

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on March 28, 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, C. Magness, T. Dindoffer, D. Cesco, A. Losey, A. Cavasin, 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 \$26,298.12; 03/28/2017 Council Meeting Agenda; 03/14/2017 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; Law Firm RFP Letters, Fire Reports and Lifeways Millage Presentation.

Motioned by M. Lovitt, seconded by A. Meeks, to accept the minutes from the 03/14/2017 meeting, as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

A. Cavasin informed the Council, Concord Township will be hosting a Community Clean Up Day on May 6th from 10 am to 2 pm at Gottschalk Park on Homer Rd. Emmons Services will be providing two compactors for non-HAZMAT trash. They will be accepting: old furniture, books, mattresses, couches or any garbage that needs to be gone. There will also be a 40 yard recycling bin there to collect scrap metal. All donations of scrap metal will go to the Concord Fire Department. If you have scrap metal that you cannot get to the drop off site, please let Fire Chief Lloyd Mosher know in advance and he and some of his firefighters will come and pick up. There will be staff on hand to help you unload. **ABSOLUTELY NO: Tires, Automotive Batteries, Yard Waste, Freon, Construction Debris, No Liquids of any kind. Paint cans must be open and fully dry. NO Hazardous materials of any kind. DUMPING FEE - \$8.00/ full or part pickup or 4'x4'x8' trailer load.** Any questions please contact the Township office at 517-524-6804.

K. Wyatt asked if there had been any interest from the public in making donations for the Clock Tower mentioned in the previous meeting. J. Bush replied "no".

A. Losey informed the Council that the Ol Mill Salon was now open for business and that D. Brown had hired an additional stylist. He also noted he planned to begin renovations of the Curl Up and Dye building at 119 W. Jackson at the end of April.

C. Magness invited the Council and the public to stop at the Concord Schools Linked Health Center for a tour anytime during business hours. Business hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8am to 5 pm.

The Payment of Bills in the amount of \$26,298.12 was presented. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Jackson, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$26,298.12. Motion approved by all.

L. Jacobson was unable to attend. J. Bush reminded the Council he and L. Jacobson would be doing their ride around to identify blighted homes and businesses within the Village of Concord.

J. Blossom stated hydrant flushing went well and was completed at 6 am on 3/28/2017. He also stated there had been more than 30 applications for the DPW position and interviews would start on 3/29/2017. He also mentioned the final review of the N. Main St. Asphalt Replacement Project was to take place soon and C & D Hughes, Inc. will be coming out to address a few resident drainage issues before final payment for the N. Main St. Project is paid.

J. Blossom talked to A. Cavasin about the cemetery equipment that the Township will be selling this summer as they have contracted the cemetery lawn care to a private contractor. The Village is interested in purchasing some of this equipment depending on the price. J. Bush asked J. Blossom to compile a list of what equipment the Village is interested in and what it would be used for.

J. Blossom noted the land on Second St. which did not sell at the Jackson County Land Auction and was to revert back to the Village was not going to happen as an adjacent land owner went to the State of Michigan and purchased the land.

Council Comments:

J. Bush discussed the USPS issue with bulk mail arriving late and the possibility of some residents not receiving their bill by the due date. If this continues to be an issue Village Clerk J. Lefere or Village Treasurer C. Gibbs will determine if a penalty should be reversed on a case by case basis. J. Lefere informed J. Bush and the Council, to date we have not had any residents who had not received their Utility Bill on time. Discussion of changing the due date occurred, M. Lovitt stated bills have had the same due date for years and residents should know the bill is due by the 15th of each month regardless if they receive a bill or not and does not think the Village should make any changes to the due date.

J. Bush informed the Council he had been contacted by Fire Chief L. Mosher regarding the Concord Joint Fire Administrative Board Agreement. The agreement dated November 20, 2008 states: Fire Department Funds shall at all times be maintained in one or more accounts separate from those of either the Village or Township. The Village in September changed to using pooled cash at the advice of their accountant, former Councilmember Darrell Norris (VP of Finance at Jackson College) and Treasurer Colleen Gibbs as a way to be more efficient and adopting best business practices used by other municipalities. J. Bush also mentioned the State of Michigan recognizes the accounts as separate even though they are in a pooled cash account. M. Lovitt suggested that the verbiage be rewritten to coincide with the current office accounting procedures. A. Cavasin suggested he, J. Bush and L. Mosher sit down and review the agreement, rewrite the verbiage and present to the fire board for approval.

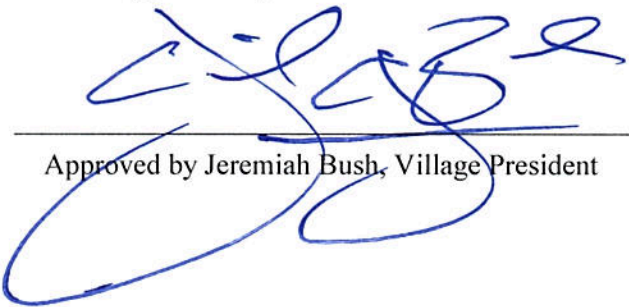
J. Bush talked about the Rehabilitation Ready Communities Meeting he and J. Mockeridge had the privilege to attend with the MEDC. If the Village goes through the process of becoming a Rehabilitation Ready Community it would make it easier the Village to apply for grants to improve the downtown buildings/businesses through the MEDC. The Village needs a new Master Plan before it can apply for this. J. Bush mentioned the possibility of having workshops in the future to explore putting together the Village's five-year Master Plan. Bush also mentioned parts of the Master Plan have already been completed by the Villages completion of our Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Joint Concord Area Master Plan completed in conjunction with Concord Township.

J. Bush had an adjacent land owner to the Spring Street Park who felt the Village had infringed upon their land by building a portion of the new park on their land. The Village had the land surveyed by Ripstra and Schepelman Land Surveyors and the park has been constructed completely on Village owned land.

J. Mockeridge asked the Council to look over the RFP's they received via email and plan to discuss at the next council meeting on April 11th.

J. Bush will be meeting with the Jackson Citizen Patriot on Friday to discuss the Main St. Streetscape Project and other recent improvements made by the Village.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by M. Lovitt, to adjourn at 7:43 pm. Motion approved by all.



Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

4/11/17

Date