

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
Mayor Abbott February 17, 2015

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CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Abbott called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Abbott asked to open the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL – Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call. Roll call revealed the following trustees present: Butler, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING – Administrator J. Wynsma presented the following discussion items:

A. Consideration of Renewal of Lobbyist Services Agreement:

Administrator Wynsma introduced the topic of the renewal of the lobbyist agreement. He explained that the board needs to decide whether or not to renew such agreement. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits of the previous agreement, and the possibility for future benefits. Mayor Abbott expressed his feelings that the benefits far outweighed the expense, and noted the lobbyists' key role in the recent TIF Extension.

B. MWRD Presentation – Benefits of the Thornton Reservoir:

Mariyana Spyropoulos, President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District presented an overview of the Thornton transitional reservoir in the West and North Lobes of the Thornton Quarry. Ms. Spyropoulos briefly explained the MWRD treats wastewater and manages storm water. The current project will increase the capacity of storage and therefore, will reduce flooding within Lansing and 13 surrounding communities. Once in service, it will provide 4.8 billion gallons of storage for combined sewage and provide \$40 million per year in benefits to 556,000 people in 13 communities.

C. Trustees Retaining a Separate Attorney or Legal Consultant:

Trustee DeLaurentis read a statement and explained his desire to retain a separate attorney for the trustee's. Trustee Stole agreed with the request referring to instances when the executive and legislative branches of the board disagree. Trustee Butler disclosed the costs of retaining the suggested attorney.

Mayor Abbott shared his disagreement and disappointment with the proposed suggestion of a separate attorney, stating that it would be a waste of taxpayer money. Trustee Kapteyn expressed his opposition and asked if this attorney would be frequently called

upon. Trustee Stole indicated that the intent was primarily to get answers to a list of questions that they had.

Trustee DeLaurentis requested the matter be included on the agenda for a vote at the March 3rd board meeting. The board agreed.

Attorney Stuart Diamond of Ancel, Gunk, Diamond, Bush, Dicanni & Krafthefer introduced himself and reassured the board that his role would not interfere with the responsibilities of the village attorney.

ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to adjourn to the regular monthly Board Meeting.

Trustee Stole so moved.
Trustee Kapteyn seconded.

ROLL CALL ON MOTION

Yeas – 6- Trustees: Stole, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis
Nays - 0

ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to adjourn to the regular monthly Board Meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Kooyenga
Lansing Village Clerk