

**ONTONAGON VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017
AT 315 QUARTZ STREET, ONTONAGON**

PRESENT: President Waldrop Trustee: E. Marks, J. Hamm, B. Seid, T. Smydra, M. Mogan, D. Chastan and J. Erickson, Village Manager

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

At 6:00 pm the meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Waldrop.

APPROVE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Seid, second by Hamm, (CARRIED) to approve the Agenda.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

Tom Hamilton expressed his concerns about doing the survey at Rose Island. He said he talked to Joe Domitrovich about what property the Village owns and their legal descriptions. He believes that the railroad lease says it goes back to the previous owners. Mr. Hamilton stated that Norman Radke has information on 2 of these lots.

Sue Lockhart asked if she can talk on New Business items. President Waldrop responded she could as long as it is concerned about the subject.

Bruce Johanson discussed the old elementary school building that is up for delinquent taxes. He said there are grant funds available through the Federal Government and National Registry if we don't change the historical nature of the building.

Items of the floor were closed at 6:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT MINUTES OF:

A motion was made by Marks, second by Seid, and (CARRIED) to approve the minutes of the Village Council meeting of April 10, 2017; Marina Commission of April 11, 2017; and the Village Housing Commission of March 13, 2017.

REPORT FROM VILLAGE MANAGER – JOSEPH ERICKSON:

1. Lansing - Transportation Bills are moving thru the House and Senate in Lansing. The Senate bill (SB 148) includes \$3.1 million to assist Villages with populations under 2000 with 75% grants up to \$250,000 for street resurfacing projects. The House bill doesn't include this, so we will see if it survives.
2. Revenue Sharing – the SaveMIcity website has information about the loss of revenue sharing for local governments in Michigan. Attached is the information about the Village. The Village has lost a total of \$633,725 since 2003, when the State began off setting increases in Constitutional revenue sharing with reduction in the Statutory. Our annual revenue sharing is about \$40,000 less than it was 10 years ago.
3. Regional GIS – WUPPDR thru the Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI) is exploring the possibility of establishing a GIS (Geographic Information System) for the western UP. The system would incorporate data from various sources to provide mapped information. For example, street and right-of-way data from the State, parcel maps and info from the County and, water and sewer system mapping from the Village can be combined into one map. WUPPDR would work closely with MTU's Spatial Research Facility (GIS Dept.) to access resources to help maintain the system. The Village and other communities are getting GIS equipment thru the SAW grant and having WUPPDR and MTU help keep the information up to date will be a great help to everyone.
4. UPEDA Meeting – On Friday is the next Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance meeting in Houghton. The attached e-mail has more information. Topics include the RPI project, UP Cellular and Broadband access, and presentations from business leaders about legislation that would help Michigan's economy. RSVP by Friday.
5. Village Sign – The remains of the wind damaged sign on Greenland Road will be replaced with a new sign soon. The top portion of the old sign is still in good condition, and I have talked to Bob Burroughs at Peninsula Graphics about installing it in another location. I believe an ideal spot to install it would be on Rockland Road, either on the property owned by Tom Hawley or in place of the berm at the end of Old Rockland Road. A new section of sign could be added along the bottom saying "Downtown – Straight Thru on US 45" If I can get some poles donated, I think this could be done for less than \$1000.
6. Tree Trimming – In light of the potential Lakeshore Lease, there may be a great deal of tree trimming and removal required to make that area safe, along with removal of some trees to install the Houghton Street path this work will be more than our crew can handle. The Village may also want to take a look at the stand of tree between the old

Pamida and the Water tower, and/or other area where there may be some value to make it worthwhile for some to do all the work for us.

Meetings Attended – Marina 4/11, RPI 4/18, Planning Comm, (No Quorum) 4/19, Rec Comm. 4/19.

A motion was made by Hamm, second by Chastan, (CARRIED) to accept and place on file the Manager’s report.

BUSINESS:

A. APPOINTMENT TO THE RECREATION COMMISSION

A motion was made by Smydra, second by Hamm, (CARRIED) to appoint James Michel to the Recreation Commission.

B. APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

A motion was made by Hamm, second by Smydra, (CARRIED) to appoint Darla Hane to the Planning Commission.

C. APPOINTMENT TO THE VILLAGE HOUSING COMMISSION

A motion was made by Chastan to appoint Joe Erickson to the Village Housing Commission board. Sue Lockhart pointed out that she contacted H.U.D. and she feels it would constitute a conflict of interest due to chief administrator. The motion was tabled at this time until the Village attorney can review the matter and discuss it with H.U.D.

D. MDOT PROPERTY PURCHASE

MDOT sent an email stating their policy that the purchaser is responsible for the cost of the appraisal of the Marina property. The cost is \$2,250.00. Once the appraisal is complete and the value established, the property transfer agreement will be prepared.

A motion was made by Marks, second by Hamm, (CARRIED) to support the MDOT purchase policy for appraisal of the Marina property at the cost of \$2,250.00.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: All present at the meeting

Nays: None

ABSENT: None

E. RIVER STREET GARAGE ROOF BID

One bid was received from Markell Company of Iron Mountain. The bid is for \$58,893 to replace the roof with a pitch metal roof system. An alternate bid of \$28,668 is to replace the existing rubber roof.

Councilman Smydra stated the building committee reviews the project and made the recommendation for a pitched metal roof system.

A motion was made by Mogan, second by Seid, (CARRIED) to approve the bid from Markell Company of Iron Mountain to replace the River Street Garage Roof with a pitched metal roof system for the amount of \$58,893.00, pending review by the engineer and contingent upon receipt of the bond.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: All present at the meeting

Nays: None

ABSENT: None

F. 2017 TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTIES

There are 6 tax delinquent properties in the Village that will be going on Tax Sale. The properties are: 507 S 4th Street; 110 E. River Street; 401 Michigan Ave.; 715 River Street; 301 Greenland Road (old school property) and a portion of the frog pond behind Cane Court adjacent to the Village property.

A motion was made by Smydra, second by Seid, (CARRIED) to recommend to the Community Development Committee to determine if any of the properties should be acquired by the Village. The Committee will meet on Wednesday April 26, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. and will also review the removal of trees for the Lakeshore System lease property.

G. LAKESHORE SYSTEMS PROPERTY LEASE

The lease between Lakeshore Systems Inc. and the Village of Ontonagon will consist of two

properties, one inside the fence and the other outside the fence off the end of Lake Street. The lease includes allowing public use along the beach all the way to the pier and the right to clear, cut and sell any wood on the property. The Recreation Commission has voted to support the lease and will incorporate this into the new Recreation Plan. After some discussion about options and the right to purchase, the matter was tabled at this time until our Village attorney, Ted Baird can review the contract.

H. MARINA DOCK PURCHASE

The Marina Commission has the opportunity to purchase a floating dock system from the Marina contractor that will be doing the dredging project this year. The docks consist of a floating main dock with 6 finger piers. This would provide for 12 additional slips to rent. The Marina Commission is requesting assistance from the Village Council to purchase the dock system. The Marina needs about \$20,000 to purchase, deliver and install the docks. The Commission expects a 3 year pay back on this purchase. The Marina Commission is seeking a loan of appropriate Village funds to purchase the dock system, with a pay back of these funds within 3 to 4 years. Councilman Marks pointed out these docks will also be handicap accessible. Tom Hamilton was in favor of the docks and feels they will be an access to our money return to the Marina Commission. Norman Pestka informed the council he has trucks that come from that area and he will work with the Manager to help with the transportation of the docks. Mr. Pestka also stated he will absorb the cost to ensure that two of the piers are wheelchair accessible.

A motion was made by Smydra, second by Mogan, (CARRIED) to authorize the purchase of a floating dock system and to approve the assistance from the Village funds for \$20,000 with a 3 to 4 year pay back of these funds.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: All present at the meeting

Nays: None

ABSENT: None

I. OFFICE LIGHTS PROPOSAL

Northland Electric quoted a price of \$135 per fixture to replace the lights in the Village Office. 17 new LED fixtures would be installed at the price of \$2,295 plus labor. \$5,000 is available in

building additions and improvement funds in the budget. Councilman Smydra said the Building Committee has reviewed and approve of the project.

A motion was made by Seid, second by Hamm, (CARRIED) to authorize the office lights project to Northland Electric for \$2,295 plus labor to replace 17 LED fixtures.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: All present at the meeting

Nays: None

ABSENT: None

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS: None

ADJOURN:

At 6:56 p.m. a motion was made by Seid, second by Chastan, (CARRIED) to adjourn the meeting.

Marcia Aho-Black - Village Clerk

Date approved