

**VILLAGE OF LANSING  
JOURNAL AND REGULAR PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON MARCH 3, 2015**

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Abbott called the meeting to order at 8:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Butler, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Abbott introduced Bill Lyons of First Christian Church who offered a prayer.

PRESENTATION OF  
MINUTES

Mayor Abbott requested any corrections or additions to the minutes of the February 17, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee DeLaurentis commented that the lobbyist agreement vote had been omitted from the agenda. Mayor Abbott explained the lobbyist was scheduled to speak at this evening's meeting, however due to an obligation in Springfield, it was necessary to reschedule him for the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee Stole so moved.  
Trustee Kapteyn seconded.

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 6 -Trustees:  
Nays - 0 - Trustees:  
**Minutes Accepted**

Stole, Kapteyn, Butler, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis.

Mayor Abbott asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the February 17, 2015 Regular Board meeting

Trustee Butler asked for a correction to the minutes.

Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to approve the amended minutes of the February 17, 2015 Regular Board Meeting..

Trustee Stole so moved.  
Trustee Kapteyn seconded.

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 6 -Trustees:  
Nays - 0 - Trustees:  
**Minutes Accepted**

Stole, Kapteyn, Butler, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis.

ADMINISTRATOR'S  
REPORT

Village Administrator, J. Wynsma read the Proclamation issued by Mayor Abbott, proclaiming April 8, 2015 as Lansing Fallen Heroes Memorial Day. A heartfelt applause was given to honor Police Officer Kenneth Novak, Jr. and U.S. Marine LCPL Philip J. Martini and *all* fallen heroes and their families. In addition, the village had the privilege of thanking Mrs. Martini for her sacrifice and was presented a copy of the Proclamation.

Administrator Wynsma commented on the recent Governor's budget address and the monumental task the Governor has of working with the Legislature to solve the State's financial crisis.

Mr. Wynsma continued by explaining many proposals being considered by the Governor, however, one of major concern is the reduction of LGDF (Local Government Distribution Fund). If adopted, the reduction of funds will seriously affect the Village Of Lansing's finances. Mr. Wynsma asked the Board of Trustee's interest in having a resolution drafted asking the governor to reconsider using LGDF to help reduce the State's financial crisis.

Due to the timeliness of the situation, Administrator Wynsma asked if the board is in agreement of drafting a resolution, as it would be necessary to have it prepared for the next board meeting. Trustees discussed the importance of the situation and negative consequences to the village if the funding reduction is approved. Mayor Abbott explained that surrounding communities are joining together to defeat the proposed solution which if adopted, would reduce local governments revenue by 50%. The board agreed to move forward with preparation of such a resolution.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Lansing Village Attorney, Mr. Tim Lapp, introduced Ordinance 15-010, an *Ordinance of the Village of Lansing, Cook County, Illinois Instituting A Map and Text Amendment to Remove the Airport Technical Overlay District and Instituting A Text Amendment to Add Airport Vicinity Requirements for Construction*. This ordinance lifts the Airport Zoning Overlay and agrees to have language added to the zoning code regarding requirements for property in the vicinity of the airport.

Trustee Stole so moved.  
Trustee Skrbina seconded.

Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call:

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 6 – Trustees

Nays - 0 - Trustees:

**Ordinance 15-010 Approved**

Stole, Skrbina, Butler, Kapteyn, Manno, and DeLaurentis

Lansing Village Attorney, Mr. Tim Lapp, introduced Resolution 914, *A Resolution of the Village of Lansing, Cook County, Illinois, and Building Department to Authorize a Building Permit Fee Holiday*. This resolution authorizes a permit fee holiday from May 18 to July 10, 2015.

Trustee Skrbina so moved.

Trustee Kapteyn seconded.

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 6 -Trustees:

Nays –0 - Trustees:

**Resolution 914 Adopted**

Skrbina, Kapteyn, Butler, Stole, Manno and DeLaurentis

Lansing Village Attorney, Mr. Tim Lapp, introduced Ordinance 15-013 an *Ordinance of the Village of Lansing, Cook County, Illinois, Amending the Village of Lansing Code of Ordinances to Authorize the Trustees to Retain Independent Legislative Counsel and to Retain Counsel*. This ordinance authorizes the Trustees to retain a separate attorney or legal consultant.

Attorney Lapp indicated that Section 5 of Ordinance 15-013 contains an urgency clause. Attorney Lapp added that the Board is obviously aware that an urgency clause calls for a vote of the *corporate authority*, which is a full board vote. He further explained that in order to pass the ordinance, the clause requires a corporate authority vote, (2/3rds majority), which is 5 of the 7 votes.

Trustee DeLaurentis read Section 5 of the proposed Ordinance 15-013, and commented that section 5 is the only section of the ordinance being changed.

Trustee DeLaurentis so moved.

Trustee Manno seconded.

Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call:

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 4 -Trustees:

Nays - 2 -Trustees:

Nays - 1 –President

**Ordinance 15-013 Not Passed**

DeLaurentis, Manno, Butler and Stole.

Kapteyn, Skrbina, Abbott

Mayor Abbott:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Trustee Butler made a motion to approve the following:

Payroll for the period ending January 14, 2015 in the amount of \$472,264.46.  
General Prepaid Bills for February 19, 2015, in the amount of \$256,246.20.  
General Prepaid Bills for February 26, 2015, in the amount of \$68,581.52.  
General Bills for March 3, 2015, in the amount of \$677,716.67.

Trustee DeLaurentis seconded.

Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call:

ROLL CALL

Yeas - 6 - Trustees:

Nays - 0 - Trustees:

**Motion passed**

Butler, DeLaurentis, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina, Manno

INSURANCE

No report provided.

Discussion ensued between Trustee Butler, DeLaurentis and Stole regarding Ordinance 15-013, the verbiage, the striking of section 5 and the request to have a vote on Ordinance 15-013 included on the agenda for the following board meeting.

Mayor Abbott agreed.

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PUBLIC WORKS

Trustee Kapteyn provided a brief comment that Public Works is status quo and busy performing their usual tasks of plowing, salting, repairing water leaks and various winter projects.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Trustee Skrbina informed the audience that the fire department responded to 245 total calls in February. Of these calls, 186 were ambulance calls. Trustee Skrbina continued by announcing the antique fire truck has been returned to the fire station after being worked on at Thornton Fractional vocational center for the past 2 years.

In addition, Trustee Skrbina thanked Jorge Navarrete for his assistance as an instructor and Trustee Kapteyn for providing numerous towing service trips.

Trustee Skrbina announced the police department is partnering with Action Target to become involved in the Brass Trade-in program. The program allows for the recycling of brass which was previously disposed of through traditional measures but will now provide a credit to the police department.

Chief Murrin and Fire Lt. Joe Lash attended the South Suburban Cook County EMS Advisory meeting on February 3, 2015. Information regarding EMS policies and procedures were discussed.

The Lansing Police Department had 17 participants in the 2015 Citizen Police Academy that began on February 23, 2015. In addition, a number of police department personnel and a cadet participated in reading bedtime stories to the kindergarten children of Oak Glen School on February 25, 2015.

#### YOUTH CENTER & LNN

Trustee Manno reported that once again it was a very busy month at the Youth Center. Three of the Builders Club members and Director Jenna volunteered at the concession stand at the Round Ball Classic. In addition, the youths experimented with a Japanese Candy Popin' Cookin' project, conducted Sibs day, hosted an Anti-Valentine's Day party and continued to have great attendance at their events. The Youth Center continues to host the AARP tax program which has already completed over 120 tax returns in the 3 weeks it has been open.

#### AVIATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No report provided.

#### BUILDINGS & ADA

Trustee DeLaurentis announced the Building Department issued 145 Permits and conducted 133 Inspections during February. He continued announcing that Carmine Vision submitted plans and received a permit for expansion, final inspections were complete at the new Super Walmart, tat plans are being reviewed for a 10,000 square foot retail space at The Lansing Square, the Bock Park pool demolition is scheduled to begin and plans have been received for the new Popeye's restaurant which will be located at the southwest corner of Torrence and 176<sup>th</sup> Place.

Trustee DeLaurentis affirmed the FOP contract has been executed and signed by both parties. He also asked if a determination regarding the residency clause had been decided upon. Trustee DeLaurentis was informed that the Mayor's decision had not been reached.

Trustee DeLaurentis commented that the village board has full authority to terminate the Administrator's contract and to abolish the office of Administrator beginning May 1.

Trustee Butler requested information from Attorney Lapp regarding the definition of the term *corporate authority*.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Piekarski, 18310 Country Lane, Lansing, Illinois, expressed his concerns regarding the Stoney Island Flood Mitigation project. He stated that he is awaiting responses to the following questions: where the water will be going, the effect of the discharge on the septic field of the Lansing Motel and the long range effect on Mr. Polmen's lake. After conversation with a contractor, Mr. Piekarski's opinion is that the ditch issue can be remediated by a much less costly procedure.

Trustee DeLaurentis questioned the determination regarding Mr. Piekarski's request to vacate the alley. He continued explaining that customarily Lansing business owners have been allowed to vacate an alley for business expansion. Mayor Abbott agreed that Mr. Piekarski's desire for vacating the alley needs to be further discussed.

James Polmen, 1616 Thornton-Lansing Road, Lansing, Illinois shared his disagreement of Resolution 906 and read a portion of the resolution indicating the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District is owner of the property north of 1650 Thornton-Lansing Road. Mr. Polmen stated he pays taxes on that property and will not allow access to his property.

Mary Beth Palka, 2030 Hearth Circle, Lansing, Illinois shared her thoughts regarding retaliation and revenge, her opinion regarding village employment, the administration, staff, trustees, and the police and fire departments.

Carl Smits, 18249 Harper, Lansing, Illinois, expressed his beliefs and desires for the village in relationship to his personal faith. He shared thoughts on the accomplishments of the village and his beliefs in the village administrators. Mr. Smits concluded his comments reading from the Bible and requesting that residents pray for unity.

Dan Lyzenga, 18351 School Street, Lansing, Illinois expressed his beliefs to the Board, explaining that many great accomplishments have been achieved because of the leadership of Mayor Abbott, Administrator Wynsma and the board. Mr. Lyzenga continued to ask the board and the administration to work together as they have in the past. He also reminded the board that nothing has happened without board approval.

Mike Hersom, 3137 178<sup>th</sup> Street, Lansing, Illinois provided his suggestions to the board regarding, keeping focus of goals, listening to the voice of the residents, the upcoming election, providing responses to

public comment and his opinion of the corporate authority voting.

Karen Lindell, 17841 S. Paxton Avenue, Lansing, Illinois asked the board and board meeting attendees to refrain from public personal attacks at the board meetings and on-line. In addition, she expressed her beliefs that the board was elected to represent all people of the village, and encouraged the board to not be influenced by bullying and instead concentrate on doing their job.

Kari Ann Legg, 17934 Escanaba, Lansing, Illinois stated that government is business and in business there is no room for religion. She continued expressing her opinion regarding stalling tactics, the issues of the lobbyist, the confidence vote and the vote for trustee council.

Owen Deckinga, 17812 Oakwood, Lansing, IL complimented the board, the administrator, and the mayor concerning the improved financial status, balancing of the budget, the new businesses in town, home sales rising and general state of the village. He encouraged their continued progress.

Michael Krusza, 2612 Indiana Avenue, Lansing, Illinois cited expression of care and helpful deeds provided by Lansing residents. He thanked those who have donated their time, food, money, and support to the elderly along with many others in need. In addition he mentioned numerous village related projects that were undertaken and accomplished by the Lansing volunteers.

Joyce Wesson, 17014 Ridgewood Avenue, Lansing, Illinois announced that the Lansing Political group is holding a forum on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Julie Butler read an article and shared her opinion about the lobbyist, Mr. Al Ronan. In addition, Trustee Butler questioned why the lobbyist situation was not included on the agenda for the board meeting.

Mayor Abbott explained that he invited Mr. Ronan to speak at a board meeting in order to more thoroughly inform the board.

Trustee Stole made a motion to have included on the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting Agenda Ordinance 15-013, removing the urgency clause from Ordinance 15-013.

Trustee Butler seconded.

Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call:

### **ROLL CALL**

Yeas - 4 - Trustees:

Nays - 2 – Trustees:

Butler, Stole, Manno and DeLaurentis.

Kapteyn, Skrbina

Mayor Abbott referred to the police bullet vest public comment and asked Chief Murrin to correct the statement. Chief Murrin agreed with Mayor Abbott's comments and explained the village purchases the finest quality bullet vests for the police department.

Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to adjourn at 10:12 p.m.

Trustee Stole so moved.  
Trustee Kapteyn seconded

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Kooyenga  
Village Clerk

/dk