VILLAGE OF SPARTA

COUNCIL BUSINESS SESSION OF MAY 8, 2017, 7:00 PM

Held at Sparta Township Chambers, 160 East Division, Sparta MI

1-2. The meeting was called to order by President Kristi Dougan at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call: Council persons Gale Taylor, Robert Whalen, Brenda Braybrook, Betty VanPatten, Jayne Paasch, Christine Robinson, Kristi Dougan.

Also Present: Village Manager Julius Suchy, Finance Director Sharon DeLange, Airport Manager Vic Johnston, DPW Supervisor Dennis Brinks and Police Chief Andrew Milanowski.

4. Additions or corrections to Business and Consent Agendas: Delete from New Business:

Delete Item d. Introduce Ordinance #17-03: An Ordinance requiring connection to public utility systems.

Consent Agenda:

a. Approve Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2017

b. Accept Regular Downtown Development Authority Minutes of April 11, 2017

c. Accept Regular Fire Board Minutes of April 20, 2017

d. Accept Planning Commission Minutes of April 17, 2017

e. Executive Order #17-01: Block Party (formerly Thursday Street Fest) Street Closure

f. Executive Order #17-02: Town & Country Days Street Closure

g. Executive Order #17-03: Celtic Festival Street Closure

h. Executive Order #17-04: Gus Macker Tournament Street Closure

5. Approval of Consent AND Business Agendas:

Moved by Whalen, supported by Braybrook, to approve Business and Consent Agendas with deletion of Item d. Motion carried 7-0.

6. Public Comment for Agenda Items:

Please note: This Public Comment portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on agenda items.

a. Shawn Morton of 215 Martindale St. spoke to the council about his support for the

purchase of the aerial platform truck and the McGrath fire study.

b. Leonard “Skip” Meyer of 228 Hickory St. spoke to the council about his support for

the aerial platform truck.

c. Dale Bergman of 9280 Sparta Ave NW spoke about our agenda not having the fire

department joint agreement for discussion he said that they have it on their Thursday

night meeting agenda. Manager Suchy said he had planned on having it on the

agenda for May 8th, but with the fire study moving forward it would be pointless for

both boards to move forward with adopting this update without waiting the three

months until the study is done and there may be other recommended changes.

d. Rob Steffens of 4344 13 Mile Rd spoke on his support for the aerial platform truck.

e. Rachel Shangle of 65 S State St stated she trusts the Fire Department but, she

thought we should not borrow money for the purchase.

7. Public Hearing -

a. None

8. Old Business - None

9. New Business:

a. Resolution #17-17: A Resolution Committing the Village of Sparta to Participate in the

Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s Redevelopment Ready Communities

Program.

Moved by VanPatten, approved by Robinson, to adopt Resolution #17-17.

Motion carried 7-0.

b. Consider Infrastructure Alternative Proposal for Influent Pump #1 Replacement for

an amount not to exceed $12,395.00.

Moved by Taylor, approved by Whalen, to award Infrastructure Alternative proposal,

not to exceed $12,395.00. Motion carried 7-0.

Village Manager asked if at the June Council Meeting they would like to take a tour

of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Council agreed to tour the plant at the June

meeting.

c. Village Parking Lot Short Term Parking Pilot Program.

Moved by Paasch, approved by Braybrook, to approve Village Parking Lot Short Term

Parking Pilot Program. Motion carried 7-0.

d. Resolution #17-16: A Resolution to Approve and Adopt the Fire Truck Acquisition

and Financing Contract. Chief Bolen gave a presentation along with notebooks to

show why the Fire Department needs the aerial platform truck.

Moved by VanPatten, approved by Whalen, to approve and adopt the Fire Truck

Acquisition and Financing Contract.

Roll call vote to approve and adopt the Fire Truck Acquisition and Financing Contract.

Whalen – yes, Braybrook – yes, Van Patten – yes, Taylor – no, Paasch – no,

Robinson – no, Dougan – no. MOTION FAILED.

e. Consider Fire Study Proposal from McGrath Consulting for an amount not to exceed

$12,500 and offer the Township the opportunity to fund 50% of the study.

Moved by Whalen, approved by Taylor, to award McGrath Consulting proposal, not

to exceed $12,500 with the Township potentially funding 50%. Motion carried 6-1

with Paasch providing the negative vote.

f. 2017 Spring Clean Up Days Report

Village Manager Suchy gave an update on Spring Clean Up Days. The final numbers

are not yet available but it looks like the program is around $6,000 cheaper than last

year.

10. Committee Reports

11. Village Manager Report

12. Communications:

Village Manager Suchy annual review will be coming up in June. He was wondering how

the council wanted to proceed with it. The council would like to perform the review at

the June council meeting.

Gale Taylor was wondering who is insuring the fire department. He said he heard three

firefighters comment on how unsafe the platform truck is.

13. Payment of Bills:

Approval of Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers.

Moved by VanPatten, supported by Robinson, to approve Accounts Payable and Fund Transfers. Motion carried 7-0.

14. Public Comment:

a. Shawn Morton of 215 Martindale St. wanted to thank the board members who

checked into the platform truck.

b. Zack Jones of 103 14 Mile Rd wanted to thank Betty VanPatten and Robert Whalen

for coming down to B&B and checking out the platform truck.

c. Mary Ann Meyer of 228 Hickory St wanted the council to know that they have made

a serious mistake not voting for the platform truck.

15. Executive Session

a. Review Written Legal Opinion

Moved by VanPatten, supported by Robinson to go into Executive Session to review

written legal opinion at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved by Paasch, supported by Robinson to return to the regular session

9:16 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

16. Council Member Announcements

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Dougan at 9:21 p.m. by executive privilege.

Pam Buchanan

Sparta Village Clerk