

Concord Village Voice ♦ January 2019

Village of Concord: 110 Hanover Street-PO Box 306 Concord, MI 49237 / 524-8534 / M-Th: 8am– 6pm

Village of Concord Contact Information

Village President:

Jeremy Bush: 414-4104-jbush@villageofconcord.com

Village Council:

Jeff Jackson: 524-7407-jjackson@villageofconcord.com

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Mike Lovitt: 607-1720 -mlovitt@villageofconcord.com

J. Mockeridge: 895-6006-jmockeridge@villageofconcord.com

Clerk: Judy Lefere-clerk@villageofconcord.com

Treasurer: Colleen Gibbs-treasurer@villageofconcord.com

Fire Chief: Lloyd Mosher-concordfiredepartment@yahoo.com

DPW: Jason Blossom-jblossom@villageofconcord.com

Village Meeting Dates and Times

All meetings are held in the Village Commons and are open to the public. Come participate in your local government!

Village Council: January 8th & 22nd— 7:00pm

Parks & Recreation: TBD — 7:00pm

Planning Commission: January 15th— 6:30pm

Fire Board: January 16th— 6:00pm - Meeting at Fire House

Concord United Methodist Church 119 S. Main St., Concord

After School Program. Every Mon. & Wed. 3-5 pm.

- Students grades 6th thru 12th
 - A safe place for students to go afterschool
 - Adult supervised, help with homework, play games, interact and have fun!
 - Newly Renovated!!
- WIFI AVAILABLE!

ABC Academy is now offering Preschool and Latch Key services for Concord Community Schools!

Our programs include:

Full and Half Day Preschool for children ages 33 months to 4 years of age

State-funded Free GSRP Preschool for children 4 years of age

Before and After School Latch Key Program

Music & Yoga Enrichment Programs

S.T.E.M. Curriculum and Technology Centers

Security Access Doors

Electronic Parent Communication System

Please contact Cody Blair, Program Director, at cody@abcacademyjackson.com

or by phone at 517-740-0167 if you are interested in enrolling your child in our

high-quality programs. Visit our website for more information

www.abcacademyjackson.com

ABC Academy – a great place for your child to grow, learn, and succeed!

Concord Heritage House January Event

Bakeless Bake Sale

Mail to Cathy Coppernoll,

275 First St. Concord

For more information contact Cathy Coppernoll:

524- 9094 or Gail Snow: 524-6675.

As always open for the public to attend!

No Overnight Parking on Village Streets

From 2:00am to 6:00am—November 1st through May 1st.

This is in place so the DPW can plow and salt our streets.

Winter Sidewalk Ordinance

By law you must clear your sidewalk of snow and ice within 24 hours of a minor snowfall or 48 hours in snow falls greater than 4 inches. Violation of this Ordinance is punishable by a \$50 to \$500 fine and cost to remove snow or ice.

Concord Girl Scout Cookie Sales

Concord Girl Scouts will be taking orders for their fabulous cookies starting on December 24th! All of your favorites are back again this year - Tagalongs, Thin Mints, Samoas, Trefoils, Do-Si-Dos, Savannah Smiles, S'Mores, and our gluten-free Toffee-Tastics! Just ask your favorite Girl Scout, to order yours - or call 517-524-7340/ text 517-230-0596 to get connected.

Concord District Library's Upcoming Events

Book Jackets Coffee Hour - 3rd Monday @ 1pm. Adults.

Little Owls Story Time—Wednesdays @ 10:30 am. Infant—5.

Tai Chi—Wednesdays @ 10 am. Adults.

Story Ballet—Wednesdays @ 11:30am. Ages 3-5.

Friends of the Library—2nd Wednesday @ 11am.

Teen Game Night—Jan. 4th @ 6pm. Ages 9-17.

Nebula Slime - Jan. 7th @ 4pm. Ages 6-14. Registration required.

DIY Cat Castle—Jan. 12th @ 10am. All ages.

Vision Board— Jan. 16th @ 5:30pm. Ages 14+.

Music on Main Street—Jan. 9th @ 5pm. Ages 13+.

Village Voice—Village of Concord Website

Do you have community information you want included in the Village Voice or on Village of Concord Website? Call Village Office. Email: office@villageofconcord.com. All info. must be submitted a week or more prior to the beginning of the month. The submission deadline for the February issue is January 17th.

GRANGER GARBAGE/RECYCLE INFO

You may have three additional bags of garbage outside of bin if you have 90 gal trash bin!

Garbage Pick Up: At curb by 6am Tuesday morning.

Recycling Pick Up: January 9th & 23rd.

Granger now accepts recycled glass.

Village Council Meeting Minutes-November 27, 2018 Absent: View at www.villageofconcord.com or pickup hard copy at Village Office

T. Casey requested a correction be made in the Council Comments section. Casey requested, "T. Casey felt some of the properties on M-60 were blighted" be changed to "T. Casey was approached by some concerned citizens who felt some of the properties on M-60 were blighted." **Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by T. Norris, to accept the minutes from the 11/13/2018 meeting with corrections suggested by T. Casey. The motion was approved by all.**

Public Comments:

K. Wyatt asked about the process to replace a council member. J. Bush explained that an ad had been placed in The Salesman and put on the Village's website. The Village will be accepting applications through December 27th. Council Members T. Casey and M. Lovitt will review the applications, set up interviews and recommend someone for the Council to appoint. The new Council Member will likely start sometime in January and will fill the remainder of former Council Member Jason Mockridge's term through November of 2019.

N. Cornstubble attended the meeting to let the Council know he is in the process of getting a mechanical permit for the house he is building and asked if the Village would consider hiring their own Mechanical Inspector as the State Inspectors the Village currently uses is not always readily available. J. Blossom said this is something that had been discussed with the Council and it was agreed that it would be in the best interest of the Village to hire their own Mechanical and Plumbing Inspectors. Blossom state he had begun the process of finding qualified candidates to fill these positions and was sending out letter of interest to get bids proposals from these candidates.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Jackson, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$22,647.28. Motion approved by all.

Steven Mann bond attorney of Miller Canfield Law attended the meeting to explain the process necessary for the procurement of the bond that the Village will be receiving through the USDA loan and to present the resolution of the notice of intent the Village needed to pass to issue revenue bonds.

It was motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt to authorize publication of notice of intent to issue revenue bonds and declaration of intent to reimburse. Roll call vote: Ayes – J. Bush, J. Jackson, T. Norris, T. Casey, A. Meeks, M. Lovitt. Nays – none. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Blossom discussed the apartments above the Village Office and the amount of money that is being spent to maintain them. He recommended an increase in the rent effective January 1, 2019. The Council asked him to check with a few local landlords to see what they were charging to better understand the local rental market and then a decision will be made on if an increase is necessary and what amount that might be.

J. Blossom also stated there had been a complaint on snow plowing. A resident who lives on a dead-end street with two houses complained that her husband and her leave for work very early and their street is always one of the last streets to be plowed. J. Blossom explained plowing starts in the center of the Village on Main Street and other major streets as they are most traveled as people are on their way to work. The roads closest to school are also focused on to ensure Concord Area children can safely get to school and because this is the busiest traffic area at the time. The DPW works their way out from these areas later in the day trying to focus on the most heavily traveled streets first.

A. Meeks asked the Council to approve the Fire Board Budget for 2019. It was motioned by M. Lovitt, seconded by T. Casey to approve the 2019 Fire Board Budget in the amount of \$121,115.00. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Council Comments:

J. Bush stated it was time for employee reviews. Village Treasurer C. Gibbs was unable to attend the meeting for her review. J. Bush stated that he is pleased with her work and appreciates how she moves the Village's fund balance money around into CD's to earn the Village the best interest rates possible. Bush also stated he was pleased with Gibbs professionalism and customer service skills. The Council agreed. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by T. Casey that the Village retain C. Gibbs as Village Treasurer. Village Clerk J. Lefere, DPW Director J. Blossom and DPW employee K. Thomas requested to have their employee reviews conducted in a closed meeting.

It was motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to adjourn open meeting at 7:30. **Motion approved by all.**

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to enter closed meeting at 7:34. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to adjourn closed meeting at 8:13. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to return to open, open meeting at 8:14. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to give DPW Director J. Blossom and DPW employee K. Thomas a \$1.00 per hour wage increase and to give Village clerk J. Lefere a \$50 per month cell phone stipend as she is using her personal cell phone daily to conduct Village business. All changes will be effective January 1, 2019. The Council agreed to revisit and discuss the extra work Clerk J. Lefere has done on the USDA Water Project in June of 2019. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Village Council Meeting Minutes- December 11, 2018 Absent: View at www.villageofconcord.com or pickup hard copy at Village Office

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by T. Casey, to accept the minutes from the 11/27/2018 meeting, as presented The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

A. Tompkins, County Commissioner District 6, attended the meeting to give the Council a copy of the agenda from the Jackson County Commissioners meeting and discussed the Public Defense Issue the County is currently discussing.

K. Wyatt asked if we had any interest in the open Council position and when was the ad placed in the paper. J. Bush stated that there are currently two applicants for the position. J. Lefere stated that the ad was in the November 25th edition of The Salesman and it was posted at the Post Office.

D. Weidman and her daughter B. Weidman were attending the meeting as a requirement for a class her daughter attends at Jackson Christian Schools.

A. Cavin, Concord Township Supervisor, attended the meeting to thank the Village for their support of the Township, linking websites and the "Light Up Concord" contest. The contest drew 39 entrants and was a big success. He also informed the Council that Dr. C. McCorkle, the Director of Diversity for Western Michigan University had one of her students produce two documents analyzing the data from the Master Plan Surveys that were sent out during the summer. The data was analyzed from numerous standpoints. He gave J. Bush a copy of the data to review and for the Village Planning Committee to use in completion of the Master Plan update.

A. Losey asked for particular information on why the Village needed to replace the front entrance of the Village Office. J. Blossom and J. Bush explained the entrance had to be done because it was crumbling and more importantly needed to be done to meet American Disability Act compliance which was necessary for the Village to receive the \$679,000 grant to offset the cost of the \$4,000,000+ Water Infrastructure Replacement Project being completed over the next two years.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Bush, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$62,859.06. Motion approved by all.

L. Jacobson discussed his November Blotter which included a note to Village residents, "Shoveling your sidewalk isn't fun and it's NOT good exercise! In fact, it can be quite dangerous... HOWEVER, YOU STILL HAVE TO DO IT!! SIDEWALKS MUST BE CLEARED IN FRONT OF YOUR PROPERTY WITHIN 24 HOURS OF A SNOWFALL!" He also wanted to remind Village residents that there is NO PARKING overnight in the street this time of the year for snow plowing and he would be patrolling and ticketing offenders.

J. Blossom gave an update on the Water Infrastructure Replacement Project, the Ripstra crew is in the Village doing survey work for the project. With the help of Village attorney F. Lucas and Surveyor A. Scheppelman the easements behind the businesses on the west side of S. Main Street were completed and delivered to the business owners. J. Blossom also mentioned the Attorney F. Lucas has put liens on the deeds for the remaining vacant lots at Paddock which still owe assessment fees. He also informed the Council he has checked with a local landlord on what he charged for rent of several downtown apartment rentals as the Council requested at the last meeting. He charges \$600 a month for his apartments above downtown buildings and that amount does not include any utilities. With this information the Council decided to increase the amount of the rent for the two apartments located above the Village Office. The rent for the West apartment will increase by \$50 and the East apartment will increase by \$100 as it is larger. This includes all utilities with the exception of gas. The West apartment has an electrical issue, when the tenant is using the treadmill or microwave, the tv and or lights get dim. The Village will pay \$2,000 to add two more circuits and install a sub panel in the apartment.

J. Blossom also informed the Council only one inspector replied to our request for a quote to become the Village Plumbing and Mechanical inspector. It was T. Basore, who is the inspector for numerous villages and townships. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt that the Village hire T. Basore as their plumbing and mechanical inspector effective immediately. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Bush informed everyone that the 2019 Projected Budget Meeting will be held on December 20th at 7:00 pm in the Village Commons Room.

Council Comments:

T. Casey thanked A. Cavin for organizing the "Light Up Concord contest and how phenomenal all of the decorations and lights looked.

J. Jackson also thanked A. Cavin for all of his work at the Opera House event on December 7th. He also thanked K. Wyatt for his participation at the event and didn't know that K. Wyatt was such a talented pianist.

J. Jackson also informed the Council that there has been an offer on the Concord Café, County national Bank has made a counter offer and is waiting to her back from the prospective buyer.