

Village of Concord Council Minutes

The Village Council of Concord met on February 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Village Commons Meeting Room.

Council Members Present: Jeremiah Bush, T. Thurman, K. George, M. Lovitt, J. Compton and A. Meeks.

Council Members Absent: J. Jackson

Public Present: Deputy L. Jacobson, Treasurer J. Lefere and DPW Director J. Blossom, B. Otto, E. Poleski, P. Jacobson, and A. Thomas.

For their review, Council Members were e-mailed or given: Revenue & Expense Report thru 1/31/2025; Bills to be Paid in Amount of \$60,384.79; Concord Area Police Blotter January 2025; February Village Voice; 1-14-2025 Village Council Meeting Proposed Minutes; 2-11-2025 Council Meeting Agenda.

Motioned by K. George, seconded by A. Meeks to accept the minutes from the 1/14/2025 meeting. Motion approved by all.

Motioned by J. Bush, to pay bills in total \$60,384.79, seconded by seconded by A. Meeks. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Public Comments:

E. Poleski spoke about the continued police presence in Concord and the benefits of utilizing the sheriff's department. For information on the Jackson County Commissioners meeting go to <https://www.co.jackson.mi.us/365/Jackson-County-Commissioners> and select the news tab.

J. Bush informed the Council that he, J. Blossom and J. Lefere had interviewed two candidates for the clerk position. They selected Alexandra Thomas. The Council supported this decision and discussed a starting wage to be \$19.00 per hour at 20 hours per week. The council requested that Alexandra Thomas be added to the Village bank accounts and that former clerk Christina Niceswander be removed from the accounts.

Motioned by J. Bush, seconded by K. George to hire Alexandra Thomas at the rate of \$19.00 per hour at 20 hours per week. All were in favor. Motion approved.

Deputy L. Jacobson informed the Council that people parking in the streets continues to remain an issue. The Council and Deputy L. Jacobson discussed which measures should be taken to minimize this problem. There may be anywhere from 20-30 vehicles in the streets, with no knowledge of the property owners. Deputy L. Jacobson also brought up the continued issue of residents not shoveling sidewalks. The responsibility of fining or notifying residents shouldn't fall on the DPW as residents would then be billed for this service. A fine does exist, amount to be clarified. The council explored the idea of hiring a company to shovel the sidewalks, then billing the residents.

J. Blossom informed the Council that J. Brigham is starting work in the apartment above the Village Meeting Room. Additionally, the drilling of the well on Michigan St. has been pushed back due to cold weather. New start date is estimated to be March 1st, 2025. J. Blossom reports the salt tractor is working well to keep business sidewalks salted and safe. One business owner complained about the amount of salt in front of their business. A resident also called to ask why the DPW was plowing Saturday night and Sunday morning, if it was necessary.

To review by Council: Earned Sick Time Leave Act for all Employees—to 1099 or not. The Council does not qualify for 1099 sick time due to being elected officials. Firefighters can utilize 1099 but sick time cannot be paid out.

Council Comments:

A. Meeks discussed need to amend wording for the ordinance for billing fire recovery. The ordinance is already passed but the exact verbiage has to be fixed.

J. Blossom discussed JK Company will be lining manholes. Some manholes have bricks falling out, filtration issues. JK will be reviewing manholes near M60.

With no other business to discuss, it was motioned by A. Meeks, seconded by M. Lovitt, to adjourn at 7:23 pm. Motion approved by all.

Approved by Jeremiah Bush, Village President

Date