

Concord Village Voice ♦ September 2018

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:

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Village Council:

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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: September 11th & 25th— 7:00pm

Parks & Recreation: September 4th — 7:00pm

Planning Commission: September 18th— 6:30pm

Fire Board: September 19th— 6:00pm - Meeting at Fire House

Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste shall be collected during the first FULL week of each month, weather permitting, according to the following policies: All materials for collection shall be placed at the edge of the street no later than 7:00 am of the Monday morning of the collection week. All eligible materials shall be placed in biodegradable paper bags, bundles or labeled containers with a maximum of 50 lbs. per unit. The maximum limit is 10 units, per residence, per pick up. Leaves may be left loose for collection in the fall. Tree limbs and brush must be cut to lengths not exceeding 5 feet and cannot exceed 6 inches in circumference.

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!

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 October issue is September 20th.

Concord Heritage House September Event

Linda Hass—Underground Railway.

September 19th @ 6:30pm.

At the Heritage House

For more information contact Cathy Coppennoll:

524- 9094 or Gail Snow: 524-6675.

As always open for the public to attend!

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

After School Program beginning Sept. 10 and 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! SNACKS!

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Program coming to Concord United Methodist Church

Sept. 4 through Oct. 30 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. What if you were following a plan for your money that you KNEW worked? With Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*, you CAN take control of your money, get out of debt, and create a plan for your future. We're offering *Financial Peace University* at Concord United Methodist Church (Concord MI), starting September 4th. Learn more and register for the class @ FPU.COM/1065212. Questions? Contact the class coordinator, Rich Cornell (rcornell@arbor.edu; 517-745-7873). Hope to see you there!

Change: One Woman at a Time

A Women's History Conference

Date: Friday, September 28, 2018

Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Cost: \$25, includes lunch

Location:

First Universalist Church of Concord

200 Hanover Street

Concord, MI

Please call 517-241-0731

Jackson County's All Museum Day is Saturday, September 15. Mann House will be open from 9 to 4:00 and there is a drawing for a gift basket from all the participating Jackson County Museum and Jackson Experience. Check out Experience Jackson's web site for more details.

Concord District Library's Upcoming Events

Friends of the Concord Library - 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 10 am. Please come!

Drop N' Knit—Wednesdays @ 10:30 pm.

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

Tai Chi—Wednesdays @ 10 am. Adults

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

Escape Room—Take a Mouse to the Library—Sept. 5th @ 4 pm. Ages 5-9.

Community Story Walk—Sept. 10th @ 9 am. Start @ Concord Elem. All ages.

Crafts "N" More—Sept. 12th @ 5 pm. Adults

Music on Main St—Sept. 12th @ 5 pm. Ages 13+.

Marble Mazes—Sept. 19th @ 4 pm. Registration required. Ages 5+.

Student Success—Sept. 19th @ 6 pm. Students/Parents.

Genealogy 101—Sept. 26th @ 11 am. Registration required. Adults.

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: September 6th & 19th.

Granger now accepts recycled glass.

Village Council Meeting Minutes-July 24, 2018 Absent: View at www.villageofconcord.com or pickup hard copy at Village Office

Motioned by A Meeks, seconded by M. Lovitt, to accept the minutes from the 7/10/2018 meeting, as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

K. Wyatt asked what is going into the Curl Up and Dye building on M-60. J. Bush and J. Blossom stated that it was purchased by a chiropractor and it will be Concord Chiropractic, LLC. They have begun renovations, intend to expand the building's size and plan to open in six months.

K. Herendeen asked about the overgrown lots in the Paddock Subdivision. J. Blossom stated the ordinance is in effect now and that Deputy Jacobson will get with Clerk J. Lefere this week to send letters to the property owners. J. Blossom also stated he had received complaints about a shed on an empty lot in the Paddock Subdivision, which is against the rules of the Paddock Subdivision Covenant. A letter has been sent to the property owner that the shed must be removed.

T. Wilkison attended the meeting to discuss the water/sewer assessment fee meeting he and J. Blossom had previously. He stated that he was satisfied with the meeting but still had concerns. He started thinking when he purchased the house a title search was done and no special assessments showed up during the search. He contacted American Title and was told there was no special assessment on the title and it was free and clear. The people he purchased the home for had a title search done through their mortgage company as well and it also came back as a clean title. He paid the assessment on the lot but asked the Council to look at the information he provided, contact their lawyer about his opinion and make a decision on what they would like to do. He also stated he felt the assessment being placed on the title was the responsibility of the Village. K. Herendeen asked the Council to think about how they would react if they were the homeowners receiving a large assessment fee they were never made aware of and stated maybe the Council should have waived the fee.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by T. Norris, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$50,115.66. Motion approved by all.

J. Blossom mentioned there was a MDEQ inspection of the water and water infrastructure here in the Village. There were a few minor repairs which were needed and those repairs have since been completed. He also mentioned there are multiple new rules and policies coming in the next few years from the MDEQ. Currently the law states the DPW inspect commercial establishments every 1-3 years depending on the type of establishment and in the near future the MDEQ may expect inspections of all the residential homes within the Village of Concord. Blossom also discussed the status of the USDA loan application. Engineer J. Ripstra of Ripstra & Scheppelman has completed the PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) needed for submission of the application and has emailed it to Clerk J. Lefere to upload into the application. The application will be submitted by the end of the week. J. Blossom also stated the water tower was emptied for cleaning last week. He also stated Engineer J. Ripstra, J. Bush, J. Fay of CNB, B. Watson, K. Palon, and K. DeChalk met recently and discussed the easement behind the buildings on the west side of Main St. He felt the meeting was productive and that B. Watson, K. Palon and K. DeChalk will allow a private easement that the public will be able to access if the business owners allow parking behind their buildings. The parking lot behind the buildings will be paved and maintained by the Village.

Council Comments:

J. Jackson commented to J. Blossom with all the new rules/regulations on water maintenance how did prior generations ever make it with drinking from their garden hoses, etc.

A. Meeks asked if it is possible to trim the pine trees on the corner Hanover St. and Concord St. as it is obstructing drivers view. J. Blossom stated he would talk to the resident and see what can be done.

J. Bush stated he attended a Harwood Meeting with T. Dotson from the Concord Branch of the Jackson District Library, Concord Community Schools Superintendent D. Funston, Pulaski Township Supervisor Bob Jones, Concord Methodist Church's R. Passmore, and Library Board President and Village Resident E. Blonde. There were talks about maybe doing a monthly Community News Letter with all parties involved, if this reaches fruition the Village Voice will discontinue and information will be found in the newsletter. During the meeting it was discussed the Village should explore using more social media. Currently the only social media used by the Village is a Facebook page. J. Bush has also been working on a portfolio for the MEDC. He asked the Council if they have any buildings to suggest for the portfolio. The ones suggested are – Concord Station, Concord Café and the former Shannon's Building.

J. Bush asked D. Winters if he wanted his employee review completed in an open or closed meeting. DPW employee D. Winters requested his review take place in a closed meeting and invited J. Blossom DPW Director to attend.

It was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by M. Lovitt to adjourn open meeting at 7:53 pm. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to enter a closed meeting at 7:57 pm. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to adjourn closed meeting at 8:06 pm. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Jackson to return to open meeting at 8:07 pm. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt to officially hire DPW employee D. Winter and move his review date to November so all DPW and office staff have the same review date before yearly budget writing takes place. Motion approved by all.

Village Council Meeting Minutes– August 14, 2018 Absent: View at www.villageofconcord.com or pickup hard copy at Village Office

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Mockeridge, to accept the minutes from the 7/24/2018 meeting, as presented. The motion was approved by all.

Public Comments:

N. Cornstubble attended the meeting to thank Clerk J. Lefere for her help with the permitting/paperwork process and DPW Director J. Blossom, DPW employees K. Thomas and D. Winter for their work on the water/sewer hookup on the home he recently constructed in the Paddock Subdivision. He stated he enjoyed working with the Village and appreciated all of their help.

K. George asked about the letter he recently received from the Village about a shed he has on his adjacent owned vacant lot in the Paddock Subdivision. The Paddock Covenant states sheds cannot be placed on vacant lots. He plans to meet with Paddock Subdivision residents to see if they can come to an agreement to abolish/revise the Covenant.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Mockeridge, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$34,210.86. Motion approved by all.

L. Jacobson discussed his July Police Blotter and he has been monitoring the 4-way stop. He stated that his worst offender that he pulled over for rolling through the stop sign was the very person who stood up at the last meeting and complained that someone was going to be killed in that intersection.

J. Blossom mentioned the USDA loan application has been signed and submitted for \$4.2 million dollars. BJ Haire from USDA RD informed the Village they have been approved for the \$3.5-million-dollar loan and will be receiving a \$679,000 grant. J. Bush thanked BJ Haire, J. Lefere and J. Blossom for all their work in assisting with receiving the substantial grant. The Village must use the \$3.5-million-dollar loan first before touching the grant money. The Village is in good shape in the loan process as the money has been allocated but there is still a lot of work to be done. As part of the loan process an ADA disability study of the Village's properties was completed and the Village Office was found not ADA compliant. The Village will be redoing the office ramp and door entrance to make the office ADA compliant. J. Blossom received two bids to redo the door of the office, one from Jackson Glass for \$3460.00 and one from Quality Glass for \$3,200.00. It was motioned by J. Mockeridge, seconded by J. Bush to hire Quality Glass at a cost of \$3200.00 to redo the entrance door of the Village Office. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Blossom also mentioned Village Engineer J. Ripstra of Ripstra & Scheppelman is 2/3 of the way done with the bid for redoing the entrance of the Village Office. He hopes to bid that job by the first of September. Blossom also stated he is waiting on a price from a local contractor for putting a separate entrance door for the former Township Office which will bring the space to code so it can be rentable.

J. Bush discussed the Bill Brigham-Paddock Subdivision Open Lot Mowing Concerns. B. Brigham was mailed a letter on July 30, 2018 giving him 10 days from the date of the letter to mow his vacant lots in the Paddock Subdivision. It has been 15 days from the date of the letter and the lots have not been mowed. J. Bush stated B. Brigham had contacted him and was put on the agenda as Brigham hoped to make the meeting but also had a school board meeting to review the future school construction improvement plans and was going to possibly not be able to attend. Bush stated for this reason B. Brigham should be given the opportunity to come the next meeting and speak before acting on this matter. K. Herendeen spoke to the fact of the overgrown lots in the Paddock Subdivision and stated just because a person was born and raised in the community it should not allow them to go against the ordinances of the Village. The ordinance should apply to everyone equally. J. Bush stated he was not against enforcing the ordinance and mowing the lots but felt Brigham was missing the meeting for a legitimate reason and should be afforded the opportunity to say his peace within a public meeting and waiting two more weeks until the next meeting was not that big of an issue. K. Herendeen, J. Blossom, J. Mockeridge and M. Lovitt stated B. Brigham should have attended the meeting if he wanted the opportunity to speak and the lots should be mowed immediately. Bush stated he felt if the Village was to decide to vote to enforce the ordinance B. Brigham should at least be afforded a couple of days to procure a provider to mow the lots before the Village hired a company to complete the work as he wasn't given the opportunity to speak. Motioned by J. Mockeridge, seconded by A. Meeks to have the lots in reference at Paddock mowed immediately by the Village or a company hired by the Village and the fee for this service will be billed to the lot owners' and if not paid within 30 days of the invoice the fee will be applied to the lot owners' taxes. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Council Comments: None