CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Eidam called the meeting to order at 8:17 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Roll call revealed the following Trustees present:
Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Abbasy, Manno, Fish
Trustee Zeldenrust was absent with notice.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mayor Eidam asked if there were any questions or discussion on the
minutes of the February 4, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting. There
were none.

Trustee Manno made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2020
Committee of the Whole meeting.
Trustee Grady-Perovich seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL
Yeas – 5 Trustees:
Manno, Grady-Perovich, Hardy, Abbasy, Fish
Nays – 0
Minutes Approved

MAYOR’S REPORT
No Report

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Municipal Elected Officials Compensation
Administrator Podgorski explained that the Village Board reviews the
salary for elected officials from time to time because like other Village
employees, elected officials do not get annual increases. Podgorski also
noted that elected officials cannot increase their salary during their term in
office, so any changes to the pay structure do not go into effect until after
the next election in which that seat is elected. The Administrator
referenced spread sheets that the board members had in which
comparables for other communities were given. For the Mayor’s salary,
eight comparable communities with full-time Mayors were used, which
show that the Lansing Mayor’s salary is currently below the average.
Podgorski also noted that many of the other Mayor’s also receive
additional benefits such as vehicles, insurance and expense accounts. Of
the eight comparable communities, five of them have Village
Administrators. The recommendation is to increase the Mayor’s salary
from $52,000 to $62,000 annually, and keeping the additional $5,000 for
Liquor Commissioner. Additionally, it is recommended that if the Mayor
serves as a full-time employee, he/she is entitled to health and dental
insurance in the same manner as all other non-union employees. Trustee
Grady-Perovich stated that back in 2015-2016, the Mayor’s salary went
from $10,000 to $52,000 with an additional $5,000 for Liquor
Commissioner, and she was in support of that increase, however she does
not think she can now support an additional increase. Grady-Perovich also stated that she doesn’t think she can support an increase in the Trustees salary either.

Administrator Podgorski continued with comparables for the Clerk’s salary. The Lansing Clerk salary is currently set at $45,000 and Podgorski referenced the six comparable communities that also have full-time Clerks. Based on the comparables, the average full-time Clerk’s salary is $72,193. Several of the comparable full-time Clerk’s also receive a vehicle and/or monthly stipends. Podgorski also noted that it has been 8 years since the Clerk’s pay has been adjusted. The recommendation is to increase the Clerk’s salary from $45,000 to $65,000, which is still considerably lower than the average of the comparables. Trustee Grady-Perovich stated that she struggles less on this increase, because the Clerk’s salary was reduced when the collector was removed from the position in 2013.

Comparables for the ten other Trustee/Alderman salaries show that five communities pay more than the $13,000 Lansing Trustees receive on an annual basis, and five communities pay less than Lansing. The salary for Trustees has not been increased for 8 years. The recommendation is to increase the Trustees salary from $13,000 to $14,000, with an additional $1,000 annually for the Trustee that will serve as the finance department chairperson. This is due to the extra responsibilities of reviewing all account payable bills. Trustee Abbasy stated that it’s difficult to discuss increases in elected official’s compensation, and that some of the current board members may never even benefit from an increase, so he will spend a considerable amount of time reviewing the comparable data that was provided before making a decision. Trustee Abbasy and Trustee Grady-Perovich both agree that board members should also be mindful of compensating non-union employees fairly.

Administrator Podgorski asked board members to let him know if they would like this on the next regular meeting agenda for a vote. Trustee Grady-Perovich and Trustee Hardy asked that elected officials salary increases be put on the agenda for three separate votes.

B. Fox Pointe Concession Stand Improvements

Administrator Podgorski explained that the Fox Pointe team has been meeting to determine what upgrades should be made to the concession stand, in order for events to function more smoothly. A Power Point presentation was given that showed renderings of the proposed upgrades, which include additional service windows on the west side of the building, widening of another window, addition of an interior door, addition of security glass, additional heating, the addition of air conditioning to the entire building and the addition of a restroom to the building. The food preparation area will also be modified, and an addition would be added to the north side of the building which will be designated for grilling and serving food. Fox Pointe Director Troncozo reviewed all of the renderings for the board. Cost estimates have not yet been determined. Podgorski would like the board’s authorization to go out to bid for these projects.

C. Invest in Cook Grant Application – Pennsy Greenway/Thorn Creek Trail Link

Administrator Podgorski reviewed the history of the Pennsy Greenway Trail. Back in the early 2000, the Village and Park District partnered to purchase a portion of the Pennsy Greenway to convert it into a bike path through Lansing. For years there have been plans to add a spur that would connect the Pennsy Greenway Trail to the Thorn Creek Trail, and grant funds were allocated for that addition; however the project has stalled. There is currently the need for a lead agency to move the project
forward, and Podgorski is recommending that the Village of Lansing be that agency. A portion of the grant funds are still available for the addition, and the project would need to be re-engineered to move forward. Village Engineer Jeff Pinta showed detailed renderings of the additional link to connect both trails. On behalf of the Village, Pinta will be submitting an application for the Invest in Cook grant to cover 100% of the funding for re-engineering. If the board agrees, a resolution authorizing the application submittal is necessary. There was discussion regarding the timeline of the project, and Pinta indicated that it would be 3-5 years before completion.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY REPORT

No Report

FINANCE & HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

No Report

AIRPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No Report

POLICE & FIRE

No Report

BUILDING & PUBLIC WORKS

A. 2020 CDBG Application for Street Resurfacing

Village Engineer Pinta explained that the Village applies for the Community Development Block Grant for street resurfacing every year. This is a program through Cook County and projects are only eligible in low income areas. Lansing applies for the maximum $400,000 each year, and typically receives about $200,000 every other year. An application will once again be submitted this year to cover funding for the resurfacing of roads around Coolidge School. This would include a portion of William Street, Adams Street and Monroe. A resolution of support for the application is again required. Trustee Hardy asked that the resolution be placed on the next regular meeting agenda for approval.

IT, LNN & ADA

A. Telephone System Proposal – Spectrum VoIP, Inc.

Technology Director Fabian Newman explained that a number of years ago he did an audit of all Village department phone systems, in an effort to cut down on the cost of the phone bill. He was able to decrease telephone costs in half over the years. Director Newman is proposing to upgrade the entire Village phone system from a digital based system to an IP based system through Spectrum. Newman gave a video presentation that detailed functional upgrades, and explained that the move will save the Village approximately $5,000 per month. The switch will include the rental of all new phones for every department for a period of five years, including training for the new system. He also noted that all phone numbers will remain the same. Approval of the lease agreement will be on the next regular meeting agenda.
YOUTH CENTER & INSURANCE

No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Village employee Kay expressed her disappointment in the proposed salary increase for elected officials, and asked board members to re-evaluate the percentages that were proposed.

Mary Beth Palka also expressed her disappointment in raises for the Trustees and Mayor. She also referenced all of the businesses leaving Lansing, particularly Ridge Road.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:23 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1), litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(11), and the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body – 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(2).

Trustee Fish made a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Hardy seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Yeas – 5 Trustees
Fish, Hardy, Grady-Perovich, Abbasy, Manno

Nays – 0 Trustee

Meeting Adjourned

RE-CONVENE FOLLOWING EXEC. SESSION

At 9:53 p.m., Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to reconvene the Committee of the Whole meeting following Executive Session.

Trustee Hardy so moved and Trustee Grady-Perovich seconded.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed the following Trustees present:
Manno, Hardy, Grady-Perovich, Abbasy, Fish

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Eidam asked for a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Trustee Fish so moved.

Trustee Abbasy seconded.

All Trustees agreed to adjourn by signifying AYE.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian Payne
Lansing Village Clerk
/vp