

VILLAGE OF SPARTA
Kent County, Michigan
Village Council Meeting
Monday, February 16, 2026 at 6:30 PM
276 W. Division St. (Sparta Village Complex)

Present:

President Robert Whalen, Council Members Brenda Braybrook, Robert Carlstrom, David Cumings, Christina Owens, Tom Peoples, Bill Taylor

Absent:

Also Present:

Village Manager James Lower, Chief Andrew Milanowski, DPW Director William Hunter, Airport Manager Mike Krzciok, Village Clerk Kristen Phelps, Deputy DPW Director Conrad Bowman, Finance Director David Carpenter

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Robert Whalen.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

- a. The Pledge was recited.

3. Roll Call

- a. Formal Roll Call was taken. See Above for attendance

4. Additions or Corrections to Consent and Business Agenda

Consent Agenda:

- a. *Approve Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2026*
- b. *Approve Fire Board Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2026*
- c. *Approve Regular DDA Meeting Minutes December 9, 2025*
- d. *Appoint the Village Manager as the replacement for the "public safety committee"*

5. Approval of Consent and Business Agenda

- a. The Consent and Business Agenda was approved as presented.
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve the consent agenda with support of Braybrook.
Motion passed 7-0

6. Public Comment for Agenda Item

Please Note: This Public Comment portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on agenda items. Personal or abusive attacks on Council members, staff members, or other participants will not be tolerated and may result in the Village President taking action, up to and including, having the speaker removed from the meeting by law enforcement officers.

7. Public Hearing

- a. None.

8. Old Business

- a. None.

9. New Business

- a. Village Complex Dedication
 - i. Manager Lower spoke
- b. Recording Policy
 - i. Motion: Braybrook to adopt the policy as presented, supported by Cumings. **Moton passes 7-0**
- c. Planning Commission Appointments
 - i. Alex Buffo 144 Amelia Spoke
 - ii. Ricky Johnson 29 Centennial Spoke
 - iii. Mike Lamb 11480 Long Lake Dr. Spoke
 1. President Whalen nominated Alex Buffo and Mike Lamb as Planning Commission members.
 - a. Motion: Braybrook made a motion to appoint Alex Buffo and Mike Lamb as Planning Commission Members, with support by Carlstrom. **Motion passes 6-1. Nay vote by Owens.**
- d. Airport Rules Update
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve the updated Sparta Airport Rules as presented, support by Owens. **Motion passes 7-0**
- e. Res. 26-02 A Resolution to repeal Res. 25-15
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to approve Resolution 26-02 as presented, support by Peoples. **Motion passes 7-0**
- f. Dump Truck Order/Purchase
 - i. Motion: Braybrook moved to authorize the purchase of two new dump trucks as recommended in both recommendations as presented, support by Cumings. **Motion passes 7-0**
- g. License Agreement with 171 E. Division Street
 - i. Motion: Carlstrom moved to authorize the Village Manger to finalize the agreement and to authorized the Village President to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village with the addition to do a proper repair with the correct asphalt in the spring as presented, supported by Braybrook. **Motion passes 7-0**

10. Executive Session

- a. None.

11. Village Manager & Department Reports

- a. Manager Lower Spoke and welcomed Council Member Owens and the New Planning Commission members.

12. Communications

- a. Council member Carlstrom spoke about Gale Taylor having a big impact on the decisions to go forward with the Village Complex.

13. Payment of Bills

- a. Motion: Taylor made a motion to approve the payables as presented, supported by Cumings. **Motion passes 7-0**

January Payables

PAYABLES	
(101) General Fund	\$101,426.58
(202) Major Street Fund	\$1,035.53
(203) Local Street Fund	\$7,706.10
(581) Airport	\$9,025.04
(590) Sewer Department Fund	\$19,102.30
(591) Water Department Fund	\$16,582.50
(661) Equipment Rental Fund	\$6,568.77
Total	\$161,446.82

Informational:

(206) Fire Department	\$5,385.45
(208) SRA Park Fund	\$402.08
(248) Downtown Development Authority	\$3,097.12
Total	\$8,884.65

14. Public Comment

- a. None

15. Council Member Announcements

- a. Peoples as appointed to the Veterans Committee.

16. Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 7:16 pm by President Whalen.