

APPROVED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2025

VILLAGE OF LYONS
212 Water St, P.O. Box 175
Lyons, MI 48851

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Farrington at 6:00pm
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Joe Farrington-P, Jennifer Spearling-P, Jon Houserman-P, Erin Randall-P,
Bernard Russell-P, Dan Scutt-P, Chris Spearling-P

Formation of the roll was taken, and a quorum declared:

Staff Attending: Lyndon Randall-AB, Laura Schoenmehl-P, Jennifer Sims-P

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Houserman made a motion to approve the Agenda with two (2) changes: addition of item on shared lagoon costs with Muir and Governmental Accounting Model correction under Finance & Grants Committee. Supported by President Pro Tem Spearling. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Farrington opened by thanking residents in attendance for fulfilling their civic duty to be better informed at the Council Meeting and receive factual information firsthand. Read letter from resident received by email regarding utility billing issues in transition to new software. President Farrington made apologies to residents inconvenienced in the transition process. Gave update on Streets Advisory Committee meeting held at the Village office on January 8, 2025. Seven (7) members from the community were chosen to represent Lyons Village residents, with the criteria that they live within Village limits, are interested in improvements and are willing to observe and comment on the condition of roads in the Village and work together for a recommendation to the Village Council to go forward with upgrades.

Public Comment: One resident wanted to comment later, and did so, including a comment regarding a Personnel Policy. Another resident commented that utility bill amounts listed on the bill don't seem to equal the totals at the bottom of the bill, consistently each month. Treasurer Sims said she will address the issue with him to explain the billing cost breakdown.

Approval of Previous Month's Regular Meeting Minutes December 16, 2024: Trustee Randall made a motion to approve December minutes, supported by Trustee Russell. **Motion carried by voice vote, as presented.**

Approval of Current Month's Accounts Payable (\$128,183.97)

Trustee Houserman explained larger amounts and made a motion to approve \$128,183.97, supported by Trustee Randall. **Motion carried by voice vote, as presented.**

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Trustee Houserman motioned to approve the Revenue and Expenditure Report and Balance Sheet for December 2024, supported by Trustee C. Spearling. **Motion carried by voice vote, as presented.**

DPW Report: Trustee Chris Spearling reported vehicle maintenance and roads cleared with snow removal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets/Water/Sewer

- Chairman Spearling reported a cost projection submitted by CL Trucking for \$960.00 to replace 2 pieces of top rail damaged by trees on the bridge, and a section of guardrail, and made a motion to authorize repairs, supported by Chairperson Houserman. **Motion carried by voice vote, as presented.**
- Chairperson Houserman presented information about Shared Sewer Pond agreement between Muir and Lyons Village since 1992, amended in 2016. Muir is owner of the asset and operates the system with Lyons sharing the operating cost proportionate to the pumpage through sewer system. Current split of costs are 55% Lyons and 45% Muir. The partnership is beneficial and cost effective for both Villages. Due to upgrades needed, Muir has applied for EGLE CWSRF revolving fund grant of 30 years for 1%. Lyons proposed share of the cost would be \$662,000 based on average pumpage over past 2½ years. Cost spread over 30 year loan estimated to increase Lyons resident water/sewer bills approximately \$7.00/resident to offset Sewer Pond upgrades. Attorneys will meet to evaluate and advise on the terms of the loan and projected cost to Village residents. No formal action will be taken until more consultation with attorneys, CPA's and engineer.

Finance & Grants Committee

- Chairperson Houserman responded to a resident public comment by email regarding the Villages bookkeeping practices.
- Process of Amended FY 24-25 and new FY 25-26 Operating Budgets are underway.

Ordinance Committee

- Chairman Scutt reported on upcoming Ordinance Meeting planned for February. Chairperson J. Spearling drafted a letter for DPW's to notify residents parked on the streets in violation of the ordinance. A letter will also be mailed to Lyon's residents. The Ordinance prohibits vehicles from being parked on the street from 2 – 7am, Nov 1 – April 1st to allow for snow plows.

Personnel Committee

- Chairperson J. Spearling reported the Village interviewed a candidate for part time Office Assistant, Taylor Yancey, to fill in for sick leave, vacation and backup coverage in the office, and recommends hiring Taylor Yancey as Office Assistant up to 12 hours/week at \$15.00/hour, supported by Chairperson Houserman. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Parks & Recreation Committee

- Chairman Russell said the committee is working on an updated recreation plan with a consultant.

Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

- DDA President Mason said they met last month to finalize the updated TIF Plan, which was approved. Notices have been mailed out to taxpayers and taxpayer jurisdictions and notice in paper about next DDA meeting February 17, 2025. The Village will then be in full compliance after February 17 meeting.
- Next DDA Meeting is Monday, January 27th at 6:30pm at the Village office, and the public is welcome.

Events Committee

- Chairperson Mason said they're discussing a one day Spring or early summer event. Planning Island Fest on Aug. 7, 8, 9. Mega 80's party scheduled Saturday and vendors lined up with food trucks, prince and princess and horseshoes planned. Next Events meeting is Feb. 18 at 6:00pm.

Council Comments: None.

Unfinished Business Correspondence: None.

New Business: None

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Russell, supported by Trustee Randall at 6:38pm. **Motion carried by voice vote.**