

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on August 25, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Concord Community Center.

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

Council Members Absent: T. Casey

Public Present: K. Wyatt, A. Losey, Jackson County Commissioner E. Poleski, C. Luce, DPW Director J. Blossom, and Village Clerk J. Lefere.

For their review, Council Members were e-mailed or given: Bills to be Paid in Amount of \$43,340.99; USDA Water Main Project July Pay Approval in Amount of \$165,880.23; July Concord Area Police Blotter; Revenue & Expense Report thru 7/31/2020; September Village Voice; Fireworks Ordinance Email – J. Bush; 640 Hanover St. Stuart Property Hook-up Letter Email – J. Bush; USDA Water Main Replacement Phase Two Add On Suggestion Email; Volleyball Tourney Updates Text; 7/28/20 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; 8/25/20 Council Meeting Agenda.

Motioned by J. Jackson, seconded by A. Meeks, to accept the minutes from the 7/28/2020 meeting. Motion approved by all.

Public Comments:

C. Luce asked why the hydrants were moved on Hanover St. J. Blossom responded that according to state regulation hydrants are to be 500 feet apart and that is how it was determined where hydrants were to be placed during the project. C. Luce also asked if the street will be ground before the paving begins. J. Blossom replied yes.

E. Poleski gave an update on the most recent Jackson County Commissioners meeting. For information go to <https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/365/Jackson-County-Commissioners> and select the news tab.

K. Wyatt asked about the possible tiny house ordinance that was discussed at a previous meeting. J. Bush responded that it was put to the planning commission and they are currently in talks with the township planning commission on possibly working on a joint tiny house ordinance. They are in the initial research stages and could put a tiny house ordinance together in the future but it is likely about a year out before the work will be completed. K. Wyatt also asked for an update on the Bufalino property. J. Blossom stated he had contacted Village Attorney F. Lucas, he recommended that when L. Jacobson issues the next ticket that he sends it to the courts. A judge can rule that the property owner has to do the repairs or the Village can hire someone to do the repairs at the owner's expense. K. Wyatt also inquired about why there is still a closed to thru traffic sign up on Hanover St. as he has not seen a crew working there lately. J. Blossom responded that it is required because the street is technically still under construction and will remain until the project is fully completed.

The Payment of Bills in the amount of \$43,340.99 was presented. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$43,340.99. Motion approved by all.

USDA RD Water Main Project Pay Approval in the amount of \$165,880.23 was presented. Motioned by T. Norris, seconded by A. Meeks, to approve the payment of Expense for Water main Project in the amount of \$165,880.23. Motion approved by all.

Deputy Jacobson was unable to attend the meeting. To view a copy of his July Concord Area Police Blotter, go to the Village website at www.villageofconcord.com look on the home page – quick links.

J. Blossom informed the council about the traffic light at the school and reminded them of the issues we've been having with it. The City of Jackson maintains the traffic light and they have an identical traffic light that they are retiring and offered it to the village for \$2,280.00 which includes installation.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to purchase the used traffic light with installation from the City of Jackson for \$2,280.00. All were in favor. Motion approved.

J. Blossom informed the council that a person did damage to the park earlier in the summer. L. Jacobson talked to the person, their dad and their grandfather to warn them if it happens again, the individual would be in legal trouble. Well, it happened again and the person was driving a company owned vehicle with the name of the company on the side of the truck. L. Jacobson told the person they needed to repair the park back to its original condition before the damage. The individual made an attempt but did a poor job. The DPW Dept. made the repairs and billed the person for the cost. The bill has not been paid. The Village consulted Village Attorney F. Lucas and he advised that the bill be sent to the company that owns the truck the person was driving when the damage was done. The council agreed. The bill will be sent out this week.

J. Blossom updated the council on the water main replacement project. Phase One of the water portion is 99.5% complete, there is some clean up left to do on Michigan St. and we are waiting on asphalt to hopefully begin in mid-September. Blossom spoke on how Phase Two will be over budget because the cost estimate was completed almost two years prior to the start of the project as it needed to be done before the USDA would look at our application for the loan and how costs have increased since that time. The Village Council, Engineer J. Ripstra and Concord Excavating have been working on cost savings measures to address these projected overages on Phase One and exploring similar ideas on Phase Two. One idea which was brought to the Council's attention was the USDA may allow the Village complete Phase Two through change orders instead of bidding it out to save on costs. The Village would save by eliminating the bidding process, advertising associated with bids and paying for consultations from engineers, lawyers, bondsmen, etc. If the application was accepted by the USDA, Concord Excavating would complete Phase Two of the project and they would need to match the prices they bid on Phase One. Blossom mentioned the bids which have been coming in for neighboring community's infrastructure projects have been coming in 15-25% over engineer projected costs. Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by M. Lovitt to apply to the USDA to complete Phase Two of the project through change orders. Roll call vote: J. Bush – aye, J. Jackson – aye, T. Norris – aye, A. Meeks – aye, M. Lovitt – aye, K. George – aye. Motion approved.

J. Bush discussed the property at 403 Hanover St. The resident planned to attend the meeting but was not here to discuss. During the water main project this property is at the dead end of the water line so they had a lot of sludge left in their line because it had no place else to go. There was some damage from the sludge. J. Bush tabled until the next meeting when the resident could attend if they wanted.

J. Bush also mentioned T. Casey, who was unable to attend, asked if Children Crossing signs could be put up at the intersection of N. Concord and Railroad Streets because there are a lot of children that play in the area. J. Blossom stated that there shouldn't be a need to cross that street since there are only sidewalks on one side of the street. J. Bush tabled until the next meeting when T. Casey would be available to discuss his concerns.

J. Bush asked the council if they were good with the Fireworks Ordinance. They were.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks to pass the Fireworks Ordinance as presented. All were in favor. Motion approved.

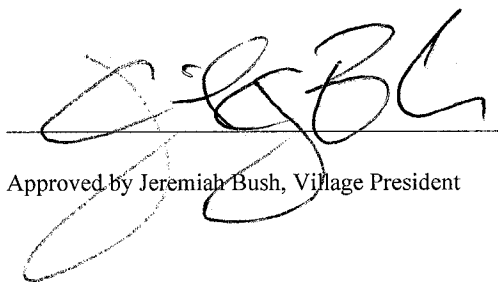
J. Bush presented the council with a rough draft of the Village Recreation Facilities Reservation Form. A form must be completed by anyone that is reserving a park facility. The council will finalize at a future meeting. J. Bush was contacted by a local veteran about doing a Community Memorial Day Flag Fundraiser. The veteran would like to do a fundraiser to purchase flags to place on both sides of Main Street on Memorial Day weekend. There were a few suggestions to have Boy Scouts do this as an eagle project but it was commented that there is no longer a local boy scout troop. There is a local person who has done this in the past but did not do it this year, possibly because of Covid-19. T. Norris will make contact with this person and find out and update at the next meeting. Tabled until more information is obtained.

J. Bush informed the council that R. Bradley is resigning from the Planning Commission, therefore there is an opening for a Planning Commission member.

Council Comments:

J. Bush discussed a Plant Swap Stand that will be placed at Concord Meats & Sweets. This is where community members can take their extra plants they remove while landscaping and leave them for others to take and/or swap for other plants which may be there. Anyone is free to take any plants left to beautify their landscaping.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by J. Bush, seconded by A. Meeks, to adjourn at 8:09 pm. Motion approved by all.



Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

9/22/20

Date