

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

The 1400<sup>th</sup> Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on April 17, 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 Bruce Krieger Sue Petipren Marcy M. Spencer
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Absent	Connie Duncil
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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 1399<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Williams stated an employee and his friends removed several trees at Riverside Park because they were dead or diseased and they left behind a lot of small branches and limbs so she hired TNT to clean up the park. Jordan DeVries of the Mason County Conservation District contacted Williams with an offer for the City of Scottville to purchase any mature trees they have left over from their annual tree sale at a reduced price. Krieger noted years ago there was a memorial tree fund set up at the park and he thinks it might be a good idea to revitalize it again as a means to replace those trees that were removed.

Petipren asked about the bill for Scottville Outlet. Williams stated the DPW purchases items from them.

Petipren asked about the bill for Karl Reeds/North Country Café.

Williams stated Reeds was awarded a mini grant through the DDA for improvements to the exterior of his building.

Krieger asked if the City pays for cable TV at Riverside Park when it is closed for the season.

Williams stated they pay a reduced rate from November – April.

Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Cole, to approve the bills in the amount of \$35,235.76. Motion carried.

### **HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

Krieger noted a change that would take place beginning with that nights meeting. Citizens who wish to speak will stand up and state their name and address. The Commission will take note of their comments and questions and they may respond to them later in the meeting under Commissioner's Reports and Comments or at a future meeting if the information is not readily available.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Spencer, to close the Regular Commission Meeting to open the Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing the budget and millage rates. Motion carried.

Williams summarized the budget as follows:

#### **General Fund**

- The big project this year will be improvements to the exterior of City Hall. Williams will consider applying for an Act 99 loan for financing of the project.
- A slight increase of revenues over expenditures is expected.

#### **Major Streets**

- PAVER program was approved and the analyzing of the streets is expected to be done this month.
- \$15,726 was budgeted for Major Streets and \$10,398 was budgeted for Local Streets.
- DDA** and **Refuse Fund** were budgeted for a slight increase in revenues over expenditures.

#### **Sewer Fund**

- There are no major projects planned for the year.

#### **Water Fund**

- There is a large decrease in expenditures due to the water main replacement project.

### **Motor Pool**

- Will buy a snow pusher, which will allow the employees to clear snow along the curb line of the business district.
- Will make repairs to the under body of the dump truck that hauls the salt because the salt has worn away the box.
- Williams is planning on keeping the mileage rates the same, which is 16.7 mills for City operating and 2.6 mills for refuse.

Williams stated the budget has been advertised and is available at the front desk for anyone wanting to review it.

Petipren noted Williams mentioned at a previous meeting that Ludington would be increasing their sewer rates and asked if that was taken into consideration when preparing the budget.

Williams stated she did take that into consideration, but she is not recommending Scottville increase their rates until a sewer rate study is completed.

Under expenditures for Major Street funds, Begue asked Williams to explain the difference between 463 & 477. Williams stated 463 applies to all Major Streets except US 10 and 477 is US 10/State Street. The State reimburses the City for maintaining US 10.

Begue asked if the DDA has considered resurfacing the west parking lot.

Williams stated that is one of the projects they are looking at doing, hopefully within in the next year.

No public comments were received.

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to close the Public Hearing and re-convene the Regular Commission Meeting. Motion carried.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **REPORTS CITY MANAGER**

- Williams is still waiting to hear from B & L Excavating about videotaping all the sewer lines in the areas where the new water mains were installed to see if there are any other sewer lines that have damage to

them when the directional drilling was done last year. Williams stated they have not responded to her e-mails so she contacted the engineers of the project and asked them to see if they can get a response.

- Sue DeVries of the MEDC will be at the Scottville Senior Center at 1:00 p.m. to talk about some programs the State has to offer businesses.
- The painting of the water tower has been completed and once it is dry the tower can be put back into operation.

Begue asked about the timeline for the restoration project for the yards that were torn up as a result of the water main replacement project.

Williams stated she has not heard about a start date, but would contact the engineer to find out that information.

### **CITY ATTORNEY**

- Working on projects for Williams.
- Researching information regarding the rental ordinance.
- Gathering information about abandoning alleys.
- Spent time with Williams and the Ordinance Committee looking at blight issues in the City.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Riley stated the officers continue to contact residents about blight issues.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Shafer-Headworth stated the monthly financial reports were submitted for review. She noted the customers appreciate the new credit card machine.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Finance Committee**

- New pickup truck for DPW
- Repairs to the exterior of City Hall
- Budget
- Parks & Recreation Master Plan

#### **Ordinance Committee**

- Blighted homes
- Blighted yards
- Lawn maintenance

### **Infrastructure Committee**

- Will not make changes to the current procedures regarding grinder pumps that malfunction.

### **Charter Committee**

- Have reviewed 15 chapters of the Charter and have some revisions that they will present to the Commission for approval.

### **Building & Grounds/Public Safety**

- Recommend the Orton and Durfee families meet with a mediator to resolve their conflict.
- Discussed abandoning certain alleys.
- Recommend that Thompson work with Jeff Barnett on Railroad Alley as it pertains to his building.

### **Personnel**

- Have reviewed the outdated manual and have several changes that need to be made.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Because there is already an active Parks and Recreation Board it was decided to disband this committee. Williams noted meetings will be held to discuss the future of McPhail Field.

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

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Williams stated 130 trees were removed from Riverside Park because they were dead or deceased. The trees were removed by an employee and his friends. The employee was paid by the City, but his friends were compensated for their time by keeping all the wood. This saved the City a lot of money because they did not have to pay a professional to remove the trees. There were 92 stumps that were left to be grinded down and two stump grinding businesses were contacted for bids. One was from Larson Excavating in the amount of \$5,704.00 and the second was from Affordable Stump Grinding in the amount of \$3,195.00. Neither bid included filling in the holes with black dirt. It was the recommendation of Begue and Williams to award the bid to Affordable Stump Grinding. Motion, by Donald and seconded by Spencer, to award the bid as presented. Motion carried.

Williams stated an item the Finance Committee has been discussing is to reduce the Commissioner's wages from \$50.00 per

meeting to \$25.00 per meeting. The Elected Officials Compensation Commission are the only ones who can raise or lower the wages. Five members make up the commission and they have to be registered voters of the City. They can only meet during the odd years and no more than 15 times. The last time the commission met was 2007 and all the terms have expired. Williams stated she contacted some residents who have been involved with the City in the past and the following five residents have agreed to serve on the board: Rob Alway, Ed Malkowski, Dave Johnson, Bruce Smith and Bob Spangler. Williams noted the City Commission could reject their recommendation by a 2/3 majority vote. Motion, by Cole and seconded by Spencer, to approve the appointments as presented. Motion carried.

Williams stated the ducks that are used for the Rubber Ducky Race are very old and over the years so many have been lost, that there no longer are 1000 ducks to use. After a lot of searching the internet for a company that sells the kind the City uses only one company was found and they are from the United Kingdom. Williams stated the cost to purchase 1,200 ducks is \$3,984.00, which is close to one year's revenue from the race. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Spencer, to approve the purchase of the rubber ducks. Motion carried.

#### **HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

None.

#### **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None.

#### **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Cole and seconded by Donald to adjourn. So carried at 6:15 p.m.

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Bruce Krieger, Mayor

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Deborah A. Howe, Clerk

