

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHERIDAN VILLAGE COUNCIL  
April 14, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Sheridan Village Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by President, Brian Russel.

Present: Kirk Train, Susan McFarland, Curt Sisson, Harold Arrington, Jim Perry, Don Nassif

Absent:

Guests: Mary Bowdish, Franz Mogdis & Jackie Christiansen.

Arrington asked that the minutes from the budget hearing be changed to strike the statement 'All members of the council were in agreement to reduce pay for the Village President to the same level as council members' as there was not a motion to do so. Nassif moved to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting with McFarland supporting. Motion carried.

Bills were presented in the amount of \$15,260.14. Sisson moved to pay them with Perry supporting. Motion carried.

Bills for the wastewater treatment system were presented in the amount of \$1,051.92. McFarland moved to pay them with Sisson supporting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was reviewed. Arrington moved to approve the report with Nassif supporting. Motion carried.

Members of the council reviewed the police reports

Lane advised that there is an issue with Lane and Lingeman having a surplus of comp time that they have been unable to use. Council agreed that they should start keeping a log of their time and work four days a week going forward in order to use up the excess of comp time that they both have. Doug and Ed will take different days off so the village will have full coverage. It was also agreed by the council that Lane will report their comp hour balances at the monthly meetings. Lane also advised that Consumers has completed approximately 50% of their scheduled tree trimming.

Lingeman advised that May 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Country Legends show at the community center. Additionally, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 pm there will be a neighborhood community watch meeting for Evergreen Township at the community center. Lastly, the annual Variety Show will be held April 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>.

Tissue advised that to pay off our water bond, the Village will either have to cash in two CD's or use funds from the water debt savings account. The council advised Doreen to use the funds that made the best economic sense for the Village. Tissue advised that

Charter Communications has filed for bankruptcy and that we received paperwork stating so. At this time no action on the Village's part is required. Lastly, Tissue advised that the members of the council all received yellow flyers discussing stimulus money that is available efficiency improvements on governmental buildings.

Franz Mogdis presented the council with the list of projects that he worked with Doug Lane on compiling then submitted to the State in order to potentially receive stimulus money for. Huckleberry & Cropsey were also given copies of the list. Franz said that he is still continuing to look for grant money for items on the list and that it is looking favorable on a Brownfield Grant for the Village to receive money for the cleanup of the Carnation building. Franz also stated that our income survey has been completed.

Jackie Christiansen from the Springfest committee requested that the committee be permitted to hang the banner for Springfest over M66 and that M66 be closed on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3-7 p.m. for the car show (with a backup date of May 24<sup>th</sup>), closed on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 10:00 p.m. for the Fireman's Parade, and on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 1 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Nassif and supported by Train. Motion carried. Jackie also stated that she will forward the insurance form for the carnival when she receives it. Arrington asked if the Ladies Auxiliary is still willing to help provide funding for the park restroom. Jackie said that she will bring it up for discussion in their next meeting.

Discussion among the council in regards to switching health insurance carriers. Lane asked if current injuries and pre-existing conditions will be covered and Tissue advised that it was her understanding that they will be. A motion to switch insurance carriers was made by Sisson and supported by McFarland. Further discussion on how to fund the deductible. It was decided to fund the deductible at the beginning of the year and re-evaluate in one year. With no further discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

Council reviewed a letter updating the status of the abandoned wells at 600 S. Main (Carnation Building). The Montcalm County Environmental Health Specialist states that it needs to be demonstrated that either the wells are not abandoned or that they need to be properly plugged.

Council discussed passing a resolution to waive underpaid amounts to the Village. i.e. a person paying their tax bill that makes an error and underpays by \$0.42. McFarland made a resolution to waive amounts underpaid by \$3.00 or less, supported by Arrington. Role call vote for Ayes – Train, Nassif, Arrington, Sisson, Perry, McFarland & Russel. Nays – None. Resolution passed.

Council discussed the annual bill to Sheridan Community Hospital each year for parking lot lights. There are eight lights that they reimburse us for every year.

Council discussed pay for the Village President. Train made a motion to lower pay for the position to the same level as the rest of the council and was supported by Nassif. Motion carried.

Council discussed the Village's ordinance for appointing the clerk. The ordinance states that both the treasurer and clerk positions are appointed by the Village President and approved by a vote of the council on even years. As we have missed doing this for the last couple of years, we need to start doing this beginning in 2010.

Council discussed filling the open clerk position. Russel proposed that the Village might be better served by having two part time positions as it will cut down on comp time, insurance opt out pay and optimize cross training. Further discussion of pros and cons ensued and Nassif made a motion that we go to two part time positions of 24 hours each, supported by McFarland. Motion carried 6 yeas and 1 nay. Open position to be posted.

Council discussed a letter it received in regards to a person falling in front of the bowling alley. Doreen will turn this into the Michigan Municipal League.

Discussion that back taxes owed on the Carnation Building were paid for 2006. Taxes for 2007 & 2008 are still owed/

Terry Peterman from Sidney Township has asked the Village to reply if they would like to share the cost of an officer with them. Nassif to discuss with Sheriff Barnwell.

It was discussed and decided that the Village will hold off on the bathhouse at Pearl Lake until they see if it is approved in the upcoming stimulus funding.

Russel mentioned that he had contacted Yeo & Yeo regarding streamlining transferring funds between accounts. We can do electronic transfers and have the council approve the transfers at the monthly meetings. Doreen will investigate to see if there are any savings.

Council discussed having guests register to be added to the agenda in order to facilitate addressing their concerns

Tissue mentioned that Yeo & Yeo will be in for the annual audit the last week of May.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Nassif , seconded by Perry and carried.

Brian Russel  
Village President