

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on May 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Village Office.

Council Members Present: Jeremiah Bush, Ashley Meeks, Tom Norris, Tim Casey, Jeff Jackson, M. Lovitt and J. Mockeridge.

Council Members Absent: None.

Public Present: A. Losey, K. Wyatt, B. Barton, N. Cornstubble, DPW Director J. Blossom, and Village Clerk J. Lefere.

For their review, Councilmembers were e-mailed or given: Bills to be Paid in Amount of \$53,135.69; 5/8/2018 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; Concord Fire Run Report thru 4/30/2018; Deputy Jacobson's Lawn Blight Letter and Vacant Lot Amendment Email; Concord Pre-School End of Year Celebration Invite Email; Paddock Subdivision Water Hook Up Fee Email; 5/22/2018 Council Meeting Agenda.

Motioned by J. Jackson, seconded by J. Mockeridge, to accept the minutes from the 5/8/2018 meeting as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

N. Cornstubble attended the meeting to discuss the water and sewer assessments on the lots he owns in the Paddock subdivision which since the paving of Jenks Street must now be paid five years from the date of paving. Cornstubble recalled a previous meeting with Village attorney F. Lucas in which asked the lot owners what amount would it take to get the assessments paid now? N. Cornstubble was willing to pay at this time all of his assessments for a discounted fee. He suggested to the Council a 1/3 discount of what he owes. He owns 5 lots at \$6,000.00 per assessment. After a discussion the Council agreed to a 30% discount for all lot owners on the five-year plan within the Paddock subdivision if the assessments are paid within 90 days. Motioned by M. Lovitt, seconded by A. Meeks to offer a 30% discount on the water and sewer assessments at Paddock subdivision if the assessments are paid within 90 days. After the 90-day period the fee will return to the original cost for lot owners on the five-year plan. Roll call vote: T. Casey – Aye, T. Norris – Aye, J. Jackson – Aye, A. Meeks – Aye, M. Lovitt – Aye, J. Mockeridge – Aye, J. Bush – Aye. Motion approved.

K. Wyatt asked about street signs. In his travels through other cities/villages he has seen a variety of street signs, several smaller and hidden by foilage, different colors and sizes. He wanted to know if the Village had the option of different sizes/colors. J. Blossom stated that Jackson County who we purchase our signs through can only make the green and white signs. If we want other colors we would need to special order them through another company. He also asked if the Concord Café has been sold. J. Blossom stated that it has not been sold to our knowledge and that he had heard the same rumors that there is an interested party.

B. Barton asked about the blight on the Shannon's building. J. Bush stated that Deputy L. Jacobson has been working on the lawn blight and would be moving onto building blight shortly. She also mentioned there is trash blowing around in the alleyway between the Dollar General building and the Thorrez building and wondered what could be done about it. Clerk J. Lefere will call the district manager at Dollar General to see if they can ask their employees to clean it up and if they can put a trash can in front of the store to deter the litter.

The Payment of Bills in the amount of \$53,135.69 was presented. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Jackson, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$53,135.69. Motion approved by all.

J. Blossom stated that he talked to T. Brigham the other day and Brigham while reviewing some land documents found that he has been mowing a section of Village property adjacent to his on River Street for years and he will no longer be mowing this section. J. Blossom stated would like explore pricing to making a public parking lot of this section land. He also mentioned the Baseball Club is looking at possibly donating the construction of some dugouts at Gottschalk Park for some of the ball fields. To support the cost of construction the Baseball Club plans to sell sponsorships and place them on the wind screens. He will be getting some estimates on dugout construction. J. Blossom asked about a possible concrete boat launch at Paddock Lake. J. Bush said it is in the Village's Parks and Recreation Plan as a goal and has been much discussed through the years. J. Blossom offered to check on pricing for a concrete boat launch at the Paddock Lake site.

J. Bush discussed an amendment needed to the blight ordinance for mowing or vacant lots. He would like to amend the ordinance to include vacant lots. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded M. Lovitt to amend the Concord Village Blight Ordinance for mowing of vacant lots deemed mowable by the code enforcement officer of the Village. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Bush discussed the necessity of the Village passing Michigan Economic Development Corporation Redevelopment Ready Community Resolution as the next step for the Village of Concord to be recognized as a Redevelopment Ready Community by the MEDC and to access grant funding eligibility for the entire downtown business district. Councilmembers J. Bush and J. Mockeridge have completed the training necessary by attending two full day MEDC-RRC Training Sessions and Bush has completed the lengthy application for the Village to become recognized as a participating MEDC-RRC Community. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Mockeridge to adopt the MEDC RRC Resolution. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Council Comments:

J. Bush and T. Casey have discussed putting together Rules for Public Comment. Some basic rules were decided upon by the Council and will be posted in the Village Commons meeting room.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Bush, to adjourn at 8:12 pm. Motion approved by all.


Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

6-12-18
Date