

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on January 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Commons Room of the Village Office.

Council Members Present: Darrell Norris, Jeremiah Bush, Kayla Bush, Jeff Jackson, Erica Moubray, Jason Mockeridge and Ashley Meeks.

Absent: None

Public Present: A. Losey, Jason Blossom, DPW Director, Judy Clark, Concord Township Clerk, K. Mills, T. Brooks, D. Cesco, H. England, T. Brigham and A. Widner.

Motioned by Meeks, seconded by Moubray, to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Motioned by Norris, seconded by Meeks, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$7,247.39. Motion approved by all.

For their review, the Council members were e-mailed or given the Payroll through January 20th, the Concord Planning Minutes for January 19th, and a Notice of Hearing from Semco Energy, the Fireboard Meeting Minutes from January 20th and the Unvouchered Liabilities for January 26th.

In trying to improve the looks of the Village webpage, Mockeridge asked that the Police section be redone and the calendar portion be updated and extended out a few months, for residents.

Tom Brigham wanted to know if there was any chance that the refuse company would begin to pick up glass. J. Bush explained to him that was probably not a possibility, as they currently don't & have said in the past they will not likely in the future. J. Bush also mentioned we have just recently entered what he believed to be a five year contract with the company, so glass recycling wasn't likely for residents during this term. J. Bush also mentioned, according to the company, they don't recycle glass because it is easier to make new glass than recycle. Bush asked Salvatore to explore the subject, just to make sure. A. Losey mentioned to Brigham that he would probably have to go to Granger's glass recycling center located on Lansing Avenue in Jackson. Brigham asked the Council to consider contracting with another trash/recycle company, which does recycle glass, in the future. A. Widner mentioned maybe the school and the Village could explore a grant to bring glass recycling to Concord.

J. Bush reminded people that the Parks and Recreation Committee will be hosting an open house on February 2, 2016, from 6:30 to 8:30. Residents will have the opportunity to comment on the future parks & recreation opportunities being offered by the Village. Their comments will influence what this department will continue to offer both now & in the future.

Jason Blossom brought up the idea of work orders and wanted the Council to possibly consider them for the future. He also informed the Council that the DEQ report that they do about every 5 years came back with excellent comments about the DPW department and how it operates.

The Council gave Blossom permission to explore the possibility of replacing large outdated sections of the water system in the Village, using the USDA'S low interest loan program. The initial step would be to have engineer Jack Ripstra run some figures. He will be reporting back to the Council as results become available. It will be a long process before Blossom is finished with the project.

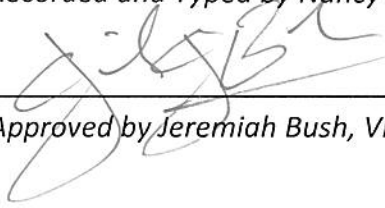
Al Widner was present to discuss the progress that the school has made in the broadcasting field. Residents can now see live athletic events. He also wanted to announce that the Circus at the school will be June 21st and there will be sponsors that will help issue tickets. If any resident wants tickets, they can contact Al Widner.

Helen England asked the Council if the vote to allow the private dispensary here in Concord, could go to the residents for a public vote on the ballot. Mrs. England would prefer that registered voters make the decision. Concern was expressed by the Council about the cost of having a special election for this matter. Mrs. England was reminded the voters of Jackson County and the State of Michigan have voted to allow medical marijuana. J. Bush said that the Council was voted into office to make these decisions for the residents. J. Bush said under the plan, the building will be unrecognizable as a dispensary and only to those who seek out a medical marijuana dispensary will know where and what it is. The dispensary would disperse marijuana only to those people who have a medical marijuana card and have been accepted as a member of the dispensary by the owner. J. Bush also noted the decision wouldn't be rushed into and the public would be given the opportunity to express their opinions and concerns before a decision is made. The issue will be discussed again further in the future.

Councilwoman Moubray wanted it to go on the record that she, too, wished that the marijuana / dispensary issue discussed above be placed on the ballot, for the public to vote on it.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by K. Bush, seconded by Meeks, to adjourn at 8:03 pm. Motion approved by all.

Recorded and Typed by Nancy Salvatore, Village Clerk


_____ Date 2/9/16

Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President