

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on March 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Village Office.

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

Council Members Absent: None.

Public Present: K. Mills, K. Wyatt, K. Casey, T. Brigham, D. Fetzer, K. Palon, K. DeChalk, B. Watson, T. Brooks, K. Williams, J. Ripstra, Officer L. Jacobson, 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 \$18,374.95; 03/14/2017 Council Meeting Agenda; 02/28/2017 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; Revenue and Expense Report thru 2/28/2017, Plunkett and Cooney Firm RFP Letter and Honigan, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn LLP MMJ Facilities Ordinance Inquiry Email.

Motioned by M. Lovitt, seconded by A. Meeks, to accept the minutes from the 02/28/2017 meeting, as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

T. Brigham asked if the Village made any revenue from the baseball tournaments held at the Gottschalk Park ball diamonds. J. Blossom and J. Bush informed him that the Village does not get any revenue from the tournaments however the Lions Club gets revenue from their concession sales and donate some of those revenues into improvements of the ball diamonds including purchasing scoreboards. Local Concord teams are given free entry into the baseball tournaments as well. They also spoke about having games at the parks brings people into Concord who might like what they see and move here and bring revenue into local businesses.

J. Ripstra of Ripstra & Scheppelman Engineering and K. Williams of Concord Excavating attended the Council Meeting and explained the logistics of the Main Street Streetscaping Project. The project will begin on April 10th and is expected to be completed by mid-June. K. Williams explained how the process will go, where the project will begin and end. He will work with the other contractors to ensure access to businesses. K. Palon inquired about a curb in front of the Salesman Building. J. Ripstra and K. Williams will accommodate. K. Palon also wanted to make sure the ivy growing on the side of the Salesman would not be harmed. T. Brigham inquired about whether or not the flag sleeves in front of local businesses would be installed. The flag sleeves will be installed, one per store front. T. Brigham offered to donate the conduit. B. Watson asked why the Village would want to make the sidewalks wider. J. Ripstra and K. Williams explained that the sidewalks need to be widened in order to accommodate the new lamp posts and trees being placed as part of the project. A clock base will be installed at the Southwest corner of Homer Rd and Main St for future use. J. Bush talked about the Blight Ordinance and how the Village is working to make improvements to our downtown appearance and how the Village expects the business owners to maintain/improve their storefronts also. J. Bush also thanked J. Mockeridge for all of his hard work on the Main Street Streetscaping Project.

The Payment of Bills in the amount of \$18,374.95 was presented. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by M. Lovitt, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$18,374.95. Motion approved by all.

L. Jacobson reviewed the monthly Blotter and the number of calls he went on. L. Jacobson also talked about the false news reporting of a meth lab in the Village of Concord. It was actually a couple of bottles and a hose in Concord Township. He wants residents to know if they happen upon anything they feel resembles a meth lab operation to call 911 as the chemicals used to manufacture meth are toxic and should be removed and cleaned up by a hazmat crew. L. Jacobson and J. Bush will be going around the Village soon to look for blighted homes and businesses.

J. Blossom and J. Lefere discussed the USPS issue. Utility Bills were mailed on February 23rd and as of March 14th there were still some residents who had not received their bill. J. Lefere has placed several calls to the Albion Post Office and the most recent conversation the Albion USPS clerk was checking with the bulk mailing station to see what he could find out.

J. Blossom explained M&K Jetting was in the Village to vacuum out all of the catch basins of the storm sewer and to clean the sewers. J. Blossom also stated that Spring St Park is 80% complete. Concord Excavating has all the millings in place. When the weather breaks the DPW will put some grass seed in and begin installing railroad tie steps. The DPW Department has also started waterfront clean-up at the Mill Pond Park and Fallingwaters Trailhead. J. Blossom also noted that Wednesday during the wind storm some shingles folded back on the Community Center Building. J. Lefere contacted MML and they asked us to get a couple of estimates to replace that part of the roof. J. Blossom asked the Council if they want to replace the entire roof and pay the difference. They will wait and see what the estimates come back at. J. Blossom discussed the part-time DPW position and that the current employee is not going to work out as he does not want to make a career of this job. J. Blossom would like to post this as a full-time position as we could draw in a whole different caliber of applicants. The Council agreed to place an ad for a full-time DPW position.

J. Bush informed the Council the MEDC had been out and talked with himself and a local resident about possible grants to renovate the Shannon's building and about a Renovation Readiness Program Meeting he and J. Mockeridge will be attending later this month.

Council Comments:

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by T. Norris, to adjourn at 8:04 pm. Motion approved by all.


Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

3/14/17
Date