a letter and legal action will be enforced if his tenants do not leave within a reasonable amount of time.

Linda Holden noted Main Street is very dirty and asked of something could be done about it.

Williams stated the DPW normally does not take the street cleaner out until spring and the snow is all gone, but because this winter has been unseasonably warm, she would have them make a pass on the street to clean it up.

COMMUNICATIONS

Williams noted the Mason County Rural Fire Authority monthly minutes were submitted for review.

REPORTS CITY MANAGER

Williams reminded everyone there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission and any interested City resident can submit a letter of intent to her by the February 28 deadline.

On March 1 the staff will be trained on how to use the new credit card machine so it should not be too much longer before credit cards will be accepted for making payments at City Hall.

Williams stated that she, Mayor Krieger and Commissioners Cole and Petipren attended a meeting at the Senior Center regarding some home improvement programs and grant opportunities the USDA Rural Development has to offer, which could be beneficial to those residents that have blight problems. Information regarding the programs and grants is available at City Hall.

Williams stated February 28 is the last day to pay 2016 taxes at City Hall. After that date taxes have to be paid at the Mason County Treasurer's office.

CITY ATTORNEY

Thompson has been to court a couple of times regarding traffic issues and has been working on a real estate project.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

No reports were available.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The monthly financial statements were submitted for review.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

New Business # 2 – Repairs to the police cruiser

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pehrson submitted a letter that states he is withdrawing his variance request at this time, but he would like to discuss it in the future. Pehrson also requested that the Planning Commission review the current zoning restrictions, which they are planning on doing. Thompson and Williams state that no further action is needed on the variance request.

Commissioner Donald requested the Commission discuss the issue of maintenance of the grinder pumps and it was Mayor Krieger's recommendation that the issue be sent to the Infrastructure Committee for further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Williams stated as part of the water main project a fire hydrant was placed at the end of the water line on East Fifth Street. Before the project began there was a fire hydrant at a different location at the end of East Third Street, but because that hydrant was located on a resident's property and not in the City's right-of-way, the new hydrant had to be relocated to a different spot. East Third Street is off center so when the fire hydrant was placed in its new location it appears to be in the middle of the front yard of 110 East Third Street, but it actually is in the right-of-way. The homeowners are unhappy with the location of the fire hydrant and have asked to have it moved. Last fall Williams was originally told by the contractors of the water main project that it could be moved and if they would have done it then the cost would have been substantially less. It appears the contractors will not be returning in the spring to do that, so Williams contacted two other contractors for bids on how much it would be to move the hydrant, which will be costly. Williams stated whether the original contractor or a new contractor moves the hydrant, the cost would be the expense of the City to pay because functionally there is nothing wrong with the location of the new hydrant. If it is moved the hydrant needs to be located as close to the end of the water main as possible to ensure for a successful flushing of the line. It was suggested that the Buffenbargers could plant some vegetation between their house and the hydrant and that would make it more pleasing to the eye. A lengthy discussion followed and because the hydrant could only be moved a short distance because of an utility pole and guide wire being located in the same area Krieger made a motion and Donald seconded the motion to table a decision at this time until Williams talks to the engineers to see if there is another solution for the location of the hydrant.

Williams stated the police department's 2008 Charger has been having transmission problems. Dave's Truck and Auto and Watsons have both had the car in for repairs. After some diagnostic testing Watsons submitted a quote of \$1,262.20 to repair the transmission and to do some brake work. Since August 2016 the City has spent approximately \$4,000 in repairs to the cruiser and it has been out of commission for most of that time. Williams stated the United States Rural Development offers a 40% grant to municipalities who need to purchase new vehicles. She also noted that the vehicles are bought through the State's purchasing program, which is very reasonable. To purchase a new vehicle and to have it outfitted would cost approximately \$30,000. Williams stated if they were

to purchase a new vehicle she would recommend they buy something other than a Chrysler because they have had so many problems with Chrysler cruisers in the past. The one catch with this plan is that there would be an additional cost to have an interior cage and equipment installed in it because the cages are not interchangeable between different makes of cruisers. The current cage is only designed to fit in Chrysler vehicles. A discussion was held whether to repair the old cruiser or purchase a new vehicle. Either way, the old cruiser needs to be repaired because there is no way it could be sold in its current condition. Williams stated there is money in the motor pool to purchase a new car. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Donald, to allow Watsons to make only the repairs as noted in the quote (\$1,262.20) and if they find other problems they are to contact Williams for approval before proceeding with any other repairs to the vehicle. Motion carried. Cole would like to see Chief Riley use a City vehicle instead of his own vehicle when doing City business because it would save on paying him mileage each month.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Wade Buffenbarger asked if there has been any recalls on the police cruiser that needs repairs because there would be no cost to the City in that case.

Williams stated she has not received any recall information regarding the cruiser.

Linda Holden noted several of the ornamental light poles are leaning.

Williams stated she would contact Consumers Energy to see if they will come and straighten them out.

Linda Holden noted a lot of the ornamental light poles are in need of a paint job.

Williams stated she contacted Consumers Energy about this issue last year and she was told they do not paint poles as part of their maintenance program. She did contact a professional painter to get a quote, but the quote came back way too high so she is looking into an alternate solution that is less costly.

Linda Holden asked if the DDA would be able to help out in the cost of painting the poles.

Williams stated she would look into that as a possible option.

Roy Holden asked if the angle of the parking spaces in the 100 block of South Main Street could be changed because many vehicles extend into the driving lanes making it a dangerous situation for motorists.

Williams stated she is aware of the situation and once the yellow paint wears off, they will be repainted at a different angle. A few years ago she contacted someone about grinding off the yellow stripes, but the cost was very

expensive to do that and the Commissioners decided to wait it out and then have the spaces repainted.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Duncil noted she has seen a lot of sinkholes in resident's yards as a result of the water main project.

Williams stated those will be addressed in the spring as part of the restoration project.

Donald stated the Village of Baldwin has white lights attached to their street lights and he would like to see something similar put on our streetlights because they look festive.

Donald would like the City to step up and promote the Scottville Clown Band by having something hung on the light poles in recognition of this organization.

Petipren asked if campers at Riverside Park are charged to use the showers.

Williams stated campers are not charged to use the showers, but non-campers are charged \$3.00 per shower.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Donald seconded by Petipren to adjourn. So carried at 6:28 p.m.

Bruce Krieger, Mayor

Deborah A. Howe, Clerk