

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

The 1421<sup>st</sup> Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on March 5, 2018 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Krieger.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

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| Commissioners | Leon Begue<br>Sally Cole<br>Connie Duncil<br>Ann Genson<br>Sue Petipren<br>Marcy M. Spencer |
| Mayor         | Bruce Krieger   |

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion, by Genson and seconded by Spencer, to approve the 1420<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Cole, to approve the bills in the amount of \$46,239.60. Motion carried.

**HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

Kevin Marcoux owns a home located at 314 North Reinberg. He is frustrated with the way the City estimates water bills and claims he has been billed for water usage that he has not used. He also was upset with the length of time it takes for the water bills to be mailed to him, which caused him to receive a shut off notice.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Williams stated she submitted information from the State of Michigan for a scheduled meeting of the Public Service Commission regarding United Way's 2-1-1 program.

## **REPORTS CITY MANAGER**

- Today was Eric Buter's first day working for the City of Scottville. Eric is a native of Scottville and will be working for the DPW.
- Williams sent the Master Plan to the surrounding townships and to the County Planning Commission. Williams will present any comments she receives from them at a Commission meeting that will be scheduled after May 27.
- Williams stated as part of the maintenance agreement with MDOT the City is required to clean out the catch basins along US 10. The City's portion of the cost to do this is approximately \$2,560.
- Representative VanderWall will be holding his coffee hour at City Hall on Friday, March 16 from 8-9 a.m. Williams noted these gatherings have been well attended in the past.
- Williams met with members of the Mason County Mutts organization on Friday and learned there are cheaper options to choose from regarding containers that can dispose animal waste products so they will be able to purchase five with baskets and five that will be wall mounted onto select buildings. Mason County Mutts is currently having a contest to design a sticker that will be used exclusively for the Scottville businesses to put in their windows if they choose to become a dog friendly building.
- BSA employees will be in house beginning the following week and the week after that to begin the process of installing new software and to train staff.
- The Board of Review is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 12 from 11:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. and Monday, March 26 from 1:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

## **CITY ATTORNEY**

- Been to court for traffic violations
- Charter revisions
- Property Maintenance code

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Riley state his department has been very busy especially with issues dealing with the schools.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

No reports were available.

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

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Williams stated the issue of the downtown parking has been the topic of discussion during Commission meetings over the past several years and she

would like to see a final decision made so they can put the issue to rest. She noted in the Master Plan survey that was sent to all residents of the City last year they were asked for their input. The results of the five choices provided were very close and it is not possible to determine an all around favorite. Mayor Krieger and some Commissioners are against parallel parking and they are in favor of changing the angle back to the way it was. Begue would like to know what the degree of the old angle would be because unless it is a lot different than the current angle he is not in favor of changing it. Williams stated she did not have that answer and she recommends unless it is an angle that would accommodate the longest kind of vehicle on the road today without it sticking into the driving lane, she is not in favor of it because of the cost to remove and replace the stripes. The Commissioners would like to see the West and East parking lots utilized more than they are now. All the Commissioners agreed that no matter what decision is made there will still be complaints and unhappy citizens. Williams would do some research and try to report back to the Commission at the next meeting if she is able to get the information she needs.

Williams stated there was money left over from the water main project that she wanted to use to pave East Second Street and the driveway at the water tower. When the bidding process took place last fall, they were too high to accept, so the engineers rebid the work this year and awarded the low bid to Elmers at a cost of \$45,115.80 for Second Street and \$11,100 for the driveway at the water tower. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Duncil, to award the bid for USDA water contract on additional paving work. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Marilyn Cary, who owns the property located at 115 West State Street, was upset about the City's procedure on estimated water bills. She also was frustrated with the rudeness and lack of cooperation from City staff when claiming she sought their help several times after her attempts to resolve the issue of her high water usage failed. She noted she did not realize the water bills had been estimated the last few months and if she had known that it would have saved her a lot of stress and money. Williams noted they do not like to estimate bills, but at times it is necessary and she proceeded to explain the reason the bills were estimated the last three months. Williams stated approximately 1/3 of the meters are pit numbers that have to be located and dug out of the snow and that causes the bills to be estimated during the winter if there is too much snow. One solution to that problem would be to purchase and install radio read meters that can be read by anyone sitting in a vehicle, but that comes with a hefty price of approximately \$40,000. The rest of the meters that are attached to the buildings could be read as the normally are. To replace every meter would cost approximately \$145,500. Williams explained that radio read meters have features that could be beneficial for customers. Another solution to prevent estimates from occurring during the winter would be to go back to quarterly reading, but that would result in water bills being three times as much as they are now and that would make it difficult for most residents to pay. No decision was made at this time. This is an issue that will require more research and discussion for future meetings.

Williams stated water bills and shut off notices are always processed and mailed out in a timely matter and she encouraged those residents who might not receive their water bill to contact City Hall and one of the employees would let them know how much their bill was. Williams also stated they are going to look into the possibility of offering the customers the option of having their bill e-mailed to them instead of mailed to them.

Phyllis Tobin stated when she did not get a water bill the previous month her husband asked about the amount from City staff so they could pay it.

Motion, by Begue and seconded, by Spencer to approve the resolution to add East Fifth Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Genson, to approve the resolution to add River Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Cole and seconded by Duncil, to approve the resolution to add Blaine Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Begue, to approve the resolution to add Nelson Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Genson and seconded by Duncil, to approve the resolution to add Mack Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Cole and seconded by Spencer, to approve the resolution to add North Crowley Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Cole, to approve the resolution to add West Greene Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Cole and seconded by Petipren, to approve the resolution to add Commerce Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

Motion, by Begue and seconded by Spencer, to approve the resolution for decertification of a portion of Loomis Street north of Beryl Street to the Scottville Street System Map. Motion carried.

### **HEARING OF THE CITIZENS**

Phyllis Tobin noted when traffic is North bound on Main Street and the motorist attempts to turn East onto State Street it is hard to make the turn if someone is parked in the first parking space.

Representative VanderWall announced the State would be disbursing approximately \$360,000 to Mason County municipalities to be used for improvements to their roads and streets. Williams stated Scottville would be receiving around \$11,000. VanderWall noted he would be running for State Senate this year.

## **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Petipren asked if the length of the time the stop light is green could be increased when traveling north and south on Main Street.

Williams noted it is MDOT who regulates the timing of the stop lights and she would contact them and see if it can be changed.

Mayor Krieger stated now that spring is just around the corner, he is encouraging residents to clean up their yards and fix up their homes. The City has an active blight program that has proved to be successful in the past and he would like to have it keep moving forward.

## **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Spencer and seconded by Genson to adjourn. So carried at 6:37 p.m.

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Bruce Krieger, Mayor

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Deborah A. Howe, Clerk