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

The 1441st Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on January 7, 2019 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Krieger.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

Commissioners
Rob Alway
Sally Cole
Connie Duncil
Sue Petipren
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 Alway and seconded by Spencer, to approve the 1440th Regular Meeting Minutes.

● page 5119, third paragraph, Alway stated people should call the police department because that is what our police department is supposed to do.

Motion carried as corrected.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Motion, by Cole and seconded by Duncil, to approve the bills in the amount of $27,768.19. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Williams received correspondence from Charter Communications regarding their franchise agreement that will expire in October 2021 and it is their intention to renew the agreement when it comes due. The City receives approximately $7,000 a year from franchise fees.
The monthly Mason County Rural Fire Authority Minutes were submitted for review.

REPORTS
CITY MANAGER

It was discovered the storm catch basins were tied into the sanitary sewer on South Main Street during a project approximately 15 years ago and because of the length of time that has lapsed it would be legally difficult for the City to go back on the contractor and/or the engineer. Williams stated regardless of this setback the issue will be fixed at the City’s cost.

Williams has had no further contact from the attorney representing Dave and Judy Smedley regarding the zoning violation notice they received.

The City received grant money from Great Lakes Energy as part of their People’s Fund Program and the money was used to purchase two AED’s. One AED will remain at City Hall and the other one will be placed in a police cruiser.

The new Tasers were ordered and have been delivered. Once Williams receives the invoice, she will send it to the City’s insurance company, MMRMA, for reimbursement.

A large shipment of the City’s refuse bags is expected to arrive the following day. The cost of the bags is approximately $6,400 and they are ordered about once a year.

Williams has submitted the necessary paperwork to receive reimbursement from the USDA for grant funds. The out of pocket cost for the City is approximately $16,000.

CITY ATTORNEY

Thompson has been doing follow up on some blight issues. Later during the meeting, he will be asking for the Commissioner’s support to continue working for the City for another year.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The annual and monthly police reports were submitted for review.
TREASURER’S REPORT

No reports were available.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

New Business # 2 – Letter of Resignation

OLD BUSINESS

Although no contract is required between the City and its attorney Thompson has sought the Commission’s approval once a year to work for them. In the letter Thompson submitted he proposes to keep the retainer fee and rates the same for the next year. Thompson has been the City’s attorney since 1996. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Cole, to accept Attorney Thompson’s engagement letter and retain him as the City’s attorney for another year. Motion carried. Cole thanked Thompson for his years of service.

One of the members of the DDA Board has to be the Mayor or his designee. Cole had filled that spot, but has since stepped down. Alway has agreed to represent the City by replacing Cole. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Duncil, to appoint Rob Alway to the DDA Board. Motion carried.

The Ordinance Committee recommended that the Commission adopt an ordinance that would not allow recreational Marihuana businesses to operate within the City limits. Thompson prepared such an ordinance that also addresses the prohibition on sale and consumption of Marihuana in public places. Thompson will be attending a Planning Commission the following month to help guide them with zoning regarding this issue. Thompson stated in the future if the Commission changes their minds and they decide they want to reverse their decision, that would be possible to do. Petipren feels the Commission has an obligation to honor the wishes of the residents (November General Election) and they are failing to do so. Motion, by Krieger and seconded by Cole, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2019-01 to add new Chapter 116 Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments.

Roll Call Vote.
Cole-Yes
Alway-Yes
Duncil-Yes
Krieger-Yes
Petipren-No
Spencer-Yes
Motion carried.

The Public Hearing will be held on February 18.

NEW BUSINESS

Three bids were submitted for the demolition of the home located at 203 Crowley Street. The low bid was from After Hours Excavating of Scottville in the amount of $7,250.00. The owner has provided all the necessary insurance certificates. The cost to have the home demolished will be placed on the property’s summer tax roll. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Alway, to award the demolition bid to After Hours Excavating as presented. Motion carried.

Williams stated she submitted a letter of resignation from Commissioner Begue, due to health issues. Residents living in Ward 1 who are interested in filling the position should submit a letter of interest to the City Manager within 30 days from this date. The Commission will appoint someone for the vacancy at their January 21 or February 4 meeting. Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Cole, to accept Begue’s letter of resignation. Motion carried. Cole appreciates everything Begue has done for the City.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Jim Gallie, Amber Township, asked if the procedure to opt back in regarding recreation Marihuana facilities is the same as opting out and he was told it was.

Gallie has heard rumors that a recreational Marihuana facility was opening up in the Balwin area.

Linda Holden wanted further clarification between opting out of medical and recreation Marihuana facilities. A municipality does not have to do anything legally if it does not want medical Marihuana facilities to operate within their jurisdiction, but an ordinance has to be in place if a municipality does not want recreational Marihuana facilities to operate within their jurisdiction.

Roy Holden asked how many Commissioners would support having a medical Marihuana facility in Scottville.

Krieger could not answer the question because he did not know who would support it or not.
Spencer stated she does not want to make a decision until she knows more from the State level.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Krieger asked if the sidewalks in the business district are supposed to be cleared. Williams stated last November she sent a reminder to all business owners about the ordinance.

Duncil asked about the status of the dog issue. Williams stated the owners of the dogs were issued a citation for owning too many dogs and they are in the process of finding homes for two of their dogs.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Spencer and seconded by Alway to adjourn. So carried at 6:12 p.m.

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Bruce Krieger, Mayor        Deborah A. Howe, Clerk