

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

The 1414<sup>th</sup> Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on November 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 Connie Duncil Marcy M. Spencer
Absent	Tom Donald Sue Petipren
Mayor	Bruce Krieger

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 Spencer to approve the 1413<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Motion, by Duncil and seconded by Cole, to approve the bills in the amount of \$30,818.90. Motion carried.

**HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

Dan Reynolds, 508 Ressegue Street, is a member of a group of residents that are interested in finding a locality in Mason County that would allow a medical Marijuana facility. He asked that before the Commission makes a decision that they meet with Tom Reif from the Michigan Marijuana Law Experts who is very knowledgeable regarding the issue.

Mike Shaw, who owns the home at 107 East State Street, is opposed to having a medical Marijuana facility located in Scottville. He noted there are already laws on the book that allow citizens to grow their own plants. He believes the taxes that would be collected would be minimal compared to the problems that would surface having a facility in the area.

Frank Chapel, who is the son of Cherrie Moffett, asked for an extension to repair the damage to his mother's home. In September, the Commission passed a resolution to start the abatement process regarding a nuisance violation for 203 Crowley. Ms. Moffett was given a deadline of November 18 to make the

necessary repairs. Mr. Chapel noted the repairs to the inside of the home have been completed, but the issue of the roof has not been addressed. His mother is working with someone from USDA, but they have had a communication problem so no work has been done to the roof. Begue stated the weight of a significant snowfall could cause the roof to cave in. Mayor Krieger stated he would give them until December 20 to complete the repairs to the roof.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The monthly Rural Fire Authority Minutes were submitted for review.

## **REPORTS CITY MANAGER**

- The draft of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is available at City Hall for anyone to review. The Parks and Recreation Board will hold a Public Hearing regarding the Master Plan at their January 4 meeting and then the City Commission will hold a Public Hearing at their January 22 meeting regarding this issue.
- CHOP will be removing more trees between November 20-23 and then finish up the following week if necessary.
- Williams received a copy of the report regarding the PAVER project for the Local Streets and she is expected to receive the report for the Major Streets along with a formal report for the whole project by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- City Hall will be closed November 23 and 24 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

## **CITY ATTORNEY**

Thompson will discuss three topics later in the meeting.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

No reports were available.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The monthly financial statements were submitted for review.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance/Ordinance**

- Rental Ordinance
- Marijuana Facility

### **Infrastructure**

- Did not meet.

### **Charter**

- Did not meet.

### **Building and Grounds/Public Safety**

- Did not meet.

## Personnel

- Did not meet.

## **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Thompson stated if a local municipality wants to allow medical Marijuana facility to locate to the City the Commission needs to pass an ordinance in order for this to happen. If it is the Commission's decision to not allow such a facility to operate in the City limits, they do not have to do anything. Thompson noted that Webber Township in Lake County just completed the steps to allow these facilities to be located there. There is no deadline when working towards a decision of whether or not to allow these facilities in the City. Thompson stated there is information on the internet if the Commissioners want to further educate themselves about the issue.

Thompson stated the Commission has been aware of the condition of the house located at 203 Crowley for some time and a resolution was passed giving the homeowner until November 18 to abate the nuisance. That deadline has been passed without the homeowner making the necessary repairs. Krieger noted he had already given a one-month extension to the homeowner earlier in the meeting. Cole suggested it should be stated what is expected to be accomplished during the one-month extension so both parties are on the same page. Williams stated as the zoning officer, she is recommending that the roof and the SE corner of the home be replaced/fixed to bring it back up to code by January 4. Williams stated that the next time this issue will be brought back to the Commission would be during the January 8 meeting. At this time a decision will be made whether to move forward with the litigation process or not. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Spencer, to approve a resolution that gives the homeowner until January 4 to complete the repairs inside and outside as needed to bring it up to code. Motion carried.

Thompson stated at the last meeting a resolution was passed that appointed five residents to the Charter Commission. After that meeting Thompson learned there is more to the process to revise the Charter than what he thought there was. Thompson stated the following needs to be accomplished to move forward with the project.

- Form a nine member commission through the election process. They cannot be appointed.
- Put a proposal on a ballot asking the voters if the City should move forward and revise the outdated Charter.
- Pass a resolution to put these two items on a ballot.
- Create a budget for the Charter Commission because it is a paid position.
- The City Clerk is the Clerk for the Charter Commission. The Clerk will determine how many meetings will be held and when (date and time) and where the meetings will take place.

Thompson recommended the Charter Committee meet to discuss how to proceed with this issue. Thompson stated this will not be any easy process, but it is

necessary because the current Charter (1958) is very outdated with information. Begue stated there is an alternative solution of placing a few amended issues on the ballot for every election that is held, but that would be a very lengthy process to accomplish. Cole also stressed the importance of having the Charter updated.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Williams stated she was informed that there was a bank that would be willing to offer a lower interest rate for the money the City owes for the sewer project. Currently the money for the sewer project was financed through the County of Mason. Williams contacted the County Administrator and asked him if he would be willing to match the bank's rate. Fabian Knizacky took the issue to the County Commissioners and they agreed to comply with William's request. Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to approve the amendment to Advance Agreement with Mason County that will save the residents approximately \$378,000. Motion carried.

Williams stated currently the treasurer and clerk use Fund Balance software for accounting and utility billing. Williams stated many surrounding municipalities have switched over to new software called BS&A to use for these programs, which is more user friendly. Williams noted the auditor supports the upgrade to BS&A. Williams stated she received a quote from BS&A for the various modules that the City needs to run the office effectively. The cost of the software and to have someone come on site to train the staff and make all the necessary transfers of data is approximately \$35,545. Williams noted the clerk and treasurer's computer are old and will not be compatible with the new software so new ones are needed at a cost of \$4,545. A server is also needed in order for everything to work properly, which will be part of the new computer package. Williams stated she decided not to purchase the Accounts Receivable module at this time because it is not a good fit, but it can be added in the future if it is needed. The Finance Committee met and discussed this issue and is recommending the Commission move forward with it. This would take effect in April or May of 2018. Spencer asked if additional support is available once the setup has been completed and up and running. Williams stated yes they do offer additional support. The cost will be taken out of the fund balance. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Cole, to approve purchasing new accounting software and equipment as presented. Motion carried.

Two terms have expired for the Board of Review and those members have agreed to serve another term. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Cole, to appoint Julie Deller to a one-year term and Diana Kovalcik to a two-year term on the Board of Review. Motion carried.

### **HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

Mike Shaw encouraged the Commission not to allow a medical Marijuana facility to open up in the City.

Dan Reynolds and Blake Stankowski, 5417 North Stiles Road, encouraged the Commission to allow a medical Marijuana facility to open up in the City because users who need safe medicine need safe access to it. People

who need the Marijuana currently have to drive a long way to make their purchase and it would be more convenient if one is located in the county.

Frank Chapel suggested people read the internet for additional information on medical Marijuana.

Darlene Arlington asked that the Commission to allow a medical Marijuana facility to open up in the City.

### **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Begue suggested a committee meet with Mr. Reif to learn more about the Marijuana facility issue.

### **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Spencer and seconded by Duncil to adjourn. So carried at 6:24 p.m.

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Bruce Krieger, Mayor

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Deborah A. Howe, Clerk