

MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2020

VILLAGE OF LYONS

212 Water Street, P.O. Box 175
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The regular Village Council meeting was called to order by President Charles at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America flag was recited.

The formulation of the roll was taken:

Roll Call:

Fred Charles P Max Darling P Kenton Eavey P Joe Farrington P
Jon Houserman P Cassandra Keller P Bernard Russell P

Additional Personnel:

Ann Schueller P Kelli Checkley P Lyndon Randall Ab Josh Dickover P
Alison Irely Ab Patty Priest P

A quorum was declared.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was offered by Trustee Darling, seconded by Trustee Houserman to approve the agenda as written, with one addition under Streets, Water/Sewer & Fire Committee. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as written.**

President's Report: President Charles

President Charles again introduced and welcomed the two new Village Office employees, Ann Schueller (Clerk) and Kelli Checkley (Treasurer), noting that everyone is pleased to have them on board.

Public Comments: A resident provided comments on FY 20-21 DPW equipment rental charges.

Guest Speakers: Joe Verlin/Gabridge & Company

Mr. Verlin presented the Village of Lyons' FY 19-20 (3/1/19-2/29/20) annual audit report, reviewing highlights and noting that the Village had again received an excellent clean audit opinion and was in a good financial position.

Approval of the Previous Month's (July 20, 2020) Regular Meeting Minutes: A motion was offered by Trustee Keller, seconded by Trustee Russell to approve the July 20, 2020 regular meeting minutes. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as written.**

Approval of Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Trustee Houserman, seconded by Trustee Keller to approve the Accounts Payable Distribution Report (7/1/20 - 8/28/20) totaling \$37,932.14. It was noted that the transactions were actually just through 8/14/20, with most vendor payments and other transactions now having been caught up to date by the new Village Office staff. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as presented.**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report:

A motion was made by Trustee Houserman, seconded by Trustee Farrington, to approve and accept the Treasurer's revenue/expenditure report and balance sheet for the period ending July 31, 2020.

Motion carried by voice vote, as presented.

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DPW Report: Superintendent Randall

Superintendent Randall noted that DPW had been busy with mowing, brush removal, fixing some service lines, hot patching, replacing guard rail posts and other activities over the past month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets, Water/Sewer & Fire Committee: Chairperson Darling

Chairperson Darling moved approval, seconded by Trustee Eavey, for accepting a \$2,850 proposal from R.White for cutting down/grinding/removal of three trees. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as presented.** Chairperson Darling also moved approval, seconded by Trustee Eavey for accepting a \$3,969 proposal from Triple J Excavating for sidewalk replacements on Bridge, Tabor and Prairie Streets. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as presented.** Finally, Chairperson Darling requested approval/support, seconded by Trustee Farrington, for the Village to proceed with an 8/21/20 opt-in notice to the State MDHSS regarding the Village's possible interest in participating in the new Water Assistance Program designed to help low-income food assistance recipients/residential water customers with arrearages via direct payments to water providers. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as presented.**

Finance Committee: Chairperson Houserman

Chairperson Houserman offered a motion, seconded by Trustee Darling, to accept and approve the Village's FY 19-20 annual audit report, as presented earlier by Joe Verlin/Gabridge & Company. **Motion was carried by voice vote, as presented.**

Ordinance Committee: Chairperson Russell

Chairperson Russell stated that the Committee members would soon be inspecting throughout the Village for possible ordinance violations, and would be sending out notification letters as needed.

Personnel Committee: Chairperson Farrington

Chairperson Farrington noted that all Village personnel positions are currently filled.

Grants, Parks & Recreation Committee: Chairperson Keller

Chairperson Keller stated that there was nothing new to report.

DDA: Chairperson Irey - Absent

No report.

Events Committee: Chairperson Priest

Chairperson Priest said that information was recently shared with the Ionia Sentinel-Standard regarding the Committee's donation of 180 back packs and other materials (including face masks that had been made locally) for the Twin Rivers School. While a decision is not yet final, she indicated that it appears the Christmas by the River event will need to be canceled this year due to COVID-19 safety concerns.

Unfinished Business: None.

Correspondence:

A Michigan Municipal League annual meeting notice was shared.

New Business:

Trustee Eavey noted that a change of law firms is currently being considered.

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Other Comments:

Trustee Darling thanked the new employees and others for keeping the Village Office functioning well during the recent staffing turnover. Trustee Eavey specifically recognized former Lyons Treasurer Doreen Gould, Pewamo Clerk Sandy Wolniakowski and former Lyons Clerk Vicki Helms for their outstanding assistance and guidance to the new employees. DPW Superintendent/Fire Chief Lyndon Randall asked that Council members and others express thanks to members of the Township Fire Department for all of their extra efforts in recent months adapting to the new COVID-19 equipment and operational requirements.

Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion was offered by Trustee Russell, seconded by Trustee Keller to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. **Motion was carried by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by:
Ann Schueller, Village Clerk