

**VILLAGE OF LANSING
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eidam called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed the following Trustees present:
Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Skrbina, Manno, DeLaurentis
Trustee Zeldenrust was absent with notice

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Eidam asked if there were any questions or discussion on the minutes of the January 16, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting. There were none.

Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Trustee Manno so moved
Trustee Hardy seconded

ROLL CALL

Yeas – 5 Trustees:

Nays – 0

Minutes Approved

Manno, Hardy, Grady-Perovich, Skrbina, DeLaurentis

MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Beautification Committee/Flower Pots

Mayor Eidam announced that Clerk Payne would like to form a Beautification Committee to plant the flowers in the existing pots along Ridge Road in the downtown business district. The Mayor and Administrator have approved the idea and Clerk Payne has been working with a local supplier on flower choices. Both Mayor Eidam and Trustee Manno expressed interest in being part of the committee.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Public Comment Policy

Administrator Podgorski stated that discussion regarding a Public Comment Policy was previously deliberated during a Committee of the Whole meeting and the Trustees now have a proposed policy. Podgorski read the proposed policy. Trustee Grady-Perovich questioned whether the vagueness of portions of the policy would be finalized at a later date and Podgorski explained that he tried to incorporate all of the Trustees ideas into the policy and it was his intention to leave it flexible. Grady-Perovich also recommended that any answers to questions be posted in subsequent minutes or elsewhere. Grady-Perovich expressed concern over the order in which Public Comment be placed on the regular meeting agenda, stating that she would like to see it be placed at the beginning so that folks can give comment prior to a vote. Mayor Eidam stated that Administrator Podgorski spent a great deal of time into crafting the policy based on the poll of board members, and it is her recommendation to leave the policy as is. Podgorski asked that Attorney Welch prepare the

requisite paperwork for this policy to be approved at the next board meeting.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY REPORT

A./B./C. – Term of Village Administrator, Village Meeting Schedule, Unlawful Advertising Proposed Amendment, Fine Amounts

Attorney Welch reviewed the proposed ordinance before the Trustees regarding separate amendments to Village code. The first amendment was changing the board meeting schedule to reflect no meeting the first Tuesday in August rather than September, and changing the order of meetings to place Committee of the Whole meetings *after* regular board meetings rather than before. The second amendment refers to the term of office of the Village Administrator, as current language conflicts with state statute. This amendment adds the word “no” to the first sentence of Sec. 2-562, so that it reads: *The term of the office of the village administrator shall be no longer than the term of the president appointing him.* The third amendment relates to advertising for video gaming and Welch explained that he had concern about the content based prohibition of speech in this code. Ron’s Reels has recently approached the Village and asked that this prohibition be repealed and Attorney Welch stated that he is reviewing this for constitutional problems. The final proposed amendment is to increase general fine amounts and traffic compliance fine amounts from the current \$25 to \$50.

Trustee Skrbina stated that he is in favor of the current code that prohibits the advertising of video gaming in the Village, however if it is deemed unconstitutional, it will need to be changed and Attorney Welch stated he is still looking into this. Trustee Grady-Perovich asked if all other sign regulations must be adhered to should this portion of the code be changed, and Welch stated that they would. Trustee Grady-Perovich also questioned the Village code fine amount for unlawful handicap parking, which lists the fine amount at \$100 but signage throughout the Village shows a fine amount of \$250. Chief Murrin stated that unlawful handicap parking fines are regulated by the state and Attorney Welch agreed that this portion of the code should also be updated to reflect the state statute.

Administrator Podgorski reminded board members that based on discussions, the proposed \$50 fine amount for someone not purchasing a vehicle sticker is only a suggested starting point but can be changed. Trustee Hardy stated that he would like to see the fine increased to \$100 for those that do not purchase a vehicle sticker, which sparked additional discussion regarding this fine amount. Trustees DeLaurentis, Manno and Skrbina agreed that the fine amount should be \$100 and Trustee Grady-Perovich stated that she struggled with the amount because the sticker price doubles after the first month and triples after the second month, ultimately making the fine amount even greater.

FINANCE & POLICE

Mayor Eidam introduced Deputy Police Chief Pete Grutzius, who did a short presentation on the Police Departments new Facebook page.

AIRPORT

No report

FIRE, IT & LNN

No report

PUBLIC WORKS & ADA

Trustee Skrbina thanked the Public Works employees for doing a great job with snow removal. He also encouraged homeowners and business owners to shovel their sidewalks for all the children that walk to and from school.

BUILDING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A. ICSC Recon 2018 – Retail Trade Show Participation

Trustee Hardy stated that the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Convention will be held in Las Vegas on May 20-23, and he felt it would be good for the Village of Lansing to participate in the convention. This convention has been held for many years and is the largest gathering of national retailers. Hardy turned over discussion to Administrator Podgorski, who explained that the Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation (CSEDC) through South Suburban Mayor’s and Manager’s will be forming a consortium with other south suburban communities to participate. Podgorski is proposing that Lansing participate in the consortium this year, which shares the cost of registration, a booth and consultant fees. Presently, South Holland, Richton Park, Calumet Park and Harvey have committed to participation. If the Village of Lansing chooses to participate, the CSEDC consultant will meet with staff to discuss the particular goals and priorities of the Village. Podgorski stated that the Trustees have before them a scope of work that the consultant will be responsible for achieving, and he outlined several details. Several Trustee agreed that it would be beneficial for the Village to participate.

YOUTH CENTER & INSURANCE

No report

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Eidam read a ‘thank you’ letter from Mr. John Cole and asked Mr. Ken Reynolds to give a final wrap-up summary on the Santa House. Mr. Reynolds thanked all of the various organizations, volunteers and donors for making the new Santa House a reality. Reynolds reported that the Village received donations of \$7,500 and only had expenditures of \$5,657.86, thus the project did not cost the Village anything. The surplus of \$1,842.14 will be used for additional Santa House improvements next year. Reynolds also reported that it is the Village’s goal to utilize the Santa House during other events such as Autumn Fest.

Mayor Eidam reported that all Village Municipal Center employees wore red to work last Friday in honor of the Go Red for Women campaign for heart disease. The Mayor thanked the Police Department and Youth Center staff for also participating in the Go Red day.

Mayor Eidam announced that our local Civil Air Patrol Cadets participated in a search effort on January 27th to locate a small private airplane that crashed in a rural area near West Lebanon Indiana. Unfortunately, when the plane was located, it was discovered that the pilot did not survive. Mayor Eidam read the names and ages of each Cadet that participated, and recognized one of their leaders, Mr. Rick Zalud, who was in the audience.

Trustee DeLaurentis announced that the Historical Society has reached out to the person responsible for lending Santa's chair in the Santa House this year, to ask if they would permanently donate the chair.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Hardy announced that Popeye's will be hosting a grand opening ribbon cutting on Thursday at 11:00 am.

Administrator Podgorski announced that the Lansing Old Timers will be hosting sports team registration on Saturday, February 17th from 10-2 at Nathan Hale School.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:46 p.m. to go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, sale or lease of real property for the use of the public body and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees.

Trustee Manno so moved
Trustee Hardy seconded

ROLL CALL

Yeas – 5 Trustees:

Manno, Hardy, Grady-Perovich, Skrbina, DeLaurentis

Nays – 0

Meeting Adjourned to Executive Session

CALL TO ORDER FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Eidam called the Committee of the Whole meeting back into session at 9:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed the following Trustees present:

Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Skrbina, Manno, DeLaurentis

Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:36 p.m.

Trustee Grady-Perovich so moved.
Trustee Hardy seconded.

All Trustees were in favor by stating 'Aye'
Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Payne
Lansing Village Clerk
/vp