

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on January 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Village Commons Meeting Room.

Council Members Present: Jeremiah Bush, Jeff Jackson, T. Norris, T. Casey, A. Meeks, Mike Lovitt and Kyle George.

Council Members Absent: None.

Public Present: A. Losey, K. Wyatt, R. Sykes, D. Lis, N. Cornstubble, R. Sykes, P. Sykes, T. Karr-Jackson, Deputy L. Jacobson, and Village Clerk J. Lefere.

For their review, Council Members were e-mailed or given: Bills to be Paid in Amount of \$57,098.30; USDA RD December Pay Approval in Amount of \$1,353.74; Revenue & Expense Report thru 12/31/2019; Concord Area Police Blotter; Fire Board Meeting Minutes 12/18/2019; J. Blossom Water Project Start Email; Apartment Applications Email; Cadet Electricity Letter Email; January Village Voice; 12/10/19 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; 1/14/20 Council Meeting Agenda.

Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by K. George, to accept the minutes from the 12/10/2019 meeting. Motion approved by all.

J. Bush and the Council reviewed the applications for the apartment located above the Village Office. J. Bush recommended that the Council approve renting the apartment to the Sykes family. Council was in agreement.

Public Comments:

T. Karr-Jackson informed the Council the Friends of the Concord Branch of the Jackson District Library continue to meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month. She also informed everyone Librarian T. Dotson is now at the Summit Branch and the Concord Branch will be receiving a new Librarian soon. She asked if the Harwood meetings would continue. J. Bush informed her that they plan to continue the meetings and he will discuss with the new Librarian to see if the meetings will continue to meet at the library or a different location. The location will be announced if and when that happens. She also reminded everyone to take a tour and visit the Concord Schools Linked Health Center to be more informed of what they offer. They recently received a grant from BCBS of Michigan. They will use the grant money to purchase childhood immunizations. They expect to order the immunizations in the next couple of months. They will also continue to offer sports physicals. The Center is open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8-5. You may also call and leave a message during closed hours.

K. Wyatt asked L. Jacobson for an update on the feral cat situation in the Village. He had heard that some people in the Village were taking some feral cats to the vet to have them spay/neutered. L. Jacobson said he didn't have an update as his department was not involved. He also asked about the ordinance regarding furniture at the curb in the Village. L. Jacobson informed him that he lets them be for a week or so to see if anyone picks them up. After that time, he gives the resident a warning to make arrangements for Granger to pick it up. If it is not picked up in a timely manner, he will issue a citation.

A. Losey gave an update on the Jackson County Commissioners meeting he recently attended. For information go to <https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/365/Jackson-County-Commissioners> and select the news tab.

The Payment of Bills in the amount of \$57,098.30 was presented. Motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Bush, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$57,098.30. Motion approved by all.

Expense Approval Water Main Project in the amount of \$1,353.74 was presented. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by J. Jackson, to approve the payment of Expense for Water main Project in the amount of \$1,353.74. Motion approved by all.

Deputy Jacobson discussed his December 2019 Police Blotter. To view a copy, go to the Village website at www.villageofconcord.com look on the home page – quick links. Jacobson mentioned that if you want to watch...questionable material on your brand new, big screen TV, that faces a village street, maybe close your blinds. He also mentioned an incident in Jackson County where one car bumped another car, both drivers got out to assess damage. There was no damage but one driver asked for the other driver's information and he refused as there was no damage to either vehicle. She said well, you've got to show me something so he mooned her, jumped in his car and left. You can't make this stuff up.

J. Blossom was unable to attend the meeting as he was on a field trip with the school.

Council Comments:

T. Casey was approached by residents about a dog park. J. Bush said it has been discussed in the past and they have a location at the park where they would like to put it to use some existing fences to save on the cost. Bush stated that the majority of this year's Parks capital improvements budget has already been spent on the improvements to Gottschalk Park parking area and scheduled Lions Club pavilion kitchen area project. He will check into the cost again and possibly getting funding/donations. T. Karr-Jackson suggested they check with the Concord Veterinary Clinic.

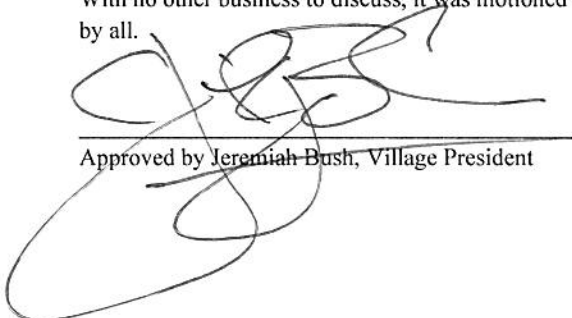
M. Lovitt was asked by a resident when sidewalks will be replaced in the Village. J. Bush said with the Water Project going on this year he doubts there will be any sidewalks replaced other than sidewalks destroyed in the process of the Water Infrastructure Project.

A. Meeks mentioned the Fire Department has their new rescue vehicle out and running. The old rescue vehicle will be placed on a municipal for sale site. She also mentioned he had a complaint about one of the new Autistic Child Area signs that went up last week on S. Main St. The person complaining felt the sign was too close to their driveway. J. Bush stated the Council should view the placement of the sign and they could check with J. Blossom to see if the sign spacing is regulated or if it can be moved at the next meeting.

J. Bush informed the Council Village Treasurer C. Gibbs left a report with the amount of interest earned from CD investments for 2019 was \$34,497.04 compared to \$19,322.94 in 2018. He also discussed the Harwood meeting and that the Mann House will be getting on board with Light Up Concord Event next year. As part of the Light Up Concord Event they would like to do a community Christmas Tree lighting. The Village can use the boom truck to help put up lights on the tree at the front of the Methodist Church. L. Jacobson suggested that J. Blossom should be the one to do the decorating. J. Bush was approached by two Village residents who work at putting up Christmas lights during the holiday season, they offered to put lights on the trees in the downtown business district as long as the Village provides the lights. J. Bush said he would be willing to donate for some of the lights and maybe others would be interested in donating as well.

J. Bush was reached out to by a resident who was interested in purchasing the old bakery building and putting a business in it. With several other recent interested people in starting businesses and possibly rehabilitating downtown buildings Bush contacted the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the Michigan Small Business Development Center SBDC about grants, loans, and business planning services they could offer and about putting together a presentation where they could present, complete a question and answer session, and breakout in individual contact with MEDC and SBDC Reps. The MEDC/SBDC said they would be happy to set up a time to do this event in conjunction with the Village. They are looking at some dates in February. Once the date has been confirmed the Village will send out letters to all current downtown and prospective business owners inviting them to attend. J. Bush also informed everyone the February Planning Commission meeting will be held on February 5th along with the Township Planning Commission at their regular meeting to approve the Master Plan. The meeting will be held at the Township Office at 6:00 pm.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by J. Bush, to adjourn at 7:47 pm. Motion approved by all.


Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

1/28/20
Date